



The Tale of The
**THREE
TREES**

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 2, 2017 | 8:30 + 11:00 am

We Gather in the Presence of the Risen Savior

Prelude | Across the Lands *setting by James Koerts*

Welcome + Announcements

***Call to Worship** | based on Psalm 95

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord,

let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before him with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, a great King above all gods.

With his hand he formed us as children, as families, as friends.

The church is his, for he made it, his hands bring together people of all ages.

He gives shelter and warmth, and coffee and donuts.

Come, let us bow down in worship,

let us kneel before the Lord our Maker:

for he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

— From the Next Chapter Prayer Vigil: celebrating family friendly ministry at St. Andrew

***Gathering Hymn** | Across the Lands *red hymnal, #775*

Hymns + Songs | *Lift Up Your Hearts* (red hymnal)

Bold Print | Speak or sing together in unison

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

We Seek Renewal in God's Presence

***Call to Confession** | based on Romans 8:39

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

Silence for personal confession

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Words of Assurance** | based on Romans 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Hear the Good News! There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that in Jesus, God embraces you, forgives you, and strengthens you to live a renewed life. **Thanks be to God!**

***The Peace** | time of greeting

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***Congregational Response** | In Christ Alone *red hymnal, #770* stanza 4

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no human plan, can ever pluck me from his hand;
'til he returns or calls me home, here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

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Parents who would like to have their children (3 year old - Kindergarten) participate in Children's Time are welcome to accompany their children downstairs during the passing of the peace. Children will be brought back to the Sanctuary during the Sending Hymn.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm | Psalm 57 *Bible, pg. 455*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Lesson | Romans 8:26-39 *Bible, pg. 919*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message in Song | The Tale of the Three Trees *by Allen Pote and Tom Long*

Responding to the Word

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Prayer requests may be written on a prayer card and placed in the offering plate.

Offertory | Beneath the Cross of Jesus *setting by Lloyd Larson*

***Offertory Response** | Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving + Words of Institution

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Congregational Hymn | Beneath the Cross of Jesus *red hymnal, #825*

Prayers of the People + 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;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sending

***Sending Hymn** | My Friends, May You Grow In Grace *red hymnal, #938*

***Charge + Blessing** | May you all be blessed with God's hope, peace, love, and strength through the Holy Spirit.

*written by Vivian, Isaac, Andrew, Molly, and Hannah (*spark* participants)*

*Note: Recently participants at *spark* learned about the act of Christian blessing and spent time creating their own blessings to share with one another. We are using their blessings in worship as our benediction for the next several weeks.*

Today's Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Matt Paul + Rev. Kyle Otterbein, *Pastors*

Matthew Penning, *Director of Music*

Kristen DeGrazia, *Assistant Director of Music* | Cantate Choristers, Christian Drollinger (*piano*)

(8:30) Becky Benson; (11:00) Myrna Farraj, *worship leaders*

Announcements

Welcome! We are happy to have you here with us today. If you would like more information about St. Andrew, please indicate your interest on the Connection Card. Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments after the service. This is a wonderful way to meet the St. Andrew family.

Families with children and infants are welcomed in our worship services. Worship materials for children are available on the bookshelves outside the sanctuary.

Infant and toddler care (up to age 2) is provided downstairs in the Nursery. Children's Time, for ages 3 years through Kindergarten, also is downstairs.

Connection Cards are one way we can extend welcome and hospitality to our guests while also helping us consider steps we can take in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. We ask each person to fill out the card and place it in the offering plate. Members, once your contact information is correct, you only need to write your name. As my next step today, I will . . .

- ◇ Think about how God may have plans for me that are even greater than the goals I've set for myself.
- ◇ Pray these words from The Tale of the Three Trees: *Lord, with all we are, we pray that our dreams will lead us to you. Amen.*
- ◇ Explore my interest in considering being in a small group by checking the small group interest box on the Connection Card or texting "group" to 319/774.7249.
- ◇ Memorize Romans 8:38-39.

Prayer Requests may be written on a blue Prayer Request Card and placed in the offering plate or in the Prayer Request Box by the office door. Need more? A Stephen Minister is a trained member that provides high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care and support during times of need, grief, and crisis. If you know someone who might need a friend during a life transition, please contact one of the pastors or the Stephen Ministry referrals coordinators Graham Dameron (319/337.9270 | graham3076@gmail.com) or Mary Beth Ross (319/338.0082 | iawoodsunrise@gmail.com).

Lenten Artwork Our Lenten artwork, both in and outside the sanctuary, are depictions of Jesus' journey to the cross. The sanctuary and hallway banners, created by Cary Maassen and others following our Ash Wednesday service, depicts the lonely road to the cross. It also looks beyond to an empty cross with the dawn of Easter morning in the distance. The hallway posters, illustrated by artist and pastor Adam Walker and colored by children, youth, and adults of St. Andrew, take us on a journey following the footsteps of Christ, immersing us in the biblical account of the last hours and days of Jesus' life. Patterned after the traditional Stations of the Cross, the posters, which will appear gradually over Lent, portray specific scenes of Holy Week.

One Great Hour of Sharing: We will be collecting an offering for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) next Sunday, April 9. OGHS is one of four special offerings in the PC(USA) each year. OGHS provides funds to assist those suffering from the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship.

Flowers today are given by the Schmidt-Rundell family which is celebrating Mary Schmidt's birthday today and all the blessings that God has bestowed upon us through her.

