

Celebration of Worship

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 2, 2017

9:30 A.M.

We welcome you to worship. We are glad that you are here! Nursery and Preschool care is available if you need it. The Young and Young at Heart are welcomed to the front early on for a special time in the service. Please sign the Friendship Pads so that we can get to know you better, and join us for coffee in the Narthex after the service.

Thought for Reflection

"I know that good doesn't live in me – that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do..."

Is there anyone who can free me from this body where sin and death reign so supremely? I am thankful to God for the freedom that comes through our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One!"

Romans 7

Preparation

WELCOME

RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE *He Never Said a Mumbalin' Word* arr. Sherman
 Alleluia Bells

* *Please stand, if you are able*

+ *Found on the screen*

* OPENING SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Leader: O Lord, you are loving and forgiving to all who call on you.

All People: Open our hearts, Lord; you are love and we are your beloved.

Leader: Let us worship God in gratitude and praise.

All People: Teach us to truly know your name, and with our whole heart and being we will praise you! Now and always.

* LENTEN SONG OF PRAISE *My Song Is Love Unknown* # 76

* PRAYER OF ADORATION

* GOD'S BLESSING ON OUR WORSHIP

+ ANNOUNCEMENTS

God Speaks with a Heart of Love

WORDS FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

Baptism of Holden Pratt

Prayer

(Children in PreK – 2nd Grade are dismissed for Praise & Play.)

PRAYER FOR GOD'S SPIRIT TO MOVE AMONG US

EPISTLE LESSON *Romans 5:6-11* p. 917

GOSPEL LESSONS *Luke 22:31-34; 54-62* p. 858

Matthew 27:1-5 p. 809

SERMON *True Hope in the Face of Failure*

Rev. Dr. Eileen Borduin Vanderzwan

* HYMN OF CONFESSION *Ah, Holy Jesus* # 93

Verses 1-4; Verses 2 and 3 unaccompanied

We Repent and Seek Forgiveness

WE CONFESS OUR SINFULNESS BEFORE GOD (*Psalm 51*)

Leader: Have mercy on us, God, according to your faithful love! Wipe away our wrongdoings according to your great compassion!

All People: Wash me completely clean of my guilt; purify me from my sin! Because I know my wrongdoings, my sin is always right in front of me. I've sinned against you – you alone. I've committed evil in your sight.

Leader: That's why you are justified when you render your verdict, completely correct when you issue your judgment.

All People: Yes, I was born in guilt, in sin, from the moment my mother conceived me. And yes, you want truth in the most hidden places; you teach me wisdom in the most secret space. Purify me with hyssop and I will be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

Leader: Hide your face from our sins, O God; wipe away all our guilty deeds!

All People: **Because we deny you every day. We turn our backs; we do not profess you as Lord in the routines and busyness of our lives. It is easier to do so here among your people. But in our lives outside these walls, we so easily deny you. Forgive us loving, crucified, and risen Lord.**

Silence

Leader: Create a clean heart for me, God;

All People: **Yes, Create a clean heart for me, God; put a new, faithful spirit deep inside me! Please don't throw me out of your presence; please don't take your holy spirit away from me. Return the joy of your salvation to me and sustain me with a willing spirit.**

GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS GRANTED *Romans 7:18-20, 24-25*

We Respond in Re-Dedication

MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY *What Wondrous Love Is This?* arr. Dobrinski
Alleluia Bells

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts/Debtors)

God Sends Us Out to Serve

* HYMN *Lift High the Cross* # 371

* GOD'S BLESSING AS WE GO OUT TO SERVE

* POSTLUDE *Reverberations* Lloyd
Alleluia Bells