

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 #598 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #97 (verse 2) "Meekness and Majesty"

Father's pure radiance, perfect in innocence;  
yet learns obedience to death on a cross. Suffering to give us life,  
conquering through sacrifice; and as they crucify prays, "Father, forgive."

\*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, Musician

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

# *Stockbridge Presbyterian Church*

March 30, 2014

11:00 a.m.



*The Lord does not see as people see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.*

*I Samuel 16:7b*

## 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: Justin Stanley

### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: John Abbott

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 23)

Liturgist: Laura Richardson

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd; we shall not want.

**All: He leads us beside still waters, and in paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.**

Leader: We need fear no evil, for God is with us.

**All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life, and we shall  
dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

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

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #82 "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, forgive us when we judge each other. Forgive us when we criticize and disapprove of the actions of those around us, judging them at face value. Create within us hearts of compassion. Help us to see others as you do, through eyes of love and understanding. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Ephesians 1:7-8a)

Leader: In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our sins, according to the riches of his grace that he has lavished on us. Friends, rejoice again in the enduring mercy 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 #68 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Dunn

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

#### ANTHEM "Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing" Gordon Young

Sanctuary Choir

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING Mark 2:13-17

Page 34, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING I Samuel 16:1-13

Page 248, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "Father Knows Best"

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.**