

OFFERTORY

Zachary Smith

\*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 ##258 "At the Cross"

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #97 (verse 3) "Meekness and Majesty"

**Wisdom unsearchable, God, the invisible;  
love indestructible in frailty appears. Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly;  
lifts our humanity to the heights of his throne.**

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Zachary Smith



**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 our Christian faith and about our 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  
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director  
Ward Gailey, Music Director  
Zachary Smith, Muscian

Linda Hodges, Office Manager  
Tom Francis, Custodian  
Nursery: Stephanie Phillips & Abigail Jenkins

# *Stockbridge Presbyterian Church*

March 16, 2014

11:00 a.m.



*What does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and  
it was reckoned to him as righteousness."*

*Romans 4:3*

## 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

Acolyte: Monica Andrea Coutin-Baxter

#### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Linda 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 121)

Liturgist: Greg Lathrop

Leader: We lift up our eyes to the hills -- from where will our help come?

**All: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps us will not slumber.

**All: He who keeps us will neither slumber nor sleep.**

**All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!**

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #56 "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, forgive us when our faith is weak. Forgive us when we are overwhelmed by doubts and fears. Remind us of who you are: our loving Father, with whom we are cared for and safe. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 5:1-2a)

Leader: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand. Friends, give thanks again for the great good news of the gospel:

**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 #264 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Tami Pass

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

#### ANTHEM "Rock My Soul" Spiritual

Sanctuary Choir

- 1. Rock my soul in the bosom of Abraham(3x), O, rock my soul.**
- 2. So high, I can't get over it. So low, I can't get under it. So wide, I can't get 'round it. O, rock my soul.**
- 3. (Repeat v. 1)**

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING Genesis 12:1-4a

Page 9, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Page 144, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "The Power of Belief in God"

Rev. Susan Bennett

#### 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.**