

*God Our Father, Christ Our Redeemer, The Holy Spirit Our Comforter,
Humankind Our Family*



The Second Sunday of Lent & the Celebration of Communion

Sunday, March 05, 2023 - 10:00am

Prelude.....Music Ministry

Doxology *Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Call To Worship.....Pastor Sterling

Minister: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord! Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

People: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand, elsewhere, I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

Minister: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

People: They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God.
Minister: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house, and the place where your glory dwells.
People: But the Lord is in His holy temple; let all the earth keep silence before Him.
Minister: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer.
People: O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, sing praises!

Hymn of Celebration....." How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed,

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on that cross. my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin;

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God how great Thou art!

Prayer.....Brother Chaz Carter

Prayer Response....."Hear Our Prayer O Lord"

*Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thy ear to us
And grant us Thy peace.
Amen.*

Scripture.....Brother Brian Ransom
Psalm 121 (ESV)

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Introit to the Decalogue

*From all that dwell below the skies, Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung Through every land, by every tongue*

Contemporary Decalogue.....Sister Brenda Kindred

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage. You shall have no other gods but me.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not commit murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not be a false witness.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

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.*

Confession and Declaration of Pardon.....Rev. Xavier Beasley

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God in confidence.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and soul and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Declaration of Pardon

The assurance of God's grace is declared in the name of Jesus Christ. We accept God's forgiveness, confident that in dying to sin, Christ raises us to new life. Hear the good news! Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. As when you were baptized, you are now renewed through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor's Words and Greetings to Visitors

Blessing of the Offertory (*Fishes / Offerings / Benevolent*)

Sermonic Selection.....**Music Ministry**

Sermon.....**Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling**

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Communion Hymn.....**"Let Us Break Bread Together"**

Let us break bread together on our knees;

Let us break bread together on our knees;

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees...

Let us praise God together on our knees...

Communion Elevation.....**Adoration**

by Florence B. Price (1887-1953)

Solicitation

General Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we from time to time most grievously have

committed by thought, word and deed against Your divine Majesty, provoking most justly Your wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father for Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake; forgive us all that is past and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

First Collect

Second Collect

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Humiliation

Prayer of Consecration

Elements

Prayer (Lord's Prayer or extemporaneous prayer)

Affirmation of Faith

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. The third day, He arose from the Dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, The Church Universal, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

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Benediction.....**Rev. Dr. Ronald D. Sterling**

Postlude.....**When in Our Music God is Glorified**
arr. Mary Ellen Kerrick