First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

March 7, 2021

Third Sunday of Lent

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

The next few weeks in Lent we will be looking at John's gospel. In John, Jesus travels back and forth from Galilee to Jerusalem frequently. Jesus is there for the festival of the Passover. A time when many would have made the pilgrimage to worship in the temple. The crowds would have been massive, and the practice of buying and selling animals is turning God's home into a place bustling like a bazaar. Jesus' response points to his forthcoming death and resurrection. Brandishing a whip of cords, Jesus stands for justice in the face of corruption. A new day of salvation for God's people is acknowledged as God taking on flesh, and Christ's own body "tabernacling" among them.

Gathered As God's People

The season of Lent marks the forty days of preparation for Easter. During these forty days, the disciplines and rituals of the season aid us in focusing on Jesus' journey toward Jerusalem and His impending crucifixion. Our meditation on the sacrificial love of the Lamb of God transforms us and affirms the love of our covenantal God as we anticipate celebrating with exuberant joy the paschal mystery at Easter.

Introit

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Praeludium Circulare from Symphonie II* Charles-Marie Widor

*Call to Worship Ed Lancaster 8:30
Jim Ross 10:30

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.
The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
The commandments of the Lord is clear;
enlightening the eyes.

God's order and heart are true.
Let the words of our mouths
and the meditations of all our hearts
be acceptable to you, O God,
our rock and our redeemer

Opening Hymn #209 *My Song Is Love Unknown* John Ireland

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion,
You are slow to anger and full of mercy,
welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts.
Receive in Your loving embrace
all who seek their home in You.
Set a place for every soul a seat at
Your bountiful table of grace,
that, with Your children,
they may feast with delight
on all that satisfies the hungry heart.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, forever and ever. Amen

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy on us
Lord, have mercy on us

Assurance of Grace

Response

O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

The Peace of Christ be with You.
And also with you.

Proclaiming God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson	Exodus 20:1-17	OT pg. 66

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Interlude	*Préambule from Op. 31*	Louis Vierne
Scripture Lesson	John 2:13-22	NT pg. 93
Sermon	*Christ's Body Is Our Temple*	Rev. Len Carrell

Responding To God's Word

Hymn #731	*Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm*	C. Hubert H. Parry

*Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle's Creed)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the
Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day
he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth
on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he
shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion
of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and 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

Offertory *Andante tranquillo from Op. 65, No. 3* Felix Mendelssohn

Response

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn #394 *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* Henry Purcell

Benediction

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in F Major BWV 556* J.S. Bach

The flowers in the sanctuary today are to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Evelyn and Campbell Ridley from their family.

*Please stand as able

Dates to Remember

Today: 8:30 Early Service
9:00 Chapel Sunday School Class-Virtually
10:30 Late Service
11:30 Youth Returning from NaCoMe Spring Retreat
6:00 PM Fellowship Class-Virtually
2:00 PM Organ Recital
Tuesday: 11:00 Staff Meeting
12:00 Worship Planning Meeting
Wednesday: 6:00 PM Lenten Bible Study via Zoom
March 9-6:00 PM Deacons
March 14-Day Light Savings Time Begins

Organ Recital
Today @ 2:00 PM
Featuring Isaac Johnson

Isaac Johnson is the Director of Liturgical Music and Principal Organist at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Murfreesboro, one of the largest churches in the state of Tennessee. He holds degrees from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Samford University, and is a certified Colleague of the American Guild of Organists. He has performed organ recitals at cathedrals and churches in several states and in Canada, including Christ Church Episcopal Cathedral in Nashville. In addition to organ, he has enjoyed working as a high school music teacher, professional choral conductor, tenor, composer, and rock and roll multi-instrumentalist, and moonlights as a scholar of Catholic liturgy, liturgical music, and Gregorian chant.

We continue to pray for all of you, and are keeping you lifted in grace and love during this time. As always, we want to be a pastoral presence in your life. If there is anything we can do for you, we would like to know, if there are ways we can pray for you, or if someone you know needs the prayers of the church, please reach out to us.

Care List

The ***Care list*** is a list of members and friends who are sick, bereaved, or celebrating a happy occasion. After reading their names, you may want to write a short message to someone on the list.

Our Prayers…

Greg Baxter, Barbara Butler (sister of Mary McClanahan), Lynn Carroll (father of Margaret Piper), Sue Chiles, Joe Graham III, Will Green, Waymon Hickman, Cathy Krenz (sister of Mary McClanahan), Homer Martin, Martha Matthews, George Nelson, Steve and Gary Rampley (brothers of Betty Sloan), Richard and Debbie Welch (our missionaries in Guatemala), Cindy West (sister-in-law of Jennie Grace Jewell).

Worship Notes

Ministers of the Church

Ruling Elders

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Jean Mac Ball	Jack Baxter	Dorothy Duncan
Jeff Baxter	Gloria Dale	Dan Garman
Pat Bridges	Martha Jones	Michael McAlister
Don Crichton	Lee Maddox	Jim Ross
Tonjia Potts	Julia West	Dawn Taylor

Board of Deacons

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Julie Crichton	Erin Hedrick	Janice English
Joe Graham III	Raven Martin	Houston Jameson
Jenny Johns	Kristi Martin	Zack Maddux
Janet McAlister	Alan Phillips	Sharon Shaw
Larry Nickell	Jenny Sloan	

Staff

Susie Baxter, Director of Christian Education; Rev. Len Carrell, Pastor;
Renea Foster, Administrative Assistant; Carroll Kilgore, Business Administrator;
James Marshall, Sexton; Dale Nickell, Director of Music Ministry