

**SIGHT,
SOUND
AND
SILENCE: STILL LENT**

God, thank you for faithful signs
of spring that tell us you love the world.

Give us glimpses of your creation
that are sights for sore eyes—
a comet speeding through the sky,
green buds pushing their way onto bare branches,
your divine song echoed
by birds, streams, and rushing winds.
We human beings wonder at all you create
and rejoice to be a part of the living world
that you love and sustain.

We come in amazement, God.
The thought that you love us
even more than these glorious creations
is mystery indeed.

Open our ears to the sound of your voice
that resounds from the Creating Word,
the Holy Word that is behind every word,
the Mysterious Word that is you, our God.

Sharlande Sledge
Prayers & Litanies for the Christian Seasons

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Lakeside Baptist Church
Rocky Mount, North Carolina

The Worship of God
Sight, Sound and Silence: Still Lent

March 6, 2019

ASH WEDNESDAY

Six Thirty O' Clock

*In preparation for this service of worship, reflect upon
the prayer printed on the cover of the order of worship.*

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

ORGAN PRELUDE: O Man, Bewail Thy Great Sin J.S. Bach

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 576: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" OLIVET
(The congregation will stand when the organist begins the hymn.)

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: May God who dreamed a world of dragonfly and daffodil, open our eyes to hidden treasures and sights unnoticed.

People: In this season of Lent, let us be still and look, not just with our eyes but with our heart and soul.

Minister: May God who gave voice to wind and wave, open our ears to the sacred sounds of heartbeat and breath.

People: In this season of Lent, let us be still and listen, not just with our ears, but with our heart and soul.

Minister: May God who gifted us with the silent wonders of a blade of grass and a rainbow promise grant us the simple grace of pause and peace.

People: In this season of Lent, let us be still, opening our eyes, our ears, our heart and our soul to God.

* THE GLORIA PATRI (35) GREATOREX

* THE INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER

INTROIT

John L. Bell

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURE

The Old Testament Lesson: Joel 2:12-17

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

THE RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Minister: Holy God, we confess to you, to one another, and to ourselves that we have sinned by what we have thought, by what we have said, by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do. Contrary to our desire, we have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength, nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.

People: Forgive us, O God.

Minister: We have not listened to your call to service. We have not tried to be like Christ in the world.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Minister: We confess our unfaithfulness which has resulted in pride, hypocrisy, and impatience.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Minister: We admit our self-serving attitudes and the ways we take advantage of other people.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Minister: We acknowledge our self-hatred and our envy of one another.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Minister: We confess our neglect of prayer and worship, and admit that we do not always want to grow closer to you.

People: Have mercy on us, Lord.

Minister: We want to turn from the wrong we have done, from our apathy to injustice and cruelty, and from ignoring human need and suffering.

People: Help us to repent, O Lord.

Minister: We want to stop making false judgments and expressing unkind and unfair opinions about others. We want to turn from our prejudice and contempt of people who are different from us.

People: Help us to repent, O Lord.

Minister: Forgive us for not taking care of your creation and for our lack of concern for those who come after us.

People: Accept our repentance, Lord.

Minister: Forgive us, cleanse us, fashion a new heart within us, and never stop loving us.

People: Thank you, Lord, for your kind and tender mercy. Amen.

Silence

CHORAL MEDITATION

Taizé

Kyrie, Kyrie, eleison; Kyrie, Kyrie, eleison. Lord, have mercy.

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

At the invitation of the minister, you are invited to come forward for the imposition of the ashes. Following the choir, please use the center aisle as you approach the altar and the side aisles as you return to your seat.

ANTHEM: "Lay Me Low" arr. Kevin Siegfried

Lay me low where the Lord can find me, where the Lord can own me, where the Lord can bless me. Lay me low.

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 46

HOMILY: "Still Lent"

Dr. Wright

PRAYER

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

ANTHEM: "Evening Song"

Zoltán Kodály

Peaceful woods, the dusk descending, fragrant now with summer's ending; there I rested, and e'er sleeping, praying sought his sweet safekeeping. Thus I lay there, silent, praying; "Lord, I wander ever straying; wand'ring through the world, yet knowing, thou wilt guard me, and my going. Let not darkness from thee hide me, may thine angels watch beside me. Guard us all while we are sleeping, safe forever in thy keeping, ever, ever, in thy keeping."

At the invitation of the ministers, and as the choir begins singing, you are invited to come forward for communion. Forming two lines, please use the center aisle as you approach the altar and the side aisles as you return to your seat. If you prefer to remain seated, a Deacon will serve you. This evening we will take the bread and the cup by intinction, dipping the bread into the common cup. You will take a piece of bread from the plate offered by the minister and dip it into the chalice offered by one of the Deacons. You may then place the bread in your mouth. A common response when taking communion is to say, "Thanks be to God." or a simple, "Amen."

* HYMN 573: "Purer in Heart, O God"

PURER IN HEART

THE RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Minister: May the love of the Lord Jesus draw us to himself;

People: May the power of the Lord Jesus strengthen us in his service;

Minister: May the joy of the Lord Jesus fill our souls.

People: May the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Spirit, be with us always.

Minister: May the grace of God remain with us now and forever. Amen.

William Temple, alt.

DEPART IN SILENCE

You may leave in silence at this time or remain seated for meditation, if you choose.

* Congregation stands.

THE MINISTRY OF WORSHIP

Jody C. Wright
Senior Minister
Edward Evans
Acolyte

Elizabeth Edwards
Associate Minister
Chandler Lamm
Torchbearer
Philip Valera
Guest Organist

Amy Shortt
Minister of Music
Spencer Edwards
Crucifer