

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON EDISTO ISLAND
LENTEN SERVICE – MARCH 18, 2015

Greeting

- Leader: Let them say this, the Lord's redeemed, those redeemed from the hand of the foe and gathered from far-off lands, from east and west, from north and south.
- People: **"O give thanks to the Lord who is good; whose love endures forever."**
- Leader: They cried to the Lord in their need and he rescued them from their distress and led them along the right way, to reach a city they could dwell in.
- People: **"O give thanks to the Lord who is good; whose love endures forever."**
- Leader: Let them confess the love of the Lord, the wonders God does for the people: satisfying the thirsty soul; and filling the hungry with good things.
- People: **"O give thanks to the Lord who is good; whose love endures forever."**

Opening Prayer

Let us pray:
Most merciful god,
by the passion of your Son Jesus Christ
you delivered us from the power of darkness;
grant that through faith in him who suffered on the cross
we may be found acceptable in your sight,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Jesus crucified, despised and suffering,
you made yourself one with us.
Help us to follow you and bear the shame.

Jesus, they hung you on a cross
because you love sinners.
Save us from self-righteousness
and from our contempt for those different from us.
Amen.

Hymn # 92

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ST CHRISTOPHER

God's Word to Us

Mark 6:17-29

Bread and Broth: John the Baptist and Beef Barley Soup

Responsive Prayer of Confession and Penitence

O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger,
do not punish me, Lord, in your rage.

**Your arrows have sunk deep in me;
Your hand has come down upon me.**

Through your anger all my body is sick; through my
sin, there is no health in my limbs.

**My guilt towers higher than my head;
It is a weight too heavy to bear.**

My wounds are foul and festering
the result of my own folly.

**I am bowed and brought to my knees.
I go mourning all the day long.**

All my frame burns with fever;
all my body is sick.

**Spent and utterly crushed,
I cry aloud in anguish of heart.**

O Lord, you know all my longing;
my groans are not hidden from you.

**My heart throbs, my strength is spent;
the very light has gone from my eyes.**

My friends avoid me like a leper;
those closest to me stand afar off.

**Those who plot against my life lay snares;
those who seek my ruin speak of harm,
planning treachery all the day long.**

But I am like the deaf who cannot hear,
like the mute I cannot open my mouth.

**I am like one who hears nothing
in whose mouth is no defense.**

I count on you, O Lord;
it is you, Lord God, who will answer.

**I pray: "Do not let them mock me,
those who triumph if my foot should slip."**

For I am on the point of falling
and my pain is always before me.

**I confess that I am guilty
and my sin fills me with dismay.**

My wanton enemies are numberless
and my lying foes are many.

**They repay me evil for good
and attack me for seeking what is right.**

O Lord, do not forsake me!
My God, do not say afar off!

**Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my God, my savior!**

(Psalm 38)

(In unison) **O God, forgive us as we turn to you, truly confessing our sins and repenting. We have no faith apart from your grace. We have no hope but by your mercy. We know no peace except through Christ. We know no path but the way of your Son, our Savior, Jesus.**

Hear us as we pray silently, that you may draw us close and change us to become like Christ...
(Silence is kept)

Assurance of Pardon

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning."

Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God,
For he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending punishment.

You are forgiven.
You are forgiven.

Benediction and Blessing for the Meal