

Morning Worship
March 22, 2009
Fourth 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 *Prelude in G* Francis Linley (1771-1800)

INTROIT *Rejoice in the Lord Always* Anonymous

Entering God's Presence

THE CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 107:1, 2-3

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

People: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

* HYMN OF PRAISE #191 *God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength* "Winchester Old"

THE PRAYER OF APPROACH

SILENCE

AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (together)

Lord God, we praise you, we worship you, because by our new baptism into the body of Christ you have given us a new beginning, a new kind of life. We know that much of our life—our thoughts, feelings and actions—has not yet been touched or changed by the new life you have given. Help us to see the claims of your love in every part of our life and having seen them to accept them, so that everything in us may be remade by your love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

KYRIE ELEISON (Congregation & Choir) #572, 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

#69, Lift Up Your Hearts

**God has smiled on me. He has set me free,
God has smiled on me. He's been good to me.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing God's Word

TIME FOR CHILDREN

* HYMN OF PREPARATION #322

Spirit of the Living God

"Living God"

FIRST LESSON:

Leviticus 25:1-4, 35-41

Pew Bible p. 108-109

SECOND LESSON:

Mark 7:1-2, 5-9

Pew Bible p. 39

THE ANTHEM

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

"Holy Manna"
Arr. M. Schweizer

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty. There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement giv'n. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word; and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

THE SERMON "Why the Cross? Part 3: Death of a Victimized Revolutionary" 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 Stainer

WORSHIPPING THE LORD THROUGH OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Grazioso
JoyBells

Georg Philipp Telemann

* THE DOXOLOGY

#116, Lift Up Your Hearts

Shout for joy to God all the earth, Alleluia! Praise the Lord! (repeat)

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* THE HYMN OF PARTING #472

O Sing to the Lord

"Cantad al Senor"

* 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

"Cantad al Senor"

* Those who wish to do so are invited to stand

Music Notes

The Anthem this morning is a two-part canon arrangement of the familiar tune "Holy Manna." The tune can be found in our hymnal, #268, set to a different text. The Anthem text is by Frederick William Faber and tune by William Moore, first appearing in 1825 in Western Tennessee. This arrangement is by Mark Schweizer and is arranged for five hand bells and hand drum.

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 (22)

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, 4th Sunday in Lent
JoyBells Playing, On the Air WCBC
3:00 PM Pipes Plus Concert in Sheperdstown, WV

MONDAY, MARCH (23)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School & Book Fair

TUESDAY, MARCH (24)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School & Book Fair
6:30 PM Local Mission Meeting at the Creamery
7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, MARCH (25)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School & Book Fair
6:15 PM JoyBells Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH (26)

9:00 AM Church Office Open
9:00 AM Learning Tree Nursery School & Book Fair
7:00 PM Special Session Meeting

FRIDAY, MARCH (27)

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

SATURDAY, MARCH (28)

8:30 PM Earth Hour Observed

SUNDAY, MARCH (29)

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, 5th Sunday in Lent
Moment for Mission, On the Air WCBC
12:15 PM Confirmation Meeting & Lunch
4:30 PM GAFOSAC Meeting