Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

4th Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Gracious God,
in order that the children of earth
might discern good from evil
you sent your Son to be the light of the world.
As Christ shines upon us,
may we learn what pleases you,
and live in all truth and goodness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Organ Sonata No. 2: II: Adagio

Felix Mendelssohn

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*OPENING SENTENCES

Come as you are, broken and burdened,

and find healing in God's goodness.

Come as you are, gifted and beloved,

and find purpose in God's calling.

Come as you are, weary and wary,

and find comfort in God's embrace.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,

and worship God with gladness.

*LITANY FOR LENT

Lord Jesus Christ, you claim us as your own, even when we deny you.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ, you bless us with your word, even when we mock and curse 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.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Hymnal, No. 169

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

O God, in you we live and move and have our being.
Forgive us when we ignore your presence:
when we place our trust in things that fade away.
By your grace, move us to be more faithful disciples.
By your forgiveness, empower us to share forgiveness with others.
(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

Jessica Farris

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 5:9-12 Page No. 171

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN Psalm 32 Hymnal, No. 446

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Page No. 940

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 Page No. 850

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Prodigal Grace Tracy L. Evans

ANTHEM I Will Love the Lord My God

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community.

This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other.

Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal, p. 35

Hymnal, No. 605

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Improvisation

*DOXOLOGY Praise to God the Father

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 O God, Show Mercy to Us Hymnal, No. 341

*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 Organ Sonata No. 2: IV: Fuga Felix Mendelssohn

*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 April 7: Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1 -8

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for April is **pasta**. 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 Karen and Paul Upton.

Spring Cleanup

Saturday April 6 2019 - 8am to Noon - Breakfast provided

All are invited to our annual Spring Cleanup event! Come help us clean, organize and do some basic maintenance on the facility we all share. We will also be going through storage areas looking for ways to better organize what we have and identifying things to be donated and/or discarded.

If you have questions, ideas, suggestions, or random relevant thoughts feel free to contact Larry Upton.

Thanks and peace - Building and Grounds Committee

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, April 3, Grace Fellowship will host the worship and lunch, which begins at noon. Pastor Daniel Kitchel, The Cross Church of Norman 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 of you can help!



Spaghetti Lunch fundraiser for Camps and Conferences! Plan to stay after worship and enjoy a spaghetti lunch today.

We will have youth worship leaders and a representative from Dwight Mission Camp and Conference Center here to bring us good new from Dwight

SUNDAY March 31

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School

10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. - Worship Service

12:00 P.M. – Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

TUESDAY April 2

7:00 P.M. - Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY April 3

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

SATURDAY April 6

8:00 A.M. - Church Clean-up

SUNDAY April 7

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School

10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. – Worship Service