

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

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

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### OPENING VOLUNTARY

Acolyte: Peyton Lewis

### 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. Please place in the offering plate for inclusion in the morning prayers and addition to our church's prayer list.***

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*\*Those who are able, please stand.*

#### \*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"

***Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God;***

***All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.***

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 19

Liturgist: Cooper Keller

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**All: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.**

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.

**All: Let the words of our mouths, and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.**

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

#### \*OPENING HYMN # 59 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, forgive our laziness, and our short-sightedness. Forgive us for focusing too much on this world and not enough on you. Help us to commit ourselves to you so fully that all we say and all we do, are for your glory. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 3)

Leader: 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 God's goodness and grace:

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

### \*GLORIA PATRI

**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 # 51 "How Great Thou Art"

#### CHILDREN'S SERMON

David E. Dillard

#### ANTHEM "Sing for Joy"

Sanctuary Choir

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING Psalm 19

Page 472, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING Mark 8:31-38

Page 41, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "When Faith Isn't Fun"

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.**

#### OFFERTORY

*\*DOXOLOGY*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost;  
O praise Him, O praise Him; Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*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**

*\*CLOSING HYMN #97 "Meekness and Majesty"*

*\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

*\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Go Now in Peace"*

*Go now in peace; though friends must part, your presence lives in every heart,  
Your gifts to us no words can tell: go now in peace, in Christ go well.*

*\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY*

David E. Dillard



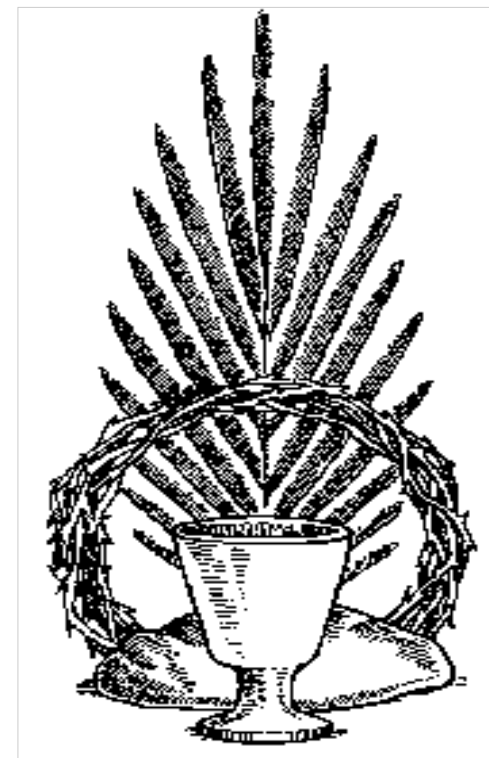
**WELCOME VISITOR!** We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about our Christian faith and about our church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in 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  
David E. Dillard, Director of Music Ministries  
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director  
Mary Thompson, Christian Ed Coordinator

Levena Hemmle, Office Manager  
Tom Francis, Custodian  
Nursery Attendants: Stephanie Phillips, Megan Bennett, and Charlotte Culpepper

# Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

**March 11, 2012  
11:00 a.m.**



*Jesus called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them,  
"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves  
and take up their cross and follow me."*

**Mark 8:34**