



# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2015

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*God of thundering glory and wondrous love,  
you lifted up Jesus Christ from the earth  
to draw all people to your holy name.  
Like grains of wheat that fall to the dust,  
teach us to die—and so to bear much fruit,  
giving our lives for the sake of the gospel,  
following and serving Christ Jesus forever. Amen.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Calvin Taylor

### BRINGING THE LIGHT

LIGHTING THE FIFTH LENTEN CANDLE

1 John 3:1a

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Breanna Upton

\*SONG OF SUPPLICATION

*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

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CHILDREN PRAYING

*To be sung twice*

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**Redeeming God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart,  
and have not loved our neighbors as we ought;  
we have strayed from your commandments.  
Do not remember our sins, but forgive our iniquities,  
that we may fix our eyes on you and sin no more,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

\*SONG OF RESPONSE *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
World without end, without end. Amen.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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Or - der my steps in your word, dear Lord, lead me, guide me, ev - ery day.

5  
Send your a - noint - ing, Fa - ther, I pray. Or - der my steps in your

8  
word. Please, or - der my steps in your word.

*Used by permission.*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

MESSAGE

*Dying. Again.*

Tracy L. Evans

\*SONG OF FAITH

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

718

BOURBON

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Why did Jesus have to suffer as he did?

**Because grace is more abundant—  
and sin more serious—  
than we suppose.**

**However cruelly we may treat one another,  
all sin is primarily against God.**

**God condemns sin,  
yet never judges apart from grace.**

**In giving Jesus Christ to die for us,  
God took the burden of our sin into God's own self  
to remove it once and for all.**

**The cross in all its severity  
reveals an abyss of sin**

**swallowed up by the suffering of divine love.**

*Adapted from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Study Catechism, Question 45*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Response) ...In your steadfast love, **O Lord, have mercy on us.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

Edwin T. Childs

\*DOXOLOGY

*All Praise to the Father*

300, v. 4

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,  
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,  
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

DEDICATION PRAYER

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*SENDING SONG

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

725

NYLAND

\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE

CHORAL BENEDICTION

*And Jesus, I Have Promised*

\*POSTLUDE

*Praeambulum in E major*

Vincent Lübeck

\*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

**Lectionary Readings** for March 29: *Palms* – Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29. *Passion* – Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47).

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for March is **rice**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

**Hearing-assistance** devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

**Ushers** for today's service are Harry Wright and Donna Vint.

**Parents Helping Parents** will meet on Thursday, March 26 at 7:00 P.M. at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital, 901 North Porter. Guest speaker will be Scott Van Krevelen, owner-operator of Van's House in Enid, Oklahoma. Van's House is a sober living environment for adult men and women who are in recovery from drug/alcohol addiction. Mr. Van Krevelen will discuss how parents can set healthy boundaries with adult children who are struggling with substance abuse issues. Parents Helping Parents is a network of parents and others concerned about alcohol/substance abuse among our young people (both adolescents and adult children). The group offers hope through shared experience, resources, and education. They promote prevention and intervention, collaborative efforts and increased access to information/services, and support. For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: [www.ParentsHelpingParents.info](http://www.ParentsHelpingParents.info)

If you would like to order **Easter lilies**, please use the sign-up sheet in the hall, or contact the church office. The lilies cost \$12 each; please make payment to Memorial. Orders will be accepted until noon on Monday, March 23. Proceeds benefit the ABLE Council for Developmental Disabilities, which provides residential care, vocational training, and employment support for more than sixty adults with developmental disabilities here in Norman.

**Holy Week at MPC:** Our Palm Sunday service on March 29 will begin at 10:55 A.M. in Fellowship Hall. Please join us at 10:30 for fellowship & refreshments. We will have a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 P.M. on April 2, also in Fellowship Hall. Communion will be served. Plan on coming to Easter breakfast at 9:30 A.M. on April 5. We'll have an Easter Egg hunt for the kids, and then celebrate our Lord's resurrection as we worship at 10:55.

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week. This week we pray for China, Hong Kong, and Macau. We give thanks for the survival and growth of Christians and Christian churches despite persecution; for those who struggle for human rights against

great odds; for those with a concern for the poor and disadvantaged; for ancient Chinese pottery and works in jade; and for Chinese characters, and the illuminating ink strokes of Chinese calligraphy. We pray for those suffering unemployment & homelessness; for the rural poor, and those forced to labor in the countryside; for refugees from North Korea; for women and female children, who do not have equal status or opportunity; for those suffering from forced sterilizations, abortions and infanticide; for marginalized groups such as the aged, disabled, single parent families, and migrant workers; for miners and all those who face hazardous working conditions; and for a reduction in the amount of pollution and environmental damage.

**SUNDAY**

**March 22**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service with Communion
- 4:30 P.M. – Deacons Meeting
- 5:00 P.M. – M. Y. Group
- 7:00 P.M. – Lenten Study

**WEDNESDAY**

**March 25**

- 12:00 P.M. – Lenten Service at NorthHaven Church
- 3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
- 5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir
- 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

**THURSDAY**

**March 26**

- 10:30 A.M. – Bible Study in Library

**SUNDAY**

**March 29**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service (Begins in Fellowship Hall)
- 7:00 P.M. – Lenten Study