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 *Meditation at the Cross* Arr. Ellen Jane Lorenz
Organ/Piano Duet Betty Niquette, Piano

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder
God invites us to see the presence of the Holy in all the earth.
God calls us to find sacred signposts in our own lives.
God tells us:
In my foolishness, find your wisdom.
In my weakness, find your strength.
God tells us:
In my laws, find freedom.
In my anger, find justice.
God tells us:
In dying, find life.
In endings, find new beginnings.

* HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory* No. 420

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated, unison)
Let us ask God to renew our hearts and lives. Let us pray,… Elder
Holy God, you gave commandments to your chosen people
that they might live together before you.
We would rather argue about them than live by them.
Some of us have made idols of them;
some of us consider them quaint and irrelevant.
O God, in your mercy, forgive us.
Remind us that even your foolishness is wiser than we can imagine.
Remind us that your commandments are sweeter than honey.
Write your law on our hearts, that we might live for you.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE
Amen. Friends believe the good news: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
We believe, O God, that we have been forgiven.
In the strength of that forgiveness
may we more clearly see the truth, more bravely face the world,
more lovingly serve our neighbor, more joyfully follow Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen

SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) H*ow 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 Exodus 20:1-17 Pgs. 67-68
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God** Deacon

ANTHEM *Inspired by Love and Anger* Trad. Irish tune
Words by John Bell and Graham Maule

GOSPEL READING John 2:13-22 Pg. 88
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 ***Law and Anger*** Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder
Jesus was what we are.
He felt deeply the joy of friendship and the hurt of being rejected.
Jesus prayed, struggled with temptation, knew anger,
and was subject to suffering and death.
He was like us in every way except sin.
Jesus was what we should be.
He served God with complete trust and unwavering obedience.
He loved all kinds of people and accepted their love.
In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit,
Jesus allowed no temptation or threat
to keep him from loving God with his whole being
and his neighbor as himself.
We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be.
He exposes our failure to live as he lived.
He demonstrates the new humanity
God promises to give us through him." Amen.
— from *A Declaration of Faith* (1977)

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *O Sacred Head* Hans Leo Hassler
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano 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

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION
Invitation to the Lord's Table
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
Serving Communion
Bread is taken individually. Wait to take juice/wine together.
Red wine is in outer ring of tray, white grape juice is in the inner ring of tray.
Prayer after Communion (in unison)

Gracious God,
you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service.
Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup,
to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living
may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love
reaching out into the life of the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* HYMN *Be Thou My Vision* No. 339

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING MUSIC FOR MEDITATION *Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)* Georges Bizet
Organ/Piano Duet Betty Niquette, Piano Arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad

[During this season of Lent, the congregation is invited to be **seated** during the **Closing Music** for a short period of meditation.]

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments, conversation, and the Girl Scout Cookie Sale!

Wheat Ridge PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Charity is commendable; everyone should be charitable.
But justice aims to create a social order in which
if individuals choose not to be charitable, people still
don't go hungry, unschooled, or sick without care.
Charity depends on the vicissitudes of whim and personal
wealth; justice depends on commitment instead of
circumstance. Faith-based charity provides crumbs
from the table; faith-based justice offers a place at the table.

--Bill Moyers

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.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 4, 2018