

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2022

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SECOND SUNDAY in LENT

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The message of the cross
sounds foolish to the world;
All: But to us it is the power of God!
One: We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.
**All: The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.**
One: Christ died for our trespasses
but was raised for our justification.
All: Thanks be to God.

***OPENING HYMN** “Lift High the Cross” GtG 826

Refrain:

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.**

**1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.**

(Refrain)

**2. All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.**

(Refrain)

**3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally.**

(Refrain)

**4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory.**

(Refrain)

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We claim to follow Jesus
but have not taken his path of sacrificial love.
We profess to be disciples,
but we are not willing to bear the cost of discipleship.
We affirm the virtue of self-denial,
but we indulge our selfish desires and seek earthly gain.
We act foolishly;
we are weak;
and we are horrified by the suffering we cause—
to you, ourselves, and the world you have created.
Open the gates of your forgiveness
and restore us in your love.
For in the cross of Christ,
we find forgiveness and grace,
that we might trust in God's wisdom and strength
rather than our own.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Brothers and sisters,
our God is a gracious God,
abounding in steadfast love.
Know that in Jesus Christ,
crucified, risen, and coming again,
our sins are forgiven,
and we are set free to live in faithfulness
with God and with one another!
So be at peace and
know the love and life of God.

***THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(From your seat, a brief sign of peace may be shared: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, etc.)

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS Mark 15:22-32
Philippians 2:5-8

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Intersection” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” GtG 223

- 1. When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.**

- 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

- 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

- 4. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

(Public Domain)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,**

**forgiving sinners,
 and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
 suffering the depths of human pain
 and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
 vindicating his sinless life,
 breaking the power of sin and evil,
 delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

(from A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Hear us, O Lord...
People: ...for your mercy is great.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
 as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. May our offerings
provide for others and be used to further Christ's ministry and mission.
And, with the dedication of our lives, may we be for the world a sign of your
abiding love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” GtG 216

1. **Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noon-tide heat,
and the burden of the day.**

2. **Upon the cross of Jesus
mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One
who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love
and my unworthiness.**

3. **I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain or loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all the cross.**

(Public Domain)

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Pastor: ...And let the gathered people of God say...

People: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, Prayers of the People (adapted), and Prayer of Dedication are used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2014.

The Assurance of Pardon, Prayers of the People (adapted), and Prayer of Dedication are written by Teri McDowell Ott and used by permission. © Presbyterian Outlook, 2022.