

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When passing the bread to your neighbor say, "The body of Christ, broken for you."

When passing the cup to your neighbor say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."

We will hold each element until all are served and then partake together.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #719 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #4 "Bless His Holy Name"

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

He has done great things, he has done great things, he has done great things, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "If Thou Would Suffer God to Guide Thee"

Johann Sebastian Bach



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
Glory Cumbow, Youth Director
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery Attendants: Suzie Wharton & Breon Williams

Stockbridge Presbyterian

Church

April 2, 2017

11:00 am



Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

*"Thus says the Lord God to these bones:
I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live."
Ezekiel 37:5*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.
Otherwise, Susan will turn into her evil twin and give you The Look.)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Wondrous Love, variation 4"

"And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on..."

Robert Lau

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Laura Richardson

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 130)

Liturgist: Laura Richardson

Leader: Hope in the Lord!

All: For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

Leader: And with him is great power to redeem.

All: The Lord has redeemed us from all our iniquities.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #96 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us when our eyes and our hearts wander away from you, when we begin to value the things of this world above your Spirit. Forgive us when we insist on our own way and do not wait for your guidance. Help us to put you first in all situations, and to pray "Thy will be done" and mean it. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Psalm 130)

Leader: Scripture tells us that the Lord hears us, and is attentive to the voice of our supplications. He does not mark iniquities, and with him, there is forgiveness. Friends, give thanks again for God's amazing grace:

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Phillips

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

ANTHEM "How Can I Keep from Singing" Quaker, arr. Littleton

Laura Richardson and Linda Roberts

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 130

Page 542, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Ezekiel 37:1-14

Page 759, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Hope in the Lord"

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.

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY "Ah, Holy Jesus"

Theodore Salome

*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