

MINISTRY OF GIVING

\*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 #505 "All The Way My Savior Leads Me"

ANNUAL CORPORATION MEETING

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Bind Us Together"

*Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together with love.*

\*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 17, 2013

11:00 a.m.



*Whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss  
because of the surpassing value of knowing Jesus Christ  
my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things,  
and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain  
Christ and be found in him.*

*Philippians 3:7-8*

## 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: Mitchell Stanley

### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Carol 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 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

*As you did hunger and did thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,  
To die to self, and so to live by your most holy Word.*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 126)

Liturgist: Adam Dunn

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.

All: **It was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."**

Leader: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoice.

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

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #111 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, we take pride in our accomplishments, but neglect to give you the glory. We boast of our gifts, forgetting to thank you for your graciousness in gifting us. Forgive us for every moment that we indulge in pride and self-righteousness. Help us to remember that all we are, all we have, and all we do, testify to your greatness, and not our own. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Colossians 1:13-14)

Leader: God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. 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 #502 "Be Thou My Vision"

### CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Wendy Wells

#### ANTHEM "I'm Going Home on a Cloud" Spiritual, arr. Deibler

Sanctuary Choir

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

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING Psalm 126

Page 541, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING Philippians 3:4b-14

Page 187, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "Returning to God: Free and Clear"

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.