

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON EDISTO ISLAND

March 22, 2017

Lenten Service
"Stories of Stones"

6:00 PM

Call to Worship

Leader: O Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!

Leader: Your steadfast love is better than life, and our lips will praise you, in the shadow of your wings we sing for joy.

People: We will bless you as long as we live; we will lift up our hands and call on your name.

Unison Prayer

Eternal Lord, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Have patience with us and nurture us that we may grow in grace. Help us to hear your Word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Silent Confession

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn #98

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Passion Chorale

God's Word to Us

Luke 11:37-52

Hearts of Stone

Lenten Litany

Leader: Jesus was asked a question to test him: "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

People: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.

Leader: Jesus answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment."

People: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing in the heart: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.

Leader: Then he said, "And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

People: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Leader: Later Jesus said to his disciples, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has a greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you."

People: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Benediction and Blessing for the Meal

Discussion Questions

1. What religious rules in our society today are rather foolish or useless? If you were in charge, would you suspend these rules?
2. How do you think Jesus truly felt about the Pharisees? (Love, anger, frustration, resentment, etc.) Now, how do you think Jesus feels about you?
3. Jesus demonstrated that people are more important than programs and love is more important than rules. Do you agree or not? If this is true, what changes would need to be made in our families...our churches...our world?