

Welcome to Celebration Presbyterian Church
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 requests on a card and the ushers will collect them.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP
Our Father God, we pray earnestly and expectantly that you will fill our hearts and this place with your presence. Teach us the way of the cross. It is a difficult life, but we trust that it is the only true life worthy of your mission. Teach us the words of Jesus and shape our lives by them. Teach us the deeds of Jesus and form us by them. We are eager and ready to hear the gospel and praise your holy name. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Celebrating our seventeenth year of faithful living and giving!

Sunday, March 24, 2019 **3rd Sunday in Lent**

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude Sarah Abushakra
Chiming the Hour

***Hymn No. 743** *O God, You Are My God* STEP BY STEP

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 your brothers and sisters in Christ near you.)

TO WORSHIP THE LORD OUR GOD

***Responsive Call to Worship** Liturgist: Kathy Wechter
Gather together to worship God!
We gather to reunite with God's purposes.
Gather together to walk with Christ!
We gather to make our way to the cross.
Gather together as disciples committed to living holy lives!
We gather to live the faith more fully in our lives.
Let us join our voices to sing the songs of the faithful.

***Hymn No. 630** *Fairest Lord Jesus* CRUSADERS' HYMN

Call to Confession Liturgist: Kathy Wechter
If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But, if we confess our sins, Jesus is faithful to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sins collectively and then personally.

Unison Prayer of Confession Liturgist: Kathy Wechter
We try to draw boundaries around your forgiveness, for we cannot imagine the endlessness of your grace. We try to make a rule book of your holy stories, for we cannot grasp the depth of your living word. We try to make a worldly hero of our holy savior, for we cannot understand the majesty of your gift. Forgive us, Holy One, and gather us more closely into the realm of your transforming love. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confession

Assurance of Pardon Liturgist: Kathy Wechter
Friends hear the Good News and believe it:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

Affirmation of Faith
Confession of 1967, 9.31 *PCUSA Book of Confessions*
To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call. Amen.

***Lenten Response Hymn No. 576** *Lord Have Mercy* SINGAPURA

Time With Young Disciples
Children's Church follows in Room 5
The children are invited to come to the steps for the Time With Young Disciples

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

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings as Faithful Stewards
All things in heaven and earth belong to God, who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.
2 Peter 3:8-15

Offertory *Everything Good* Don Schlosser
Celebration Choir featuring the Celebration Youth
"Everything true, everything noble, everything right, everything true, everything lovely, everything worthy... Oh, think about everything good. And the God of peace will be with you."

***Lenten Response Hymn No. 701** *Lord, Prepare Me* SANCTUARY

***Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**
O God, you have given us all that we have. You breathed life into us and continue to fill us with your life-giving Spirit. You poured out your love for us that we may have life. May these gifts be used in your service, that all may receive your many blessings. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

TO WORSHIP THROUGH WORD, SHARED WITNESS

Scripture **Psalms 63** NRSV
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Are You Seeking Soul Satisfaction?* Tom Dendy

AND RESPOND IN FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THE WORLD

*Charge and Benediction
***Hymn No. 62** *Love the Lord Your God* GREAT COMMANDMENT
***Postlude** Sarah Abushakra
(*If able, please stand at these points in the service.)



