

THE ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION AND PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ON

The Lord's Day, March 18, 2018
The Christian Year: The Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:30 AM Morning Service

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places." Ephesians 1:3

[Please turn off cell phones and observe silence when the prelude begins.]

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship Psalm 118

Minister: The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.

People: **I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.**

Minister: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

People: **This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

Minister: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

People: **You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.**

Unison: **Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!**

*Hymn of Adoration No. 168 *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Invocation

Almighty God, our heavenly Father: We adore the wonders of your condescending love and marvel at our true and high privilege. In each of us and among us together, you come to dwell in all of the fullness of your beauty, mercy and power. By your grace we believe this; help us more and more to experience it to the full. You have shown us the path of life, O Lord; may we know the eternal joys found at your right hand, in your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ, who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns in glory everlasting. Amen.

*Confession of Faith WCF VIII.V

The Lord Jesus, by His perfect obedience, and sacrifice of Himself, which He, through the eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, has fully satisfied the justice of His Father; and purchased, not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance

in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father has given unto Him.

*Gloria Patri Tune: Ode to Joy
Glory to you, God our Father, you are worthy of our praise;
In the highest realms of heaven, on your throne of majesty.
Glory to you, high and exalted, seated among the angel host.
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we will praise you evermore!

Psalter Reading (responsive reading, p. 790) Psalm 22:1-22

Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 248
Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended
(verses 1-3, verse 3 a cappella)

Public Confession
Eternal Father: You are good beyond all thought, but we are slow of heart and blind; our lips are ready to confess, but our hearts are slow to feel, and our ways we are reluctant to amend. Unmask to us sin's deformity that we may hate it, abhor it, and flee from it. Our faculties have been a weapon of revolt against you; as we rebel, we misuse our strength, and serve the foul adversary of your kingdom. Give us grace to bewail our insane folly; and grant that through the tears of repentance we may see more clearly the brightness and glories of the saving cross.

Private Confession

Pastoral Prayer

The Promise of the Gospel
Hear the promises of God to those who truly repent of their sins and trust in Christ: "I acknowledged my sin to you, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, 'I will confess my transgression to the Lord' and you did forgive the guilt of my sin." Psalm 32:5

Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 248
Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended
(verses 4-5)

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
O Praise Him! O Praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

*Reading of The Holy Scriptures Acts 3

*The Prayer for Illumination

Sermon Rev. Seth Wallace
"TO THIS WE ARE WITNESSES"

*Hymn of Response and Preparation SH 6
Before the Throne of God Above

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation and Instructions
All who have professed faith in Jesus Christ and have been baptized and who are communicant members in good standing in an evangelical church are invited to come to participate in this sacred Sacrament of the Church. This is not a Presbyterian table, and we do not restrict it as such; it is the Lord's Table. However, the church alone grants access to the table and must guard it from the leaven of unrighteousness (1 Cor. 5:6-8). Therefore, if you have not repented and trusted in Christ or if you are harboring sin in your life or if there is any person from whom you are estranged, please do not participate in this meal. We invite you instead to use this time to reflect and ask God to speak to your heart and give you more light and understanding. Children who have not been admitted to the table by the church should also refrain from partaking of the Supper.

*For those who prefer, the outer ring of the tray is grape juice.
Please hold the bread and cup until all have been served
so that we may partake together.*

*Departing Hymn No. 263
Lift High the Cross

*The Benediction

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

Cookies & Catechism, immediately following this service.

The deacons encourage you to consider supporting their work among those in need by giving an offering as you leave worship this morning. This offering will be used to provide assistance to those in our congregation and wider community who have financial and material needs. Please use the mercy box to make your gift. Many thanks to you!