

"Who Do You Say That I Am?" by Lauren Wright Pittman| A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

Wandering Heart: Praise the Mount

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

I have stayed quiet before.
I have held my tongue
while passing mountains.

I have slipped my hands deep into pockets, despite the music that invites me to dance.

I have alimpsed a new moon and a new love

and have acted as if it was something other than a complete, God-given miracle.

But not today.

Not today.

Today I will dance.

Today I will tap my toes all the way to heaven's gates.

Today I will point out every shade of gold and periwinkle that we pass.

Today I will talk about my faith like we talk about the weather—

early and unprompted, comfortable and unashamed.

Today I will tell you that God did such a good job with freckles, willow trees,

and your entire being.

And I will not be embarrassed by my own conviction.

I will not swallow my praise. I have stayed quiet before, but not today.

Today I will sing.

Author: Rev. Sarah Speed

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Contemplation Camille Saint-Saëns

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

If you ask the sky who God is,

the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,

the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,

the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

"The heavens are telling the glory of God"

Are you listening?

We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory.

Let us worship Holy God.

Inspired by Psalm 19

*SONG OF PRAISE

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

Hymnal, No. 5

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Holy God,

Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.

Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith.

Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—

trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith.

But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves, we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you. Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith. Amen.

(Time of silent reflection)

*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 Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (v.1) Hymnal, No. 169

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,

forgive our foolish ways;

reclothe us in our rightful mind,

in purer lives thy service find,

in deeper reverence, praise

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Trudy Beard

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 19 Page No. 433

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16:13-20 Page No. 798

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Praise the Mount Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH Here at the Peak Bulletin p. 7

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF MILES WALLACE FORTHMAN

Profession of Faith

RENUNCIATIONS *APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

PRAYER AND WELCOME

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... In your steadfast love, O Lord, have mercy on us.

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing (v. 3) Hymnal, No. 475

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

*DEDICATION PRAYER

SEALING THE WORD—CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

ANTHEM I Will Remember Thee

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORDS' PRAYER
The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

Hosanna in the highest.

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG God of Grace and God of Glory Hymnal, No. 307

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Andante Serioso Albert Ketelbey

*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 March 10: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21.

The Food & Shelter items of the month for **March are travel size tooth paste and bar soap.** 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.

God the Sculptor of the Mountains 5



Here at the Peak

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307 God of Grace and God of Glory

