



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

March 10, 2024

The Fourth 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

A Lenten Prelude

Charles Callahan
Susan Charlton, flute

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 107

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;

For God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

those God redeemed from trouble.

God gathered them in from the lands;

from the east and the west;

and from the north and the south.

Let them thank the Lord for God's steadfast love;

for God's wonderful works to humankind.

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices

and of God's deeds with songs of joy.

Come, let us worship God.

*HYMN 260 (V.1-4)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, your truth does truly abide and your kingdom shall reign forever. And while we should not tremble over the grim darkness intersecting our lives, we confess that too often we are tempted to follow the darkness rather than to choose to bask in your light. Our lives are full of decisions and choices and at times some of those options appeal to our overblown sense of pride or an opportunity to get even or to right a wrong by committing yet a worse wrong. Lord, send your Spirit to guide us each and every day and to provide us the strength to turn from darkness toward your light of mercy, grace and peace. In Jesus' name we pray.

Silent prayer

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We despair after we knowingly do what we know we should not do. But despair not for through the saving grace of Jesus Christ, God's unlimited forgiveness restores us to wholeness in the eyes of God. Thanks be to God.

*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

Numbers 21:4-9

Ephesians 2:1-10

SERMON

Snakes!!!

Rev. Larry Van Hise

ANTHEM

What Wondrous Love Is This

James Mansfield
The Chancel Choir
Susan Charlton, flute

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that cause the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of life
To lay aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
To lay aside his crown for my soul.

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 79 (V.1-5)

Kind Maker of the World

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Largo

Elizabeth Stirling

Worship Leaders

Rev. Larry Van Hise

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Chancel Choir

Jim Middendorf, Liturgist

Susan Charlton and Shirley Heinsohn, Coffee Hour Hosts

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

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