

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 *Near to the Heart of God* Arr. David Hogarty
Organ/Piano Duet Betty Niquette, Piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Psalm 25
To you, O Lord, we lift up our hearts. Elder
God, in you we trust; do not let us be put to shame.
Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.
Lead us in your truth and teach us,
For you are the God of salvation, for you we wait all day long.
Good and upright is the Lord;
instructing sinners in the way,
leading the humble in what is right.

* HYMN *God of the Sparrow* No. 272

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated, unison) Mark 9:2-9
In the name of Christ, I urge you: Be reconciled to God. Elder
Let us pray together...
Gracious God,
temptations are all around us,
so many lures that separate us from your grace.
Forgive us when we wander from your path,
or turn willfully from you.
Protect us, and preserve us, keep us close,
that we may rest sure in the knowledge that we belong to you,
and follow faithfully in the ways of Jesus.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE
Amen. Listen, the time has come at last.
Look, now is the day of salvation!
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) *How Great Thou Art* No. 467 refrain

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!***

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 9:8-17 Pgs. 7–8
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

ANTHEM *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Words & music by Robert Lowry

GOSPEL READING Mark 1:9-15 Pgs. 32–33
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH *(As children & youth come forward, please sing.)*
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 *Dust and Rainbows* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder
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*

* HYMN *O Love, That Wilt Not Let Me Go* No. 384

* PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16
(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *The Old Rugged Cross* Arr. Lani Smith

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING *What Wondrous Love is This* No. 85 verse 2

***To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.***

***To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing!***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

* HYMN *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* No. 81

You're invited to come forward and place an offering in
"Wilbur" or the basket for local hunger relief and a clinic in Zimbabwe.

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Take, O Take Me as I Am* (see insert)
(sing twice)

POSTLUDE *The King of Glory* Dorothy Wells

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for the Red, White, and Chocolate Luncheon.

Pulpit Elder: Sean Mestdagh Deacon Reader: Dick Remington
Greeter: Kevin J. Myers Sound Engineer Jim Niquette
Flowers: Wally & Julie Pulliam Time With Children & Youth: Laura Sugg
Ushers: Donna Ellis & Maxine Foster

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Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: Linda Valo

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: Julie Pulliam, M.A.

Choir Director: Katie Sakanai, M.M.Ed.

Treasurer: Eileen Gardner, C.P.A. • Assistant Treasurer: Betsy Smith

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Garner



Dust and Rainbows: A Lenten Journey through Song

*"Oh, God of Dust and Rainbows,
Help us to see
That without the dust the rainbow
Would not be."*

--Langston Hughes

*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.*

First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2018