

Service for the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Creator God, may we hear your call to us each day and respond faithfully in everything we do.
Amen.*

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Jimmy Chapman

*INTROIT #14

"For the Beauty of the Earth" (v.1&2)

Pierpoint, 1864

*CALL TO WORSHIP

O give thanks to the Lord, who is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever.

*HYMN #14

"For the Beauty of the Earth" (v.3-5)

CALL TO CONFESSION

This is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, for people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us uncover our sin before the liberating light of Christ. Let us confess our sins first silently, then with the Unison Prayer.

SILENT PRAYER

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our sin and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and profit through deceit. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating the poor. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our sins before the light of your grace. Heal our sin and free us from our foolish ways that we may know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name 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

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

*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

Proclaiming

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Numbers 21:4-9

Bibles, p.134/LG. p.274

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

HYMN #634

"To God Be the Glory"

Crosby, 1875

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 3:14-21

Bibles, p.88/LG. p.114

The Word of God, for the People of God

Thanks be to God

SERMON

"Eternal Life, Eternally Lifted"

Justin Robinson

Responding

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for man. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work. The risen Christ is the Savior for all men. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as his reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations. This, we believe. – The Confession of 1967 9..09, 9.10

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MINISTRY OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY Selected

*DOXOLOGY

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sending

*HYMN #610 *“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (v.1-3)* Wesley, 1739

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE #610 *“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (v.4&5)*

POSTLUDE Selected

(*) Those who are able may stand.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Justin Robinson is a former Southern Baptist minister who lives with his wife and two children in Henderson, Texas. When not reading or writing words, you will find him in his garden digging them up. Recently, he has preached for St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, where he serves as Lay Eucharistic Minister.

This week’s prayers and concerns: Debbie Castro, Fonta Conway, Syble DeLoach, Jack Gray, Joyce Huggins, Billie Manck, Cindy and Bob Ratliff, Bob Schauwecker, Patsy Snelgrove, Billy Tapley, and Sue Williams.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thur. 03/15	Session Meeting	6:30pm
Sat. 03/17	Fellowship Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner	4:00pm-6:00pm
Sun. 03/18	Fifth Sunday in Lent	

**THOSE
WHO DO
WHAT IS
TRUE
COME TO
THE
LIGHT...**
 JOHN 3:21, NRSV

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We’re on FaceBook!

