



Welcome, friends, from far and near.
Let us worship God who is surely here.
Let us pray, sing, share the Word and give;
then let us joyfully go into God's world to
live. *Please indicate your desires for
visitation, or information about joining
Celebration Church on the Ritual of

Friendship Pad. *Prayer cards are provided for sharing your joys and concerns. Please write your prayer request on the back of a prayer card and write your name on the front and the ushers will collect the prayer cards before the Prayers of the People.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Forgiving One, be present here this day. Create in us clean hearts and right spirits, so that our paths are your path and our thoughts are your thoughts. Amen.

Sunday, March 4, 2018

3rd Sunday in Lent

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude Sarah Abushakra

Chiming the Hour

*Hymn No. 5 *God the Sculptor of the Mountains* JENNINGS-HOUSTON
Cantor on v. 1, all on v. 2-4

Greeting The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**
Welcome, Ritual of Friendship, Prayer Cards, Announcements and Opening Prayer

*Sharing the Peace of Christ The Peace of Christ be with You. **And also with you!**
(Please exchange signs of Christ's peace with those near you.)

TO WORSHIP THE LORD OUR GOD

*Responsive Call to Worship Liturgist: Peg Speidel
In the scriptures and in beauty, in community and in reflection, **we hear God's speaking**
Let us worship God who calls, **and attend to the voice of our Creator.**
Let us raise our voices to praise the Lord. **Let us glorify God together.**

*Hymn No. 394 *Christ is Made the Sure Foundation* WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Call to Confession Liturgist: Peg Speidel
Friends, we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. The good news is that with God,
grace abounds and forgiveness is real to all who confess. Let us confess our sins collectively and
then personally.

Unison Prayer of Confession Liturgist: Peg Speidel
**While your voice echoes everywhere, and you call us to worship you, we confess that we are too
often distracted and many things compete for our attention: we serve false gods and trust in
empty promises. We can so easily be lured from you by hollow images that do not know our
names. We spend our energy on things that cannot satisfy. We envy those who live by**

destructive values of competitiveness and greed. We mindlessly live in ways that hurt those
close to us and those whose suffering we do not see. Forgive us, O God. Whisper in our ears and
call for our attention. Bring us to a solid place of awareness, so that when we gaze at the stars
and feel the sun's warmth we may be aware of your hands that created them. Empower us to
live and to keep your commandments. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon Liturgist: Peg Speidel
Friends, hear the good news and believe it: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostle's Creed* *PCUSA Book of Confessions*
**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.**

*Hymn No. 581 *Glory Be to the Father* GLORIA PATRI
** The children are invited to join the Pastor on the steps **

Time With Young Disciples *Children's Church follows in Room 5*

TO WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER AND SHARED STEWARDSHIP

Prayers of the People – Sharing Our Joys and Concerns **(Please pass your prayer cards to an usher.)**
Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer ("debts and debtors")

Giving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings
Offertory *It Is Well With My Soul* Celebration Choir

*Doxology Hymn No. 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

*Unison Prayer of Dedication
**Generous God, we thank you for all your abundant gifts. Bless these tithes and offerings to build
up your people and to further your work in the world. We thank you for your abundant grace,
mercy and love. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.**

TO WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD, SHARED WITNESS AND SACRAMENT

Scripture **John 2:13-22** **NRSV**
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**
Sermon *Righteous Anger* Tom Dendy

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Hymn before Communion No. 498 *Loaves Were Broken, Works were Spoken* BEACH SPRING
Invitation to the Lord's Table / Words of Institution / Prayer of Consecration and Preparation
Sharing the Bread and Cup (Distribution by Elders, please hold until all have been served)

