

New St. Peter's Presbyterian Church
Celebration of Worship
March 10, 2019

Striking of the Hour *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

Call to Worship (John 7)

Children of God, do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.

Liturgy of the Word (Micah 7 and Luke 12)

~~For~~ The son treats the father with contempt, the daughter rises up against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. **For the peace that Jesus brings to some will be the cause of division for others.** And a man's enemies may become those of his own household. **But as for us, we will look to the LORD. We will wait for the God of our salvation, and He will hear us.**

Invocation

Hymn: *“O Worship the King”*

Hymn: *“Our Great God”*

Confession of Sin and Plea for Pardon (Luke 12; 1 Peter 4; Philippians 3)

Our Good and Holy Judge, forgive us we pray, for our hearts are often blind to the signs of Your good news. **We can routinely interpret matters that benefit our daily conveniences, but we are willfully naïve about what it means to follow Jesus in our world. He has told us that faith and obedience towards Him will normally come at a great cost, but we have come to expect a life of ease as disciples. We are surprised at persecution. We are caught off guard by distress. We have coveted the comfortable gifts of our Redeemer but have scorned His call to join Him in suffering loss. In all these things, we have judged ourselves and Your Son wrongly. Forgive us for our selfishness, and cleanse our sin through the sufferings of Jesus upon the cross.**

Worshippers may continue to confess their sins in silence.

Assurance of Pardon (Philippians 3)

Church, be joyful and take courage for you have been given the righteousness from God that depends on faith in Jesus. **So whatever has been gain to us, we count as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, we count all things as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord. Our delight is in knowing Him! Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

A reading from Leviticus: The LORD graciously provides a substitute to take the fire of judgment for sin away from the people of Israel. (Leviticus 1:1-9)

Sharing the Peace of Christ

May the peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Doxology “*Crown Him with Many Crowns*”

Baptismal Meditation (*From Bernard of Clairvaux, various Bible passages*)

Brothers and Sisters, let us take heart again.

Even if we are nothing in our own hearts, perhaps something of us may be hidden in the heart of God. O Father of mercies! O Father of the miserable! How can You set Your heart upon us? For where your treasure is, your heart is also. But how are we Your treasure if we are nothing?

So, indeed, before You, not within You. So in the judgment of Your truth, but not so in the intention of Your faithfulness. For although, as regards ourselves, we are not, nevertheless with You we are; as the apostle says, not of our works of righteousness, but of Him who calls.

So take heart, and climb up to a higher watchtower. Let us seek the City of God, let us seek His temple, let us seek His house, let us seek His bride. We are but in the heart of God.

Sermon: “*Do You See the Signs?*” (Luke 12:49-59)

Hymn: “*The Christian’s Hope Can Never Fail*”

Hymn: “*And Can It Be*”

Parting Liturgy (2 Corinthians 5)

Church, the love of Christ controls us because we have concluded that one has died for all, therefore all have died. **And He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him who for their sake died and was raised.**

Benediction (1 Thessalonians 5)

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, and He will surely do it.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.