



**Traditional Service
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

March 19, 2023

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Elevation from *Ten Pieces for Grand Organ*

Theodore Dubois

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord preserves us from evil;

People: The Lord surrounds us with cries of deliverance.

Leader: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice!

People: Shout for joy, all who are upright in heart!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN

#488

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

1 The God of Abraham praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
The ancient of eternal days,
The God of Love!
The Lord, the great I Am,
By earth and heaven confessed,
We bow before Your holy name,
Forever blest.

2 Your spirit still flows free,
High surging where it will;
In prophet's word You spoke of old
And You speak still.
Established is Your law,
And changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart,
On sea, or land.

*Please stand if you are able.

3 You have eternal life
Implanted in the soul;
Your love shall be our strength and stay,
While ages roll.
We praise You, living God!
We praise Your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought,
And still the same!

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we are truly blessed by your grace, mercy, justice, and peace; your love is abundant and everflowing. Yet we still often focus on what we do not have, or what others have that we want. We lose sight of your love in the busyness and challenges of our lives. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to recognize your love at work all around us, and share it with everyone we meet.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 11(selected verses), 12:1-22

Judy Smullen

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. J.C. Austin

“Way Will Open: Running for Our Lives”

WE RESPOND

*SERMON HYMN

O for a Closer Walk with God

#396

CAITHNESS

1 O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!

2 Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn
And drove Thee from my breast.

3 The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee.

4 So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles' 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

Call to Give

Offertory Like as the Hart Desireth the Waterbrooks
Chancel Choir

Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God: yea, even for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my meat day and night, while they daily say unto me:
Where is now thy God?
My tears have been my meat day and night.

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks, so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God: yea, even for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?

(Psalm 42: 1-3)

*Doxology

#592

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN

#387

Saviour Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BRADBURY

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us,
Much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us,
For our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

3 Early let us seek Thy favor;
Early let us do Thy will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
Eith Thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

2 Thou hast promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and power to free:
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to Thee.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata in D Minor (Dorian), BWV 538

Johann Sebastian Bach

Flowers given by Jane Mackie in memory of her neighbor, Frank Lulewitz