

**DOXOLOGY*

*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 FOR 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 #72 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: "Bind Us Together"*

*Before our Father's throne, we pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares..*

**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
Mary Thompson, Christian Ed Coordinator
Ward Gailey, Music Director

Zachary Smith, Organist
Levena Hemmle, Office Manager
Tom Francis, Custodian
Nursery: Stephanie Phillips & Abigail Jenkins

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

**March 10, 2013
11:00 a.m.**



*So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making
his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.*

II Corinthians 5:20

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Savannah Sewell

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Tom Francis

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 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

*As you with Satan did contend, and did the victory win,
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to conquer sin.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 32)

Liturgist: Greg Lathrop

Leader: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered

All: **Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit .**

Leader: You are a hiding place for us; you preserve us from trouble; you surround us with glad cries of deliverance.

All: **Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

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

*HYMN OF PRAISE #544 "The Church's One Foundation"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, we know that your desire is to bring healing and reconciliation into this world, and into our lives, as well. Forgive us when we resist. Forgive us when we hold grudges and cling to resentment. Forgive our anger and our pride. Help us to receive your love fully, so that it overflows into the hearts and lives of those around us. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 3:23)

Leader: Scripture tells us that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; we are now justified by his grace as a gift. 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

*HYMN OF CONSECRATION #598 "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Betsy Sierra

ANTHEM "All We Like Sheep" by Joseph Martin

(Children ages 4-7 are invited downstairs for Children's Worship at this time.)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Luke 15:11-32

Page 73, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING II Corinthians 5:16-21

Page 170, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Returning to God: Reconciliation"

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