

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* Please stand if able. Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *Calvary Medley* Arr. George Sewell
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

We are called to go places that we don't know.

We look to the hills for our strength.

Our strength is in God, who always goes with us.

We walk in faith.

Come, let us worship the God who calls us
and who walks beside us throughout the journey.

* HYMN *The Glory of These Forty Days* No. 87

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder

Let us pray:

Loving and ever-present God,

we confess that we are not always sure of you.

Our doubts overwhelm us at times.

But we continue to search

**and to yearn for reassurance of your presence with us,
no matter what is going on in our lives.**

In times of joy and in times of sorrow and challenges,

help us feel your presence with us,

Give us faith that looks to the hills,

where we will find you, steadfast and sure.

Be with us on our journey,

the journey to which you call us,

that we may walk in your ways with you beside us.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE The Rev. Amy Mendez

Amen. God so loved the world, God so love us. That God goes with us every
step of the way, in this we are blessed. Know that God hears, answers, and
loves us, and in loving, understands and forgives us. Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE Tune *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* No. 83 v. 5

All glory to our Lord and God

For love so deep, so high, so broad:

The Trinity whom we adore

Forever and forevermore.

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 121 Pgs. 582-583

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

ANTHEM *The Call to Faith* Joseph M. Martin

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy/Wade in the Water from *A Journey to Hope: A Cantata Inspired by Spirituals*

GOSPEL READING John 3:1-17 Pg. 88

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Amy Mendez

TIME FOR CHILDREN *(As the children come forward, please join in singing.)*

This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.

Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.

SERMON *Faith to Follow* The Rev. Amy Mendez

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder

The risen Christ is the savior of all people

Those joined to him by faith are set right with God

and commissioned to serve as God's reconciling community.

Christ is head of this community, the church,

which began with the apostles and continues through all generations.

God's love never changes.

Against all who oppose the divine will,

God expresses love in wrath.

In the same love,

God bore judgment and shameful death in Jesus Christ,

to bring all people to repentance and new life. Amen.

(from the Confession of 1967, section 9.10, 9.14)

*HYMN *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* No. 383

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen* Arr. Lani Smith
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING Tune: Hymnal No. 422
***Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed,
We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose Every gift which you impart.***

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Amy Mendez

* HYMN *To God, Be the Glory* No. 485

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 81 v. 1
***Lord, who throughout these forty days
For us didst fast and pray,
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins,
And close by Thee to stay.***

POSTLUDE *Triumphal March* Edvard Grieg
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano Arr. Clarence Kohlmann

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Ron Johnston	Deacon Reader: Linda Johnston
Greeters: Jim & Betty Piperato	Ushers: Donna Ellis & Jeff Stimson
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette	Children's Time: Roxanne Foster
Flowers: Jim & Betty Niquette	



*WPC Mission Statement
To worship God through faith and action,
to nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,
to be an extended family to all,
and to serve the community
through programs, education and prayer*

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Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: Julie Pulliam, M.A.
Interim Choir Director: Dawn C. Wooderson, Ph.D.
Treasurer: Eileen Gardner, C.P.A • Assistant Treasurer: Betsy Smith
Administrative Assistant: Jenny Garner

**Second Sunday of Lent
March 12, 2017**