

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

February 17, 2019

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Almighty God,  
you gave the law to guide our lives.  
May we never shrink from your commandments,  
but, as we are taught by your Son Jesus,  
fulfill the law in perfect love;  
through Christ our Lord and Savior,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE                      Rubrics- IV. The Peace May be Exchanged                      Dan Locklair

### BRINGING THE LIGHT

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are those who trust in God,  
who delight to meditate on God's law.

**We long to hear the Word of God  
and let the Word shape our lives.**

Blessed are all who seek the realm of God,  
who hunger to find meaning in their lives.

**We intend to give our best to our Creator,  
bearing fruit in all we say and do.**

Blessed are the ones who serve God with joy,  
who risk all they have in faithfulness and hope.

**We come now to worship and find new life,  
to receive healing and empowerment for our journey.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE                      Praise Ye the Lord, Almighty                      Hymnal, No. 35

#### \*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Thus says the Lord:  
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

**Forgive us, God of grace, when we are burdened  
by the weight of the curse we choose.**

**We put our trust in earthly things,  
rather than trusting the depth of your grace.**

**We put our hope in human beings,  
rather than acknowledging that only you are God.**

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,

and shall not see when relief comes.  
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

**Forgive us, God of grace,  
when we find ourselves dying of thirst,  
not seeing the water of life that you have placed before us.  
Move us to recognize our relief.  
Move us to know the goodness of your call.**

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.  
They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

**Shower us with your grace, O Lord,  
that we may be trees planted by living waters.  
Nourish our spirits, enliven our hearts,  
enlighten our minds, and ease our burdens.  
Forgive us and free us to try again.**

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 Be to the Father

Hymnal, No. 581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Trudy Beard

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Page No. 628

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path  
that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

**but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate  
day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its  
season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

**The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the  
congregation of the righteous;

**for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

ANTHEM

Join Hands and Sing

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:17-26

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Page No. 838

MESSAGE

Blessed and Cursed, Cursed and Blessed

Tracy L. Evans

\*SONG OF FAITH

Blest Are They

Hymnal, No. 172

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**In Jesus of Nazareth,  
true humanity was realized once for all.  
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew,  
lived among his own people  
and shared their needs, temptations,  
joys, and sorrows.  
He expressed the love of God  
in word and deed  
and became a brother  
to all kinds of sinful men and women.  
But his complete obedience  
led him into conflict with his people.  
His life and teaching judged their goodness,  
religious aspirations, and national hopes.  
Many rejected him and demanded his death.  
In giving himself freely for them,  
he took upon himself the judgment  
under which everyone stands convicted.  
God raised him from the dead,  
vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.  
The victim of sin became victor,  
and won the victory  
over sin and death for all.**

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.08*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... To you, O God, we cry; **be gracious to us.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sonata II- II. Adagio

Felix Mendelssohn

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymnal, No. 606

\*DEDICATION PRAYER

## FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*SENDING SONG            May the God of Hope Go with Us            Hymnal, No. 765

\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE  
CHORAL BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE            Rubrics- V. The People Respond Amen!            Dan Locklair

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

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 February 24: Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50; Luke 6:27-38.

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for February is **juice**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

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

**Ushers** for today's service are Larry and Lisa Upton.

**Spaghetti Lunch** fundraiser for Camps and Conferences! Plan to stay after worship and enjoy a spaghetti lunch on **March 31**.

**The Library Class 2nd edition:** Are you interested in discovering what a new Library Class might offer to adults who are not currently engaged in a class? This version of the Library Class is directed to adults who want to study and discuss a contemporary topic of mutual interest.

Organizing Meeting: February 24th, 9:45 a.m. In the library we will start promptly at 9:45 and be dismissed no later than 10:30, with time to get to choir/church/ other duties as needed for worship at 10:55.

You are invited to join us to explore possible topics. The plan is to begin class on March 3, and meet weekly through Palm Sunday, April 14.

Alice Lanning will lead the organizing meeting. Please join us!

**Ash Wednesday service** will be Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend this brief yet meaningful service marking the beginning of the Lent season.

Please join Tracy for a **Lent Bible study** on Mondays, March 11-April 15, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Study will be *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, by author, professor and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine. Books will be available soon. Sign up outside Tracy's office.

**SUNDAY**

**February 17**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:00 P.M. – Deacons Meeting

**MONDAY**

**February 18**

- 7:00 P.M. – Mission & Evangelism Meeting

**TUESDAY**

**February 19**

- 7:00 P.M. – Session Meeting

**WEDNESDAY**

**February 20**

- 3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
- 5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir
- 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

**SUNDAY**

**February 24**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service