

Morning Worship
March 8, 2009
Second Sunday in Lent

Coming Together in Christ

10:55 AM MEDITATION (Please pause in quiet preparation for worship.)

11:00 AM CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE: *Veni Creator* Maurice Durufle

INTROIT *Praise, Praise the Lord!* Cameroon Song
Praise, praise, praise the Lord! Praise God's holy name, Alleluia!

Entering God's Presence

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 22: 1, 24

Leader: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?

People: ...He did not despise or abhor the affliction of the afflicted; he did not hide his face from me, but heard when I cried to him.

* HYMN OF PRAISE #478 *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* "Lauda Anima"

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

SILENCE

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together)

Lord God, by the authority of scripture we learn that we are the body of Christ...yes, even we who worship in different ways, even we whose understanding of you is so changeable, even we who, in our low moments, make an idol of our insignificance. We are your body, we are told. Then, Lord, make us like you that our souls may be stained glass through which your light and purpose bring beauty into the world.

KYRIE ELEISON (Congregation & Choir) #574, The Hymnal
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE DECLARATION OF PARDON John Dillon

* THE RESPONSE IN PRAISE

#579, The Hymnal

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing God's Word

TIME FOR CHILDREN

* HYMN OF PREPARATION #80 *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* "Lonesome Valley"

FIRST LESSON: Romans 4:13-21 Pew Bible p. 145

SECOND LESSON: Mark 8:31-38 Pew Bible p. 41

THE ANTHEM *Eternal Father* Gustav Holst

Eternal Father, who didst all create,
In whom we live, and to whose bosom move,
To all men be Thy name known, which is Love,
Till its loud praises sound at heaven's high gate.

Perfect Thy kingdom in our passing state,
that here on earth Thou mayst as well approve
Our homage as Thou ownest theirs above
Whose joy we echo, and in pain await.

Grant body and soul each day their daily bread:
And should in spite of grace fresh use begin,
Even as our anger soon is past and dead,
Be Thy remembrance mortal of our sin.

By Thee in paths of peace Thy sheep be led,
And in the vale of terror comforted.
Alleluia.

THE SERMON "Why the Cross? Part 1: Death of an Unimportant Man" Rev. John Dillon

Our Response to God's Love

* THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long

silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

—lines 52-76, from "A Brief Statement of Faith" (1983)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL AMEN *7-Fold Amen* John Rutter

WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Veni Creator* Maurice Durufle

* THE DOXOLOGY #592, The Hymnal

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

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE HYMN OF PARTING #302 *I Danced in the Morning* "Simple Gifts"

* SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please greet one another in the peace of Christ.)

* SUNG BENEDICTION *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* Dennis

(Please join hands as we sing the Benediction)

**Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love:
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.**

Going Forth in God's Love

* THE POSTLUDE "Veni Creator" Maurice Durufle

* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

Music Notes

The music this morning reflects the Lenten Season, along with the eternal theme of praise and petition. The Prelude, Offertory and Postlude are each based on the hymn tune “Veni Creator Spiritus,” #125, in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*. A plainsong tune, this is often sung at Pentecost but contains the Lenten petition of coming and imploring the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Maurice Durufle (January 11, 1902 –June 16, 1986) was a French composer, organist, and pedagogue. He was highly critical of his own composition and thus he was constantly rewriting and editing his own compositions. As a result, he composed only seven major organ pieces during his lifetime, albeit highly praised ones and in the standard organ repertoire today. “Veni Creator” is a set of themes and four variations based on this beautiful tune. You will hear the theme as the Prelude, one of the more ethereal variations as the Offertory, and the majestic finale as the Postlude.

The Introit this morning is a Traditional Cameroonian melody arranged for four voices and percussion. Beginning and ending with a single voice, the melody grows with many voices and the additional of triangle, woodblocks, shakers and congas—an energetic way to begin our worship!

The Anthem this morning is by English 20th century composer Gustav Holst (1874-1934). He is most famous for his orchestral suite “The Planets” (1914). Having studied at the Royal College of Music, his early work was influenced by Ravel, Grieg, Richard Strauss and fellow student Ralph Vaughan Williams, but most of his music is highly original, with influences from Hindu spiritualism and English folk tunes. His music is well known for unconventional use of metre and haunting melodies. “Eternal Father” sets a poem by Robert Bridges and contains an exuberant unison hymn-like melody, a rich four-part setting, a tender soprano solo and an ethereal ending of cascading Alleluias and all of this with tubular chimes.

We welcome Jessie Ragland and Mark Gauthier as our guest musicians this morning.

Statement of Purpose

Our Church exists to worship God and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Spirit, we shall serve God’s Kingdom by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

Statement of Vision

We embrace open and progressive theology. Through education, training, worship and Session leadership we will realize our vision both individually and in community. We will be open to new ideas and programs while staying true to our beliefs and traditions. We will commit our personal and corporate resources to embody our Statement of Purpose. We will live our lives responsibly with honesty and integrity.

About the Affirmation of Faith

The PC (USA) Book of Confessions is a collection of Confessions from the church in many ages and many different situations. Therefore, its expressions of faith cover a multitude of theological opinions, many of which are obviously influenced by who participated in their preparation and the times and customs of their era. While not necessarily agreeing with every statement precisely, our Ministers, Elders, and Deacons swear to be guided by its principles and truths. We select a passage from one of these Confessions each month to experience and explore the breadth and depth of our heritage.

For the month of March, we will be using extracts from "A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)." In 1983 the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was formed by the reunion of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and the Presbyterian Church in the United States. The *Plan for Reunion* called for preparation of a brief statement of the Reformed faith for possible inclusion in the *Book of Confessions*. It celebrates our rediscovery that for all our undoubted diversity, we are bound together by a common faith and a common task.

THE REPORTER IS GOING GREEN! You can help our church save the cost of postage, toner, paper and copier wear & tear by signing up to receive the newsletter online. By signing up, you will no longer receive a mailed paper copy. In order for this to be cost-effective, we need as many people as possible to change their subscriptions to online. Just email Kathy at secretary@pennswoods.net and she will be happy to put you on our email list.

What's Happening This Week:



SUNDAY, MARCH (8) **Daylight Savings Time Begins**

9:00 AM	Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM	Sunday School for All Ages
10:15 AM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM	Coffee Hour in the Library
11:00 AM	Worship Service, 2 nd Sunday in Lent On the Air WCBC
4:00 PM	GAFOSAC Youth Scoop at the Queen City Creamery

MONDAY, MARCH (9)

9:00 AM	Church Office Open
9:00 AM	Learning Tree Nursery School
4:30 PM	Finance & Administration Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH (10)

9:00 AM	Church Office Open
9:00 AM	Learning Tree Nursery School

WEDNESDAY, MARCH (11)

9:00 AM	Church Office Open
9:00 AM	Learning Tree Nursery School
6:15 PM	JoyBells Rehearsal
7:30 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH (12)

9:00 AM	Church Office Open
9:00 AM	Learning Tree Nursery School
7:00 PM	Session Meeting

FRIDAY, MARCH (13)

9:00 AM	Church Office Open
9:00 AM	Learning Tree Nursery School

SUNDAY, MARCH (15) **Newsletter Articles Due**

9:00 AM	Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:30 AM	Sunday School for All Ages
10:15 AM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
10:30 AM	Coffee Hour in the Library
11:00 AM	Worship Service, 3 rd Sunday in Lent Children's Choir Singing, On the Air WCBC