

OFFERTORY "Meditation"

Theodore W. Ripper

\*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN OF SENDING #476 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #554 "We Have Heard the Joyful Sound" (verse 1)

**We have heard the joyful sound; Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
Spread the tidings all around: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!  
Bear the news to every land, climb the steeps and cross the waves;  
Onward! 'tis our Lord's command: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!**

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "My Inmost Heart Now Raises"

Johann Christoph Bach



Note: Our guest preacher today is Rev. Joy Fisher, Congregational Consultant, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

**WELCOME VISITOR!** We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor  
Dorothy Clark, Organist  
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director  
Linda Hodges, Office Manager  
Nursery: Suzie Wharton

# *Stockbridge Presbyterian Church*

*February 18, 2018*

*11:00 a.m.*



*"Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days,  
tempted by Satan, and he was with the wild  
beasts, and the angels waited on him."  
Mark 1:13*

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY "Fairest Lord Jesus"

arr. Fred Bock

#### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Aaron Roberts

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship.

Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church prayer list.

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

\*Those who are able, please stand.

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #251 "I Come to the Cross"

**I come to the cross seeking mercy and grace;  
I come to the cross where you died in my place.**

**Out of my weakness and into your strength; humbly I come to the cross.**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 63:1-8)

Liturgist: Aaron Roberts

Leader: You are my God. I worship you.

**All: In my heart, I long for you, as I would long for a stream in a scorching desert.**

Leader: I have seen your power and your glory in the place of worship.

**All: Your love means more than life to me, and I praise you.**

Leader: As long as I live, I will pray to you.

**All: I will sing joyful praises and be filled with excitement like a guest at a banquet.**

Leader: I think about you before I go to sleep, and my thoughts turn to you during the night.

**All: You have helped me, and I sing glad songs in the shadow of your wings.**

**All: I stay close to you, and your powerful arm supports me.**

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #93 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, forgive us for the times we give in to temptation, when we say "yes" to sin and "no" to you. We confess our weakness, laziness, and procrastination; we confess that we are too often unkind and unforgiving. Forgive us, Lord, and remind us to keep our hearts focused on you. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Romans 3:23-24)

Leader: Since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, we are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Friends, give thanks again for the great good news of the kingdom of God:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

#### \*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

**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.**

### PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

#### \*HYMN OF CONSECRATION #109 "O, How I Love Jesus"

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

John Dunn

(Children will be dismissed to Children's Worship following the anthem.)

#### ANTHEM "Sinner Man" Spiritual, arr. Emerson

Sanctuary Choir

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING Psalm 63:1-3

Page 498, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING Mark: 1:9-15

Page 33, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "God in the Wilderness"

Rev. Joy Fisher

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

**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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

#### MINISTRY OF GIVING