FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 18, 2024
11:00 AM

As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND INVITATION — Rev. Timothy T. Boggess

PRELUDE — *Abide With Me* — arr. Steven Phillips

adapted from Psalm 63

CALL TO WORSHIP — Dick Clapp

Because your steadfast love is better than life,
we will praise you, O God.
We will bless you as long as we live;
we will lift up our hands and call on your name.
For you have been our help,
and in the shadow of your wings we sing for joy.

***HYMN 450** — *Be Thou My Vision* — SLANE

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy,
You sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess the times that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

***SONG OF JOY 269** (v. 2) *Lead On, O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords' loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

MOMENT FOR DISCIPLESHIP - CARITAS FOOD PANTRY Leah Cotter
Emily Weitekamp

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

ANTHEM *Irish Blessing* Bob Chilcott
(The Chancel Choir)

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be ever at you back.
May the sunshine warm upon your face.
And the rain fall soft upon your fields.
And, until we meet again,
May God hold you
Ever in the palm of his hand.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Mark 10:17-31

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Wheels and Wings* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

COMMISSIONING OF CUBA MISSION TEAM

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee* Paul Manz

***DOXOLOGY 608** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

A Declaration of Faith, 1979

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Dick Clapp

Jesus Christ overthrew evil powers
that enslaved and degraded people,
yet he made no use of power to protect himself.
He healed those who were sick in body and mind,
yet he did not avoid pain and suffering for himself.
He commanded his followers to place loyalty to him
above loyalty to family and country,
yet he lived among them as a servant.

Jesus taught with authority,
challenging many time-honored customs and ideas,
yet he submitted to humiliation and death
without a word on his own behalf.
He forgave sinners,
yet he was counted among sinners.
In both his majesty and lowliness
Jesus is the eternal Son of God,
God himself with us.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 177** *I Will Come to You* YOU ARE MINE

"I will come to you in the silence;
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice;
I claim you as my choice.
Be still and know I am here.

Refrain:
Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine."

"I am hope for all who are hopeless;
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light.
Come and rest in me. (Refrain)

"I am strength for all the despairing,
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see;
the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name. (Refrain)

"I am the Word that leads all to freedom;
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name,
embracing all your pain.
Stand up, now walk and live! (Refrain)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Boggess

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *Canticle of the Turning* Steven Phillips

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

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