

**Lenten Service**  
February 29, 2012

**Sentences of Scripture**

*(See 2 Cor. 6:2; Ps. 85:4; 80:3; 51:17)*

Leader: Behold, now is the acceptable time;

**People: now is the day of salvation.**

Leader: Turn us again, O God of our salvation,

**People: that the light of your face may shine on us.**

Leader: May your justice shine like the sun;

**People: and may the poor be lifted up.**

Leader: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a humble spirit;...

**Hymn 359**

More Love to Thee, O Christ

**Psalm 51:1, 9-12 NRSV**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ... 9 Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

**Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-13 NRSV**

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. 2 For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. 4 My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. 6 Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. 7 But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. 8 None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"-- 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. 13 And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Leader: The Word of the Lord  
**People: Thanks Be To God**

**Meditation                      What God Has Prepared**

**Prayer:**

God of compassion,  
through your Son Jesus Christ  
you reconciled your people to yourself.  
Following his example of prayer and fasting,  
may we obey you with willing hearts  
and serve one another in holy love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Hymn 388                      O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**Blessing And Charge:**

Leader: May the God of peace  
    Make you holy in every way  
    And keep your whole being—  
    Spirit, soul, and body—  
    Free from every fault  
    At the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**