

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Sunday, March 17, 2019

Prelude J. Brahms
Herzlich tut mich verlangen, Op. 122, No. 10

Welcome

Introit T. M. Scott
Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God
Men's Ensemble

Call to Worship adapted from T. Shuman
Leader: Lent calls us to journey, this and every day,
following Jesus wherever he leads us.
**People: Lent calls us to practice mercy,
to bring God's compassion to all people.**
Leader: Lent calls us to faithful living,
to trust the One who gives us life.
**People: Lent calls each of us to take up our cross,
to trust the One who bears it with us.**
Leader: Lent calls us to walk humbly with God.
**People: Let us worship God, who travels with us,
this and every day.**

Hymn 445 SLANE
Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; nought be all else to me save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my Redeemer, my love thou hast won; thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always; thou and thou only, first in my heart, Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Prayer of Confession

In you, O God, we find the way to a life well-lived. Yet, we admit we stray from that path. You call us to serve in love, but we'd rather find ways to serve ourselves. You invite us to find relationship and connection in faith, opening ourselves to fellow journeyers, but we sometimes veer off the path in fear, pride, or an inflated sense of self-sufficiency. In Jesus, you show us how to tell of your good news, but too often we become timid, reluctant to share how you bring us life. Forgive us, Gracious One. Help us return to your path of life, to seek the good you offer each and all. Hear us pray...
(moments for silent reflections)

Words of Assurance

Anthem H. L. Hassler

Cantate Domino
Psalm 96: Sing to the Lord a new song, sing and give praise to his name: for he has done marvelous deeds. Sing and exult and praise in songs with the harp and the voice: for he has done marvelous deeds.

Children's Message and Lord's Prayer Katie Morgan

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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism (10:30) Theodore Jack Fries

Congregational Response: With joy we welcome you into this church. Your baptism is not the end but the beginning of a journey of discovering just how much God loves you. This is our blessing to you: "Grow in grace and wisdom and do not fear, for the Lord is with you. Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God."

Hymn 300 FEALTY
I Bind My Heart This Tide

I bind my heart this tide to the Galilean's side, to the wounds of Calvary, to the Christ who died for me. I bind my soul this day to the brother far away, and the sister near at hand, in this town, and in this land.

I heed the sacred call to the God who loves us all, of the God, the poor ones' friend, and the Christ whom God did send. I bind myself to peace, to make strife and envy cease. God, tie the cord anew of my faithfulness to you.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory spiritual, arr. P. Le Bas
Deep River

Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Scripture Lesson Luke 17:11-16

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Peter Wiley

Hymn 444 SLANE
Lord of All Hopefulness

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy, be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Choral Benediction traditional, arr. D. Gray
Irish Blessing

Passing of the Peace

Postlude J. Brahms
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