

Order for the Worship of God
March 22, 2020
4th Sunday in Lent/Gifts of Women Sunday
11:00 AM Worship Service

WE COME TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsive*)

Patty Martin

Leader: We gather as pilgrims on a journey of faith

People: We come seeking the awareness of God's presence as we travel on.

Leader: We come seeking light for our darkness, strength in our weakness.

People: Shine in our hearts, O God, with the light of your love. Make your presence known through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“Chorale and Prelude on SLANE”

Charles Callahan

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chris Curvin, Pastor

HYMN #263
(*stanzas 1,4*)

“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”
Heather Wood, Clarinet

CORONATION

**All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all!**

**O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Patty Martin

What attention have we given this week to our covenant with God? Do we recognize God's law, and walk in it? Have we remembered the ways God has led us and provided for us? Or are our lives full of other concerns, so that forgetfulness and rebellion break our relationship with the Eternal. Let us confess together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Together*)

O God, Christ calls us to faith, while we seek our own security. He teaches us to trust him, yet we don't take that risk. He expects total commitment, and we think in terms of percentage. Time after time we turn our backs on your grace, serving our idols, and forsaking our Christ. We rely on your promise in him to redeem us. We are dependent on him who can intercede for us. O God, in Christ, have mercy upon us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's mercy comes to us in our disobedience. God's gracious favor answers our cry for help. God hears our complaining and provides for us in unexpected ways in the desert places of our lives. We are a people forgiven and blessed.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 131

Cindy Huffman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is 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.

CALL TO OFFERING

Cindy Huffman

Through our offerings, we reach out to help people, not because they are “worthy,” but because they are your children, in need of what we can share. May we give generously and receive the joy of giving.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

There are those who would be glad with the crumbs from your table, O God; we have received your gifts in abundance. Make us mindful of those who are needy, as we give you our tithes and our offerings. Use them to ease the pain of those who are suffering. As we serve others, increase our faith and use us to fulfill your will. Amen.

HYMN

“She Comes to Jesus”
Stephanie Carson

SLANE

**She came to Jesus from outside the fold —
Canaanite woman! Persistent and bold!
Looking to Jesus, she wanted to see
One who would help her and set her child free.**

**Claiming a blessing, a touch of God's grace,
She knew God's love was not bounded by place.
Jesus, you listened, debated — then healed —
For in her asking, her faith was revealed.**

**God, you still bless those who seek you in prayer.
You welcome dreamers who faithfully dare.
In Christ, now risen, your mercy extends:
Those on the outside are welcomed as friends.**

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WE GROW IN THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 15:21-31

SERMON

“A Hero or a Nuisance? Well, That Depends...”
Rev. Loli Reiter

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

HYMN #829

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

OLIVET

(stanzas 1,2,3)

**My faith looks up to thee, thou lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day be wholly thine!**

**May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire; as thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day;
wipe sorrows tears away; nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Loli Reiter

SUNG BLESSING

“Jude Benediction”
Heather Wood, Soloist

Lloyd Larson

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“In Thee Is Gladness”

David Cherwien

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director