

LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever, Amen.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY **Now the Green Blade Rises** Solo: Joshua Allen

*DOXOLOGY #607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of the harvest, just as Joseph fed his brothers from his storehouses of grain, just as you led Boaz to leave extra grain for the widow Ruth, just as you called Peter to feed your sheep, you desire that we would use our resources to feed others. So, we dedicate our offering to you as an act of obedience and service. Receive these gifts so they may be a blessing to our community and those in need. Give us the wisdom to steward them well. Amen.

— Sending —

*HYMN #250 Hymn of Promise (In the Bulb There is a Flower)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May we go out to bring both the bread of life and bread of wheat to the world.
May those who have plenty share with those who have none.
And may we all be sustained by the presence of Christ each and every day. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE **Lord, I Lift Your Name on High** Joshua Allen

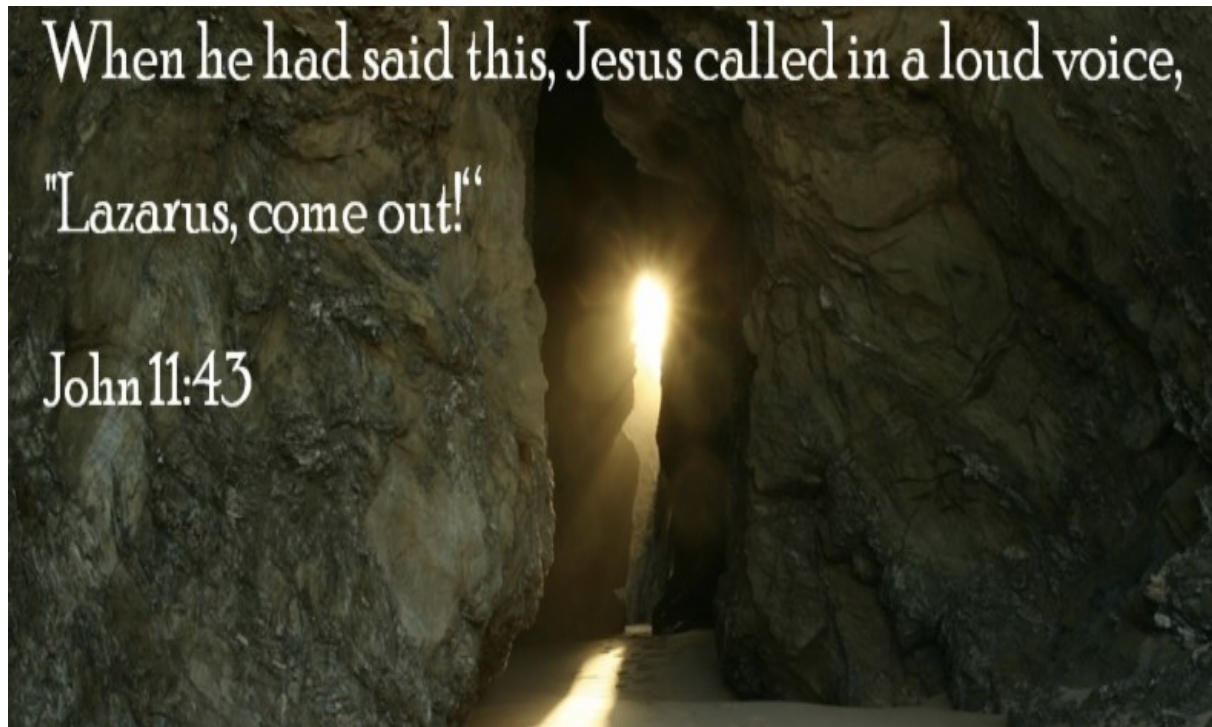
You may sit after the light passes you in the aisle.



*Serving God,
Honoring Creation,
Embracing Differences*



Rev. Michele R. Goff.....Pastor
Joshua Allen.....Music Director
Debbi Ricci.....Admin. Assist.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HENDERSON, TX

5th Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

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(\* Please rise in body or in spirit  
Bold Italic Letters indicate congregational response

— Gathering —

PRELUDE **Simple Gifts (Lord of the Dance)** Joshua Allen

WELCOME Rev. Michele Goff

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Liturgist: Carol Scoggins

Come, all you who hunger.

***Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.***

Come, all you who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

***Blessed are you who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for you will be filled.***

The storehouses of heaven are available to all.

***God is a great provider, nourishing both our bodies and souls.***

Come to worship and be satisfied in community.

***The Spirit of Christ is here, among us. Come, let us worship!***

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**\*HYMN #634**

To God Be the Glory

**CONFESSION**

***Corporations choose patents and profits over people,  
withholding life-saving medication from those who need it around the world.  
Food rots away in storehouses and landfills while the poor go hungry.  
Apartments sit empty while families live in their cars.  
Educational resources fill massive libraries  
while our children do not have books to read or computers to use.  
Churches sit empty most of the week, while nonprofit groups, activists,  
and small businesses cannot find places to meet.  
More and more packages are delivered to our homes daily,  
while the hands that make our products work in cruel conditions with little pay.  
Forgive us for hoarding when we should take and use only what we need. Forgive us  
for wasting when we throw away food, clothing, and other resources. Forgive us for  
choosing to make more and more money instead of spreading out the blessings. And  
forgive us for letting some go hungry and unhoused amidst all of our wealth. Reorient  
our hearts to a better way so all of humanity might thrive and be well. Amen.***

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Thanks be to God we are forgiven because of Jesus' saving work. Be comforted that God promises to, "satisfy every need of yours according to God's riches in glory in Christ Jesus." May our needs be met and may our hands be generous to share our abundance with others.

***Thanks be to God.***

**\*Gloria# 581**

***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.***

— Word —

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**First Testament Reading**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Bible p. 759, LG p. 987-988

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

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

**READING FROM PSALMS**

Psalms 130

Bible p. 542, LG p. 705

Hear the word of God for us.

This is the word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

**GOSPEL**

John 11:1-45

Bible p. 99, LG p. 127-128

The wisdom of God for the people of God.

The wisdom and power of God. ***Thanks be to God.***

**SERMON**

Unbound

Rev. Michele Goff

**DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE**

— Response —

**\*HYMN #829**

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31*

***To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community.  
This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation  
and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people  
from God and from each other.  
Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel  
by faithful obedience to his call.***

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Loving God, you cause rain to fall on the just and the unjust.

Hear our prayers for your church and world:

for the hungry and the overfed,

***may we have enough;***

for the mourners and the mockers,

***may we laugh together;***

for the victims and the oppressors,

***may we share power wisely;***

for the peacemakers and the warmongers,

***may clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony;***

for the silenced and the propagandists,

***may we speak our own words in truth;***

for the unemployed and the overworked,

***may our mark on this earth be kindly and creative;***

for the troubled and the secure,

***may we live together as wounded healers;***

for the homeless and the pampered,

***may our homes be simple, warm, and welcoming;***

for the vibrant and the dying,

***may we all die to sin and live to love. Amen.***