

First Presbyterian Church

Worship joyfully the One who awaits your praise!

ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
22 FEBRUARY 2015

Thought for Silent Reflection

I prayed for twenty years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.

-Frederick Douglass

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Gentle Shepherd* arr. K. Keil

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: To you, O God, we lift up the spirit of our whole selves.

People: O God, we trust unashamedly in you; seeking that you be not ashamed of us.

Leader: May we begin our Lenten journey together in right relationships;

**People: Teach us. Show us. Guide us in your paths.
Grow us to know your ways more clearly.**

Leader: You are the God of our salvation and the Sustainer of good relations.

All: For you we wait.

One: May integrity, a clean conscience, and upright living preserve us.

All: Amen.

GATHERING UNISON PRAYER

As in days of old, Creator God, we come to look for your signs of covenant promises. Like the rainbow of Noah, we see and know your signs and hear your voice again directing us to the places of preparation and transformation in our lives and in our world. Thank you God for your covenant signs in this season of Lent. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN *Come, Worship God* (see insert)

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*Indicates when, if you are able, the congregation stands.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creating and Renewing God, in this Lenten season I need the opportunity to clear my eyes of the glaze of indifference and apathy. Help me get my mind off my distractions, obsessions and self-pity so that I don't feel helpless. Help me to start over. Re-orient my head and heart so that I may fill my whole self with life-affirming activities and thoughts. May I be in right relationship with you and all your creation. With the PC(USA) may I join the quest in over-coming violence, hunger and injustice. May I find courage and clarity to assist me in works of justice and compassion which make daily life bearable for many. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(Time of Silent Reflection)

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* (see insert)

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING *Psalms 25:1-10*

SPECIAL MUSIC *Come, Breath of God* arr. Michael Ryar
Noteworthy Bell Choir

CHILDREN'S TIME

SECOND READING *Mark 1:9-15*

SERMON *Letter from Dad* Rev. Deborah Packard

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The United Church of Canada*

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A community gathering in Christ and ministering as God leads



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Pastor: Reverend Deborah Packard
Director of Music: Sondra Goldsmith Proctor

to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus ,crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

- *HYMN *Kind Maker of the World* 79
- PASTORAL PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
- OFFERING AND OFFERTORY *Steal Away* Spiritual arr. Bill Ingram
Noteworthy Bell Choir
- *DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* see insert
- *PRAYER OF DEDICATION
- WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD**
- *CLOSING HYMN *Live Into Hope* 332
- *CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
- *CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Go with Us, Lord* (sung as a round, twice)
Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
That in Your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.
- *POSTLUDE *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* arr. J. Carter

Our worship has ended – now our service begins.

Bags of activities for children are available at the entrance.

Children of any age are always welcome to stay during worship.

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church and invite you to join us during the coffee hour. We are strengthened by your presence and hope that being here brings blessings to you. If you would like to know more about who we are or have questions for us, please feel free to call the church office and ask to speak to Pastor Deb (265-9434).

Kirk Severtson, Pianist
Dick Hutchinson, Reader
Beth Grace, Greeter
Jerry Gravander & Dave Wells, Counters
Daniel Severtson, Acolyte
Cynthia Coleman, Coffee Host
Eleanor Hopke & Richard Lunt (Coffee Hosts 3/1/15)