



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

March 3, 2024

The Third Sunday in Lent

**Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

Song Without Words

Michael Helman
The Handbell Choir

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 19

The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are sure, making the wise simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.

The commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eye.

The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous together.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold.

Sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN 262 (V.1-4)

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we do raise our voices in grateful song and yes, your word is our law – sometimes – and your paths are the ones that should be our way. Sadly Lord, we confess this morning that while your law is clear and your paths uncluttered, we admit that we often fail in following both. Your law seems straightforward and should be easy enough to follow, but too often we violate it without pause or thought. And your paths are well-marked, but we seem to drift off of them with too much ease. Lord, send your Spirit to make us always mindful that by being committed to your law and true to your paths, we are being your faithful witnesses to the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Silent prayer

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, God fully understood that we are lacking in so many respects. Thus God sent Jesus Christ to teach us, guide us, pray for us, and in the end, die for us so that our blemishes vanish and we become the redeemed people of God. God be praised!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

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.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 20:1-17

John 2:13-22

SERMON

Thou Shalt Not!

Rev. Larry Van Hise

ANTHEM

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) from the Cantata *Song of the Shadows*

Joseph M. Martin

The Chancel Choir

Elizabeth Campbell and Rich Linnell, soloists

Agnus Dei,	Lamb of God,
Qui tollis peccata mundi.	who takes away the sins of the world.
Miserere nobis	Have mercy upon us,
dona nobis pacem.	grant us peace.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

*Please leave your offering in the boxes at the front and rear of the sanctuary
or make your gifts online or via mail.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER

With fresh eyes and renewed hope, we join our voices with those around the world and with your heavenly chorus of all the saints to sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The elements will be served to you at your seat; please hold them and all will partake together.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 81 (V. 1-4)

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days (Hymn 81)

Willan

Worship Leaders

Rev. Larry Van Hise

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Handbell Choir

The Chancel Choir

Bill Bartlett, Liturgist

Carol Butler and Susan Charlton, Communion Servers

Ruthann Arras and Carol Butler, Coffee Hour Hosts

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed

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