

# Service for the Lord's Day

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2015

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*We hunger for power, and you feed us the bread of humility. We long for freedom, and you invite us to drink the cup of self-denial. Give us more courage today, O Lord. Amen.*

Gathering

No matter

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Tom Laney

\*INTROIT #35

*"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" (v. 1)*

Winkworth, 1863

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
*and all that is within me bless his holy name.*

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
*and do not forget all his benefits—*

God forgives all our iniquity and heals all our diseases;  
*God redeems our lives from the Pit, and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy;*

God satisfies us with good and our youth is renewed like the eagle's.  
*Let us bless the LORD together!*

\*HYMN #435

*"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

Faber, 1854

CALL TO CONFESSION

There is a wideness to God's mercy and a kindness to God's justice. There is, indeed, no place but heaven where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. Believing this truth, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. We will pray first silently, then together using the words in the bulletin.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love and mercy, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our*

*sin. Return us to paths of righteousness and teach us your way of forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, we pray. Amen.*

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

*"Lord, have mercy upon us,  
Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us."*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

No matter how far we wander, God's love can reach us, rescue us, redeem us. For the mercy of the Lord is truly from everlasting to everlasting. Friends, believe the good news.

*In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*

\*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

#580

ANTHEM

*"O Lord Most Holy"*  
Bert Lowe

arr. by Franck

**Proclaiming**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Genesis 50:15-21

Bibles, p. 46 /LG. p. 60

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

HYMN #298

*"Lord, You Give the Great Commission"*

Taylor, 1941

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21-35

Bibles, p. 19/ LG. p. 24

The Word of the Lord

*Thanks be to God*

SERMON

*"Forgiving and Free"*

Rev. Pamela Leach

**Responding**

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

*That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation,*

