

The Worship of God

January 25, 2015

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Eleven O'Clock

The worship of God begins with the music of the organ. We encourage you to use this time for meditation and reflection. Please refrain from conversation which would disturb others and turn off or silence all electronic devices. Following the service, greet our visitors and share your friendship with those around you.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

ORGAN PRELUDE: Variations on *How Firm a Foundation*

Janet Linker

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

ORGAN MEDITATION: The Son of God, Our Christ

Benjamin M. Culli

CHORAL INTROIT: "Day by Day"

Harold Friedell

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: to see thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

St. Richard of Chichester

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 27: "Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

(The congregation rises as the organist begins the hymn.)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: In beginning, God created humanity from the dust of the earth and breathed us to life.

People: In the days of prophets and priests, the Spirit of God stirred and humanity was once again called to love the God of all creation.

Minister: When Christ came, God became flesh so that we might see the world through God's eyes, touch the world with God's hands, and love the world with God's heart.

People: May we experience God's Spirit with us today, so that we might be renewed in the love and service of God.

Minister: May we be empowered to care for the world which God created and redeemed through Jesus Christ.

People: Let us rejoice in the God who brings life to the world!

* THE GLORIA PATRI 35

GREATOREX

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL ADORATION

Silesian Melody

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!

(Ushers will seat those waiting.)

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come before you, O God, confessing our hesitation to express our faith boldly through our lives. We admit that we want to be in control; we search for absolutes; we fear the unknown. We seek easy solutions to questions that have no simple answers. We claim our faith on Sundays and deny it repeatedly the rest of the week. We pray and do not wait to listen. Help us to pause, to appreciate, to believe, to stand firm. Then empower us to love one another as you have loved us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

MEDITATION

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:14-20

Minister: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: "I Will Arise"

arr. Robert Shaw/Alice Parker

I will arise and go to Jesus, he will embrace me in his arms, in the arms of my dear Savior, Oh! There are ten thousand charms. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above, praise the mount I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love. Come thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace, streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. I will arise and go to Jesus, he will embrace me in his arms, in the arms of my dear Savior, Oh! There are ten thousand charms.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

* HYMN 602: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

MARYTON

Children in grades K-5 will leave for Children's Church.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

ORGAN OFFERTORY: Fanfares

Jean Joseph Mouret

* THE DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

This morning we give thanks for People Of Faith-Filling In the Gaps (POF-FIGS) which assists local families in times of crisis. The Acolyte places rent and utility bills on the altar.

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM: "A Heart to Serve"

Valerie Showers Crescenz

O Lord, if I will wait for thee, my heart's desire you'll give to me; what I desire, Lord, most of all is but a heart that hears your call. O Lord, create in me anew a heart that's honest, pure and true; a heart to love, a heart to learn, a heart to share, a heart to serve. Whatever joy my future brings will not be found in earthly things; I'll have the greatest of rewards: a heart whose joy is in the Lord. Give me a heart that loves you best, a heart that finds you in my rest, a heart to love, a heart to learn, a heart to share, a heart to serve.

THE EPISTLE LESSON: I Corinthians 7:29-31

SERMON: "Pardon Me, Paul"

Dr. Wright

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Spirit. We proclaim Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen One, confessing him as Lord to the glory of God the Father. In the fellowship of the Spirit, we acclaim Jesus as the Lord of the church, the Head over all things, the beginning of a new creation.

We acknowledge that we live and work between the time of Christ's death and resurrection and the final consummation of all things which he will bring. We rejoice that we are a pilgrim people, on a journey toward a promised goal, fed by Christ with word and sacraments, and led by the Spirit so that we may not lose our way. We live and work within the faith and unity of the church, bearing witness to that unity which is both Christ's gift and his will.

We affirm that every believer is called to live out the Gospel of Christ. Together with all God's people, we serve the world for which Christ died and rose again, awaiting the hope of the day of the Lord Jesus.

adapted from The Basis of Union

THE CALL TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 658: "Restless Weaver"

BEACH SPRING

(Persons desiring membership in our church are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

