

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
Sunday, April 7, 2019

Prelude S. Barber
Wondrous Love, Op. 34

Welcome

Introit T. M. Scott
Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God
Chancel Choir

Call to Worship T. Shuman

One: We come, to offer all we have to God:

All: our minds, our bodies, our hearts, our hopes.

One: We come, to offer all we are to God:

**All: our relationships with families and friends,
our longing to draw closer to other pilgrims.**

One: We come, to offer all we would be to God:

**All: our faith, our discipleship;
our yearning to follow Jesus.**

One: We come, to offer ourselves to God:

All: who offers life, joy, and peace in Jesus Christ.

Hymn 26 LOBE DEN HERREN
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the God of creation!
Sing, my soul, praising the source of thy health and
salvation! All ye who hear, now to God's temple draw
near; join me in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously
reigneth, shelters thee underneath wings, yea, so gen-
tly sustaineth! Hast thou not seen how thy desires
e'er have been granted in what God ordaineth?**

**Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and
defend thee; surely great goodness and mercy here**

**daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can
do, who with great love doth befriend thee.**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the God of creation!
All that hath life and breath, sing out thy heart's jubi-
lation! Let the Amen sound from God's people again:
joining in glad adoration.**

Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

**We confess, Anointed One, that we excuse ourselves
from reaching out to those who need your care. We
take your words—that there will always be unmet
need—as a reason not to try to meet the needs we
can. Forgive us, and help us to change. Renew our
determination to live as faithful followers, faithful
disciples, faithful Christians.**

Hear us pray ... (*moments for silent reflections*)

Words of Assurance

Anthem S. Barber
Lord, Jesus Christ from *Prayers of Kierkegaard*

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

Hymn 490 STEAL AWAY
Steal Away

**Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus! Steal away,
steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here! My Lord,**

**he calls me, he calls me by the thunder; the trumpet
sounds within a my soul, I ain't got long to stay here.**

**Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus! Steal
away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here!
Green trees are bending, poor sinner stands a trem-
bling; the trumpet sounds within a my soul, I ain't
got long to stay here.**

**Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus! Steal
away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here!
My Lord, he calls me, he calls me by the lightning;
the trumpet sounds within a my soul, I ain't got long
to stay here.**

Offertory W. A. Mozart
Laudate Dominum from Vesperae solennes de confessore
(*Solemn Vespers for a Confessor*), K. 339
Praise the Lord, all nations; Praise Him, all people.
For He has bestowed His mercy upon us,
and the truth of the Lord endures forever.
Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.

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**John 12:1-8**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon**Steve Hockstra****Sacrament of Holy Communion**

Everyone is welcome to share in this meal.

Please serve one another the gluten free, tree nut and peanut free bread, and eat as you are served symbolizing your individual need for Christ. Hold the cup of juice until all are served, that we may express our unity in Christ by drinking together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Hymn 591

ASSURANCE

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior, all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight! Visions of rapture now burst on my sight; Angels descending, bring from above, Echoes of mercy, whispers of love. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior, all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest; Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with His goodness, lost in His love. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, Praising my Savior, all the day long.

Benediction**Passing of the Peace****Postlude**

W. Walond

Tocatta in G Major