

MARCH 1, 2017
6:30 P.M.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

716 COLLEGE AVENUE • RACINE, WI 53403
262-632-1686
WWW.FIRSTPRESRACINE.ORG



Begin the journey to the cross

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Holy God, we rest in the promise of Your grace.
 All: And are humbled by Your endless mercy
 One: Living Christ, we remember Your love
 All: And are humbled by Your sacrifice
 One: Spirit of God, we seek Your guidance
 All: And are humbled by Your patience with us

*HYMN "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" [p. 3]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION



All: O God of life, we confess the ways we turn away from the full-ness of life that You offer. (O Lord hear my prayer)
 All: God of love, we confess we hold hate in our hearts and indifference to others. (O Lord hear my prayer)
 All: God of justice, we confess that our lives are linked to oppressive systems. (O Lord hear my prayer)
 All: God of peace, we confess the violent reality of our world and our failure to seek peace. (O Lord hear my prayer)
 All: Holy God, we confess our sins. (O Lord hear my prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Turn toward your God, confident that, through Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
 All: This is the good news of the gospel, thanks be to God

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 58:1-9

CHANCEL CHOIR

"Lonesome Valley"
by C. Harry Causey

INVITATION TO LENT AND THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Sisters and brothers in Christ, Lent is a time of preparation and of reflection. Through the coming weeks we journey with Jesus, longing to draw closer to God and our neighbor. Lent is a time when we prepare to once again celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. But we begin this holy season, acknowledging our need of mercy and forgiveness that is promised and proclaimed through the good news of Jesus Christ. May God strengthen us and sustain as we journey together.

PRAYERS OF THE PENITENT

One: Generous God, You have filled the earth with abundance and our lives with unnumbered blessings.
All: May we learn to live with generous hearts and with open hands. [Hymn "Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire" - p. 4 v. 1]
 One: Humble God who became flesh and blood in Jesus. You touched the untouchable, spoke to the outcast and welcomed all into Your loving embrace.
All: Help us to live with humble hearts, looking always to the needs of others. [Hymn "Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire" - p. 4 v. 2]
 One: Righteous God, You call us into a relationship with You and invite us through fasting, prayer, worship and community to draw closer to You.
All: Walk with us on this Lenten journey. Give us eyes to see the path You would have us take, gives us ears to hear Your call and hearts that abide in Your perfect peace. [Hymn "Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire" - p. 4 v. 3]

All are invited to come forward and receive the imposition of ashes as we sing

*HYMN

"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" [p. 5]

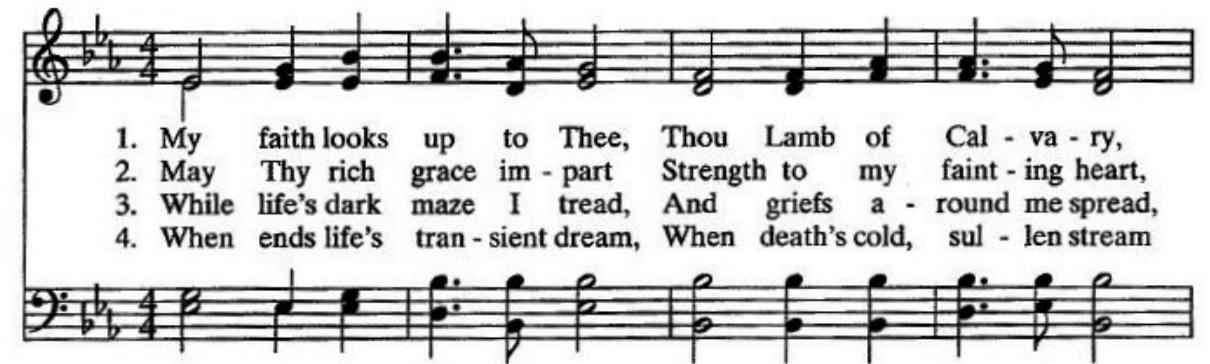
CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Let Your God Love You

~Edwina Gateley

Be silent.
Be still.
Alone.
Empty
Before your God.
Say nothing.
Ask nothing.
Be silent.
Be still.
Let your God look upon you.
That is all.
God knows.
God understands.
God loves you
With an enormous love,
And only wants
To look upon you
With that love.
Quiet.
Still.
Be.
Let your God-
Love you.

MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE



1. My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2. May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart,
3. While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs a - round me spread,
4. When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine: Now hear me while I pray, Take all my
My zeal in - spire; As Thou hast died for me, O may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark-ness turn to day, Wipe sor-row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way, O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change-less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

THOUGH I MAY SPEAK WITH BRAVEST FIRE

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire,
 2. Though I may give all I pos - sess,
 3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift to all in - spire,
 and striv - ing so my love pro - fess,
 our spir - its long to be made whole.

and have not love; my words are vain;
 but not be giv'n by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - ery deed;

as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor ship, and are freed.

O LOVE THAT WILT NOT LET ME GO

1. O love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
 2. O light that fol - lowest all my way, I yield my
 3. O joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not
 4. O cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not

wea - ry soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, That
 flick - ering torch to Thee; My heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, That
 close my heart to Thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain, And
 ask to fly from Thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, And

in Thine o - cean depths its flow May rich - er, full - er be.
 in Thy sun - shine's blaze its day May bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain That morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos - soms red Life that shall end - less be.