



## WELCOME TO WORSHIP February 18, 2018



# LENT

Lent is a forty-day preparation period for Good Friday and Easter which begins on Ash Wednesday and continues through the Thursday before Easter, not counting Sundays. In this penitential season, Christians around the world renew their commitment to prayer (right relationship with God), fasting (right relationship with self), and giving (right relationship with others). These spiritual disciplines slow us down, help us to see the world and our faith in a new way, and hopefully lead us toward greater shalom and justice.

We use the color **purple** in the sanctuary during Lent. The color symbolizes both the pain and suffering leading up to the crucifixion of Jesus but it is also the color of royalty, and so anticipates through the suffering and death of Jesus the coming resurrection and hope of newness that will be celebrated in the Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

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## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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9:30 am

10:30 am

12:00 noon

1:00 pm

Adult Bible Study

Family Worship Service

Fellowship Hour

Choir Practice

# WORSHIP SERVICE

February 18, 2018  
First Sunday of Lent

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

## GATHERING

**\*Call to Worship from Psalm 25:1-5**

In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.

**I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause.

**Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.**

*Our hope is the Lord who guides us. Let us trust in him alone as we sing his praise!*

## Praise

**\*Songs of Praise:** “We will Extol You, God and King” (#562 vs. 1,2,4)

“Our God” (#580)

“Forever” (#578)

**\*God’s Greeting**

**Choir Anthem:** “This Is How We Know What Love Is”

## Renewal

**Call to Confession from Psalm 25:6-11**

Remember, Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you, Lord, are good.

**Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways. He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.**

All the ways of the Lord are loving and faithful toward those who keep the demands of his covenant. For the sake of your name, Lord, forgive my iniquity, though it is great.

**Sung Prayer of Confession:** “God be Merciful to me” (#523 vs.1-4)

**Assurance of Pardon from Micah 7:18-20**

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

**You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.**  
You will be faithful to Jacob, and show love to Abraham, as you pledged on oath to our ancestors in days long ago!

*This is the good news we have through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Amen. Let us live in his mercy!**

**Response of Gratitude:** “Like a River Glorious” (#699 vs. 1,2)

## RESPONSE

**Prayers of the People:**

*“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”* (#886 interspersed with sung verses of 884)

**Offering: General Fund**

**\*Hymn of Dedication of Gifts:**

*“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”* (#876 vs. 1)

## PROCLAMATION

**A Word to Children of All Ages**

**Dismissal of Children for Kids Connection**

**Scripture:** Ephesians 5:1-2 (p.1227)

*This is the Word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon:** “Be Imitators of God”

**Response of Faith:** HC QA 86-91

**\*Hymn of Response:** “Arise, Your Light Is Come” (#102 vs. 1-4)

## SENDING

**\*Sending (from LUYH #954, based on Psalm 29:2 & 9, Ex. 20:18, Matt. 3:17 & Is. 41:10)**

The same voice that speaks over the waters and shakes the wilderness, the same voice that says, “I am your God, you are my people,” the same voice that said, “This is my beloved Son,” now blesses the people with peace: “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

**\*Benediction**

**\*Doxology:** “Now Thank We All Our God” (#543 vs. 3)

**Postlude**

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**Participants:**

Minister: Rev. Mark Hofman

Pianist: Joan DeWindt