

**1st Sunday in Lent  
February 18, 2024**

**Gathering**  
*God invites us to enter His presence*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

**!** **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

*Hob Pusey*

Our hearts are ready, O Lord,  
our hearts are ready!

**We will sing and make melody!  
We will awaken the dawn!**

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,  
we will sing praises to you among the nations.

**For your steadfast love is great above the heavens,  
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

—based on Psalm 108:1-4

**!** **Invocation** (*Responsively*)

*Hob Pusey*

Let us join our voices to praise the spotless Lamb, Jesus Christ,  
who has redeemed us from sin and death.

**We, whom he has redeemed,  
will sing praises and shout for joy this hour;**

because in Christ the Lamb we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our sins in accordance with the riches of his grace.

**Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law  
by becoming a curse for us.**

Let us praise him by saying:

**Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and praise!**

**To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
we give worship this hour and forever and ever. Amen.**

**!** **Hymn 97**

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

**Confessing**  
*God invites us to be honest with Him*

**Call to Confession**

*Hob Pusey*

We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves

about who we are, about the mistakes we make, and about how well or poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God.

**Prayer of Confession** *(Responsively)*

*Hob Pusey*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

**Lord, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

**If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?**

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

**I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;**

**my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.**

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

—Psalm 130, NRSV

**Time for Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Hob Pusey*

The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.  
For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.  
But the steadfast love of the LORD is from  
everlasting to everlasting  
on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness to children's children,  
to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.

—Psalm 103:8, 13-14, 17-18, NRSV

*Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord*

**All: Thanks be to God!**

 **Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
A-men, A-men.*

## Offering

*Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him*

**Invitation**      The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,  
the world, and those who live in it.  
—Psalm 24:1, NRSV

### **Offering**

**Offertory**      *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms -  
Dan Baker & Dennis Lesher*

### **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*  
*Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;*  
*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

### **Prayer of Dedication**

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness  
we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for  
your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Blessed be  
God forever. Amen.

### **Praise Song**      *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart,  
I want to see You, I want to see You.  
(2 times)

To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your pow'r and love; As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart,  
I want to see You, I want to see You.  
(2 times)

To see You high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your pow'r and love; As we sing holy, holy, holy.

Holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy, I want to see You!

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart,  
I want to see You, I want to see You.  
(2 times)

**Proclaiming**  
**God speaks to us through His Word**

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 14:25-35

<sup>25</sup> Now great crowds were traveling with him. So he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters—yes, and even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

<sup>28</sup> "For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn't first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, after he has laid the foundation and cannot finish it, all the onlookers will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This man started to build and wasn't able to finish.'

<sup>31</sup> "Or what king, going to war against another king, will not first sit down and decide if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If not, while the other is still far off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> In the same way, therefore, every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.

<sup>34</sup> "Now, salt is good, but if salt should lose its taste, how will it be made salty? <sup>35</sup> It isn't fit for the soil or for the manure pile; they throw it out. Let anyone who has ears to hear listen.

**Sermon**

*"The Cost of Following Jesus"*  
Rev. Tim Latham



**Praise Song**

*Here I am Lord*

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?*

*(Refrain)*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard You calling in the night,  
I will go, Lord, If You lead me.  
I will hold Your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?  
Refrain*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?  
Refrain.*

**Responding**  
*We respond to God's Word*

 **Profession of Faith** *(Nicene Creed)*

We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God,  
Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.  
He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried.  
The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.  
He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again with glory  
to judge the living and the dead.  
His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life.  
He proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.  
He spoke through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,  
and to life in the world to come. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

**Commissioning**  
*God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

 **Praise Song**      *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken  
Jesus I my cross have taken,  
All to leave and follow Thee  
Destitute, despised, forsaken*

*Thou from hence my all shalt be  
Perish every fond ambition,  
All I've sought or hoped or known  
Yet how rich is my condition,  
God and heaven are still my own.*

*Let the world despise and leave me  
They have left my savior too  
Human hearts and looks deceive me,  
Thou art not like them untrue  
Oh while thou dost smile upon me,  
God of wisdom, love and might  
Foes may hate and friends disown me,  
Show thy face and all is bright.*

*Man they trouble and distress me,  
Twill but drive me to thy breast  
Life with trials hard may press me,  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest  
Oh 'tis not in grief to harm me,  
While thy love is left to me  
Oh 'twere not in joy to charm me,  
Were that joy unmixed with thee.*

*Go then earthly fame and treasure,  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In thy service pain is pleasure,  
With thy favor loss is gain  
I have called thee Abba Father,  
I have stayed my heart on thee  
Storms may howl and clouds may gather,  
All must work for good to me.*

*Soul then know thy full salvation  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
Joy to find in every station,  
Something still to do or bear  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee,  
Think what Father's smiles are thine  
Think that Jesus died to win thee,  
Child of heaven, canst thou repine.*

*Haste thee on from grace to glory,  
Armed by faith and winged by prayer  
Heaven's eternal day's before thee,  
God's own hand shall guide thee there  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission,  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days  
Hope shall change to glad fruition,  
Faith to sight and prayer to praise.*

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**