

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON EDISTO ISLAND

February 28, 2018

Lenten Service
Praying with the Psalms

6:00 PM

Call to Worship

*Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.*

**People: The hour is coming and is now here.
In spirit and truth, let us worship God.**

***Hymn #84**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Rathbun

Call to Confession

In spite of our quarrels and distrust, God provides grace to sustain us. Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water so that we may never thirst...

(time for silent confession)

Response from Psalm 51 to Tallis' Cannon

*Have mercy God in your great grace,
Wash me from every staining trace,
Of sin and evil I have done,
I pray to you the Holy One.*

Declaration of Forgiveness

Christ the Lord speaks to us words of grace. Your sins are forgiven, washed away and forgotten. **Amen.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(please share the sign of peace with your neighbors)

Response from Psalm 51 to Tallis' Cannon

*Create O God within my heart
A path to make a fresh new start,
And shape a spirit within me
That steadfast, sure, and right will be.*

Prayer

Psalm

Psalm 22:23-31

Reflection

Lenten Litany*

Leader: Glorious God,
your thoughts are not our thoughts,
neither are your ways our ways.
You look at the ugliest soul
and see, still unstirred,
the wings of an angel.

People: We scan the finest of our neighbors, anxious to find the flaw.

Leader: You view time in the context of eternity,
and so find a place for waiting, for yearning, even for suffering,
even for dying.

People: We demand instant results; and look for tomorrow before savoring today.

Leader: You know that only one who suffers can ultimately save,
that is why you walk the way of the cross.

People: We fear that vulnerability which defies our power; and so we cry for crucifixion.

Leader: Your thoughts are not our thoughts,

People: Neither are your ways our ways.

Leader: And yet we know that your way is the ladder to heaven, while,
left to our own devices, our ways slope downwards.
But we are here, not to have our worst confirmed, but to have our best liberated.

**People: So we pray,
Forgive us in what has gone wrong,
Repair in us what is wasted,
Reveal in us what is good.**

Leader: And nourish us with better food than we could ever purchase:
your word, your love, your inspiration,
your daily bread for our life's journey, in the company of Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Benediction and Blessing for the Meal

*Lenten Litany used with permission from "Stages on the Way" Resources for Lent – Iona Community, GIA Publications.