

THE WORSHIP OF THE LORD

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING MUSIC

OPENING TO WORSHIP

EPHREM THE SYRIAN (C. 306 – 373),
THE NATURE OF THE BRAZEN SERPENT LIKE THAT OF CHRIST.
*It was shown by the brazen [serpent], which by its nature cannot suffer,
that he would suffer on the cross, who by his nature cannot die.*
Commentary on Tatian's DIATESSARON 14.15.

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Worship begins with the Voluntary. Please use this time to enjoy the sacred music and to prepare your heart and mind for an encounter with God.

VOLUNTARY

*Here I Am to Worship with Crown Him With Many Crowns.....arr. Hugues
Karen Sawyer*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr.

PSALTER READING: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord be with you,
And also with you!

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son
that whoever believes in him should not perish
but have eternal life.

Thanks be to God for unbounded love!

Though we were as good as dead,
God made us alive with the grace of Christ.
Through whom we are rescued and healed.
Thanks be to God for faithful mercies!

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 208

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.....BEECHER

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Numbers 21:4-9

Linda Cooper

INVOCATION 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.*

LENTEN WREATH

Dexter and Angela Davis

*OFFERTORY HYMN

Speak, O Lord.....SPEAK, O LORD

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Ross Strickland

*A LENTEN DOXOLOGY NO. 449TALLIS' CANON

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Byrd

CONGREGATIONAL CHORUS NO. 177

There's Something About That Name.....THAT NAME

JOYS/CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Byrd

EPISTLE READING: Ephesians 2:1-10

AN INVITATION TO CONFESSION AND PASTORAL PRAYER

*4 But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, 5 that
even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when
he raised Christ from the dead.
(It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!)
Ephesians 2:4-5 (NLT)*

Even when we were dead, Paul writes.
Even when we turned away from the One who had created us.
Even when we lived in the grip of what drew our gaze from God.
Even when we were oblivious.
Even when we followed a path fashioned of nothing
but our own desires.
Even when we wandered far and willfully away.

Even when we forget to look past our own feet and see
the wonders not of our making.
Even when we failed to stand in awe, to breathe thanks,
to lean into the love that had waited long for us.
Even when, Paul writes.
Even when,
even then:
grace.

Join me in prayer.

WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC

*I Love to Tell the Story.....K. Hankey W. Fischer
Blaine Pittman, Karen Sawyer, and Clyde Patterson*

SHARING IN GOD'S WORD

Bookshelf Wealth of Life!
Emphasis Text: John 3:14-21
Rev. Byrd

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 342

Rock Of Ages, Cleft for Me (stanzas 1 and 3).....TOPLADY

*WORDS of MISSION and BENEDICTION

Just as God's Word was sent into the world to heal and redeem,
God sends you into the world this day to be light and love,
healing and hope.
Go now to be light for the world!

*May the grace and peace of God the Creator,
the Redeemer, and the Sustainer
come upon you this day and remain always.
Amen!*

CHORAL RESPONSE

*Choral Amen..... THREEFOLD 1
Chancel Choir*

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE

*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing.....arr. Janet Linker
Clyde Patterson*

**Congregation stands, who are able
All scripture readings are from The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version.*

Today

Deacons: Linda Cooper & Ross Strickland
Children's Church: Brenda Griffin
Nursery & Toddlers: Paula Strickland

2024 Financial Summary for 9 Weeks

Financial information is not shared online.

Member Prayer Request

Tim Bartholomew	Eric Jeffreys	Donald Parker
Wilbur Batchelor	Sue Jenkins	John Scheipers
Janice Brown	Peggy King	Fred Seiber
Patsy Carty	Nancy Machuca	Healon Smith
Dexter Denton	Dot Morris	Dave Werts
Weedie Hayes	Claudia Mull	Jeremy Winstead

Prayer on Behalf of Members

Ella Ames	Veda Byrd	Kevin Hinsdale
Wanda Andrews	Brenda Caldwell	Louise Ramsey
Harrison Barnett	Annette Carrico	Johnathan Sawyer
Gerald Butler	Rudy Frazier	Family of Chris Strickland
Pam Butler	Gerald Hale	Family of Frederick Winner
John Byrd	Barbara Strickland Harris	

Card Ministry to the Homebound

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of
God and in loving memory of my parents,
John and Eloise Richardson
by Mary John Matthews and Family.

The Ministry of Worship

Rev. J. Kenneth Byrd, Jr., Pastor
Blaine Pittman, Director of Music & Education
Clyde Patterson, Church Organist
Karen Sawyer, Church Musician

