

The Worship of God

Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020

THE GATHERING

In Christian worship, we are gathered in from other attachments in life to be members of this distinct group: the Church of Jesus Christ.

Gathering

Prelude JUDSON
Worthy of Worship

The Three Chimes
Presence of God • Voice of Christ • Embrace of the Holy Spirit

*Hymn of Praise 357 MARION
O Praise the Gracious Power

*Invocation Beth C. Parker

Lenten Call to Confession (Romans 4) Trish Edinger

We cannot earn God's grace or favor.
It comes to us, not as something owed us,
but as a gift freely given.

Lenten Prayer of Confession (Psalm 121; John 3) Trish Edinger

Christ calls us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**We lift our eyes to the hills—
from where will our help come?**

Our help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

**He will not let our foot be moved;
he who keeps us will not slumber.**

The Lord is your keeper;
The Lord will keep you from all evil;
The Lord will keep your life.

**God will keep our going out and our coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

With the knowledge of God's grace and companionship,
we now silently confess our sins to our Savior...

[Pause]

Assurance of Forgiveness (John 3)

Friends, God is for us and not against us!
God sent the Son into the world not to condemn it,
but that the world might be saved through him.

Let us lift our voices in thanks and praise to God!

*Hymn 705 GLORIA PATRI
Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end! Amen, amen.

THE SCRIPTURE

The Church is gathered around God's Great Story in Jesus Christ. The reading of Scripture is the centerpiece of our worship together.

First Lesson Zach Bay
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (The Message)

Call to Prayer 167 WHITFIELD
I Saw the Cross of Jesus

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer Zach Bay

Response to Prayer 169 ST. FLAVIAN
Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
Verses one and four

Gospel Lesson Beth C. Parker
John 3:1-17

THE RESPONSE

God became flesh and dwelt with us in our material world. We respond with our material things, asking God to make them gifts of grace for all.

*Hymn of Stewardship FOR EVERYONE BORN
For Everyone Born
(see insert)

*Prayer of Stewardship Betty Nagle

Gifts of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Meditation Whitworth
In the Cross of Christ I Glory

*Response of the People 706 OLD 100TH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow! Praise him all creatures here below!
Praise him above the heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

THE PROCLAMATION

Scripture is not a passive, inanimate thing. It is meant to speak, to transform. In the Anthem and Sermon, we proclaim the Good News.

Anthem Choplin
Let the Song Go Forth
Sanctuary Choir

Sermon Zach Bay
"The Costly Inclusivity of the Gospel"

Discipline of Silence

THE SERVICE OF LENTEN LIGHTS

Advent and Lent are siblings. Both are seasons for repentance and preparation for the highest of Christian holy days. The Service of the Advent Wreath happens at the beginning of worship; its Light grows each week until, on Christmas, five flames burn brightly. The Light of the World is born. The Service of Lenten Lights happens at the end of worship; the Light slowly fade until, on Good Friday, seven flames become smoke. The Light of the World is snuffed out. As the shadows of Lent grow, we consider our own hopes and fears, and ponder the mystery of grace in Christ Jesus.

THE COMMISSION

Having worshiped together this hour, we stand strengthened and renewed, and commissioned to go serve the world with Christ's love.

*Hymn of Opportunity 586 MOODY
Grace Greater Than Our Sin

*Recognition of Commitments

*Benediction Zach Bay

*Postlude SICILIAN MARINERS
Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

*Please stand as you are able.

Bonnie Daniels, piano Teresa Brown, organ
Music and words printed with permission CCLI#38325

Upcoming Church Events Calendar

Today's Activities

Sunday, March 8

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship

This Week's Activities

Monday, March 9

- 10:00 a.m. Yoga in the Chapel

Tuesday, March 10

- 10:00 a.m. Senior Exercise Class
12:00 p.m. Praying the Psalms in the Prayer Room
5:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 11

- 10:00 a.m. Yoga in the Chapel
4:00 p.m. Tai Chi in the Chapel
5:00 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Dinner
6:30 p.m. Church Business Meeting
7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 12

- 10:00 a.m. Senior Exercise Class
5:00 p.m. CCM Community Dinner
6:30 p.m. Koinonia Women's Group

In the Weeks Ahead

Sunday, March 22

Easter Lily Order Deadline

Monday, March 23

Newsletter Submissions Due

Wednesday, March 25

- 11:00 a.m. Newsletter Folding Group

Thursday, March 26

- 6:00 p.m. Venture Circle Women's Group

Correction

Easter Lilies will be \$19.50 each. This month's newsletter included an incorrect price. Orders are due by March 22. See the March newsletter for more details on how to order.

Easter Candy Donations

Koinonia Women's Group will be collecting candy and Easter eggs for the church Easter Egg Hunt. The deadline for donations will be April 5th. Please be sure all donated candy is peanut free.



Gideon Speaker

Next Sunday at the beginning of the worship, we will hear greetings from Douglas Graham with the Bell County Gideon Camp.

Statistics for March 1, 2020

Weekly Budget	\$6,063.00
Total Offerings	\$3,925.00
Worship Attendance	87
Sunday School Attendance	43

Church Staff

Rev. Zachary L. Bay	Pastor
Beth C. Parker	Minister of Music
Elizabeth Lowden	Office Administrator
Billy Hunter	Facilities Manager
Cherry Stamper	Child Care Coordinator
Phillip Akers	Media Coordinator
Robbie Brumbach	Media Associate
Derek Barnett	Media Associate
Janet Matthews	Organist
Teresa Brown	Pianist
Bonnie Daniels	Pianist
Rev. John E. Pennington, Jr.	Pastor Emeritus

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Loving. Growing. Sewing.

first baptist church
m i d d l e s b o r o . k y

THE PREPARATION

At the outset of our time of worship together, we pause from our busyness and ponder good words that prepare our minds and hearts.

"I do not at all understand the mystery of grace—only that it meets us where we are but does not leave us where it found us."

-Anne Lamott