

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2019

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Your glory and power, O God,
surround us in the sanctuary.
We lift up our hands and call on your name.
We are your people,
thirsty for the living water you alone can give.
When we consider how you have helped us,
giving us a spring that gushes up to eternal life,
we cling to you,
singing praises with joyful lips;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Andante

Adolph Hesse

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*OPENING SENTENCES

O God, we seek you, and our souls thirst for you.
Our flesh faints for the Lord, as in a dry and weary land.
O God, your steadfast love is better than life itself!
**Let us bless the Lord as long as we live,
lift up our hands and call on God's name.**

*LITANY FOR LENT

Lord Jesus Christ,
you clothe us in your righteousness,
even when we give you a crown of thorns.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you reach out to us in love,
even when we reject and despise you.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you give your life to save us,
even though we crucify you.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

(Time of silent reflection)

*SONG OF PRAISE

O God, You Are My God Alone

Hymnal, No. 696

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**We try to draw boundaries around your forgiveness,
for we cannot imagine the endlessness of your grace.
We try to make a rule book of your holy stories,
for we cannot grasp the depth of your living word.
We try to make a worldly hero of our holy savior,
for we cannot understand the majesty of your gift.
Forgive us, Holy One, and gather us more closely
into the realm of your transforming love.**

(Time of silent reflection)

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
Hymnal, No. 582, v. 1

**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.**

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Lucy Lanning

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 55:1-9

Page No. 598

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 63:1-8

Hymnal, No 626

**As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire,
and I long to worship you.**

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Page No. 931

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 13:1-9

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 848

MESSAGE

More Than Fair

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

I Need Thee Every Hour

Hymnal, No. 735

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**The reconciling work of Jesus
was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.
His cross and resurrection become personal crisis
and present hope for women and men
when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.
In this experience,
the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,
moves people to respond in faith,
repentance, and obedience,
and initiates the new life in Christ.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... Have mercy, O God; **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Improvisation

*DOXOLOGY

Praise to God the Father

Hymnal, No. 605

**Praise to God the Father; praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spirit; praise to the Three-in-One.
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Almighty; praise to the Holy One.**

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Great God of Every Blessing

Hymnal, No. 694

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

May the steadfast love of God,
the abundant grace of Jesus Christ,
and the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit

be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus:
If any wish to be my disciples
let them take up the cross
and follow me. **Amen.**

*CHORAL BENEDICTION Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
Hymnal, No. 582, v. 2

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.

*POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Théodore Dubois

*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 31: Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for March is **peanut butter**. 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 Will and Jessica Farris.

It's not too late!

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 are available for \$12. Sign up outside Tracy's office.

The Norman Ministerial Fellowship is hosting its annual Lenten series. On Wednesday, March 27, McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church will host the worship and lunch, which begins at noon. Pastor Wade Smith, First Baptist Church will give the sermon. A \$5 donation is suggested for the lunch.

We will host the Lenten series on April 10. Please let Donna Vint know if you can help!

Spaghetti Lunch fundraiser for Camps and Conferences! Plan to stay after worship and enjoy a spaghetti lunch on **March 31. We will have youth worship leaders and a representative from Dwight Mission Camp and Conference Center** here to bring us good news from Dwight

SUNDAY

March 24

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
12:00 P.M. – MY Group

TUESDAY

March 26

7:00 P.M. – Fellowship & Hospitality Meeting
7:00 P.M. – Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY

March 27

3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir

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