



# Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 13, 2016

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*As we gather in your sanctuary, O Lord, help us be mindful that faith in you can conquer all fear. Grant us the courage to face the threatening unknown and the strength to glorify your name in the presence of evil. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude in A Minor

Johannes Plag

## JOURNEY OF RENEWAL: FEAR AND FAITH

*In this season of Lent we reflect on the meaning of our lives and on our journey of faith. The candles are burning now, but in the weeks to come the light will slowly fade to darkness. For in retelling the story of Jesus' betrayal, suffering, and death, we find that God brings transformation and new possibility out of darkness. We walk with Christ to the cross; letting go of all that holds us back from new life.*

As we extinguish this light, we let go of our fear: fear of failure, fear of rejection, fear of illness or death, fear of meaninglessness.

**Loving God, as we continue our journey through this season of Lent, give us the courage to walk toward you, to step out in faith, and to let go of fear. Open our hearts so that we may love fully and allow ourselves to be fully loved. Amen.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

When God restored the fortunes of God's beloved, we were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;

**God has done great things for them. God has done great things for us, and we rejoice.**

Restore our fortunes, O God. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping shall come home with shouts of joy.

**God has done great things for them. God has done great things for us, and we rejoice. We journey forward in new life with Christ. Even in the midst of our fear, we have faith we shall reap a harvest of joy and blessings. Yes! Amen!**

\*SONG OF PRAISE

How Firm a Foundation

463

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**God of all our tears and our fears: so often we cannot possibly see how our mourning could possibly turn to joy, we question whether and if we can find faith enough to face our fears. And there seem to be so many things to be afraid of in the world and in ourselves. Sometimes, we are even afraid of what is means to really follow you, what we might lose. By the power of your Spirit, we ask you to open us to boldly risk the cost of discipleship, to let faith overcome our fear, so that we may face the unknowable future knowing that we do not face it alone. Thank you for loving us even when our fears exceed our faith. Amen.**

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

The God who challenges us  
is also the God who encourages us.  
The God who confronts us  
is also the God who accepts us.  
Be assured that God is with us even now,  
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

**Thanks be to God.**

THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

\*SONG OF RESPONSE

*Glory Be to the Father*

579

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Isa 43:16-21

Page No. 586

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Ps 126

*When God First Brought Us Back*

Kirk Forthman

John 12:1-8

Page No. 874

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

The Extravagance of Mary

Tracy L. Evans

ANTHEM

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

J.S. Bach

\*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

592

DEDICATION PRAYER

### FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*SENDING SONG

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

629

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE

*Prelude in G Minor*

J.S. Bach

\*Those who are able may stand.

Excerpts from: "34101 Sourcebook\_2nd\_edition\_ebook\_second\_proof. iBooks were used through this service.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

**Lectionary Readings** for March 20: Palms-Luke 19:28-40; Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29 Passion—Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalms 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56 or Luke 23:1-49.

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for March is Soup. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

**Hearing-assistance** devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

**Ushers** for today's service are Linda Eckel and Ann Fayles .

**Lenten Study with Tracy Evans. Every Monday 2/15-3/21 from 7pm—8pm.** It is not too late to join!

## KNOWN JOYS & CONCERNS

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As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week: **Andorra, Austria, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, Switzerland**

Give thanks for: The high standard of living and the availability of high-quality education and health care that are enjoyed by the people in these prosperous countries. Long centuries of Christian tradition and witness, especially for those Christians committed to serving others. The work of the World Council of Churches and other church organizations, the YMCA and YWCA, all with offices in Geneva. The many ecumenical and international agencies based in Geneva and Vienna, especially the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the agencies of the United Nations. Fondue, alphorns, and cowbells. The history of welcoming refugees. The gifts of foreigners who bring the richness of their cultures. The glorious beauty of the alps. Those who are struggling to curtail the output of greenhouse gases to ease global warming, which is melting the glaciers in the Alps.

*Please inform the church office of any necessary additions or changes to this prayer list.*

**Wednesday noon Lent Worship** sponsored by **Norman Ministerial Fellowship** This week  
March 16th, **Host Church: First Christian Church**, 220 S. Webster Ave.

**Guest Pastor: Jeannie Himes**, St. Stephens United Methodist

If you would like to order **Easter lilies**, please contact the church office. The lilies cost \$12 each; please make payment to Memorial. Orders will be accepted until Sunday, March 13. Proceeds benefit the ABLE Council for Developmental Disabilities, which provides residential care, vocational training, and employment support for more than sixty adults with developmental disabilities here in Norman.

**Journey of Renewal Prayer Vigil** The sanctuary will be open during Holy Week, March 20 through March 26, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Whether you stay five minutes or the full two hours, all are invited to spend time in quiet meditation of this journey to the Resurrection of the Lord. Prayer guides will be provided for those who wish to use them. Please use the west parking lot entrance.

**The Urban Mission is having a Pancake Breakfast Saturday March, 19th** 8am-1130am. Adults are \$5.00 and children under 12 are \$2.00. 3737 N. Portland Ave. OKC, OK 73112

**SUNDAY**

**March 13**

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School

10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

**MONDAY**

**March 14**

7:00 P.M. – Lenten Study

**TUESDAY**

**March 15**

7:00 P.M. – Session Meeting

**WEDNESDAY**

**March 16**

6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

**THURSDAY**

**March 17**

10:30 A.M. – Bible Study

7:00 P.M. – Building & Grounds Meeting

**SUNDAY**

**March 19**

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School

10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

5:00 P.M. – M. Y. Group

6:00 P.M. – Prayer Vigil