

PROSPECT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

March 31, 2019

GATHERING

Prelude *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross* with *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* arr. Cindy Berry

Greeting

God is good.

All the time.

And all the time.

God is good.

Call To Worship

Come as you are, broken and burdened,
and find healing in God's goodness.

Come as you are, gifted and beloved,
and find purpose in God's calling.

Come as you are, weary and wary,
and find comfort in God's embrace.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and worship God with gladness.

***Hymn #22 God of The Sparrow**

**1. God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise**

**2. God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature cry Woe
How does the creature cry Save**

**3. God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks**

**4. God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life**

**5. God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace**

**6. God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home**

***Call to Confession**

***Confession of Sin**

Loving God, we confess that we turned from you and your ways. We, like the prodigal son of our scriptures, are wasteful. We have ruined the resources you have given us as our inheritance: the water, the minerals, the animals, the forest, and even our relationships with one another. We have squandered our privilege and ignored the voices of those suffering from oppression and dejection. We have become a divided family of humanity – warring and building walls of division. We have jailed people when help was needed; we have judged one another based on superficial and inconsequential measures; we have ignored deep pain; we have overindulged in order to ignore the feelings of guilt and shame that rise up.

We know we do not deserve your forgiveness, Holy Parent of us all, but today we rise to seek it anyway. We are your children, in need of your healing and grace. Forgive us, and welcome us home, we pray. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Response #437 *You are the Lord, Giver of Mercy

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

***Words of Grace**

In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

***The Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

A sign of peace is exchanged.

***Response: Peace be with you**

Ji-jo-ho ni tin.

Ji-jo-ho ni tin,

po-ome-po-po, a-men,

po-ome-po-po, a-men.

Peace be with you.

Peace be with you,

and with all of us, amen

and with all of us, amen.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

page 1006

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Chat

Rita Boyer, Certified Christian Educator

Second reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

page 909

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

Sermon

Welcome Home

Rev. Dr. Rick Boyer

***Hymn #774 There Is Now A New Creation**

**1. There is now a new creation
through the grace of Jesus Christ,
peace and reconciliation
with the God of endless life.**

**2. Call the lost and found together;
tell the news to everyone:
now the past is gone forever
and a new life has begun.**

**3. Wrap the prodigal in welcome;
run to greet the wayward child.**

**All is finished and forgiven;
let us now be reconciled.**

**4. Come and join the celebration;
come and join this happy feast;
Jesus makes an invitation
to the greatest and the least.**

**5. There is now a new creation
through the grace of Jesus Christ.
Sing, with thanks and adoration,
to the God of endless life!**

***Affirmation of Faith -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; on 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.

Prayers of the People

Offering

Musical Offering

Bring Him Home
John Pearson, soloist

Stephen DeCesare

***Praise God (Hymn #608)**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

***Prayer of Dedication and Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

Sending the Church into Mission

Minute for Stewardship

Building a Welcoming Community

Effie Latz

The Mission of Prospect Church

To be a family in Christ reaching out to all with love, prayer, and service. Through worship, education, mission, and fellowship, we experience God's love, forgiveness, grace, and call.

*Hymn #771 What Is The World Like

1. What is the world like when God's will is done?

**Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive;
roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
This is how God moves us each to believe.**

2. What is the world like when God's will is done?

**Witness the wandering child coming home;
watch as the parent breaks into a run.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.**

3. What is the world like when God's will is done?

**No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
peace thrives in places where once there was none.
This is how God works when rivalries end.**

4. What is the world like when God's will is done?

**Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
tending our lamps till the new day's begun.
This is how God readies us for the light.**

**5. These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.**

**Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
this is a new world where God's will is done.**

*Benediction and Congregational Response

Hymn # 313 Lord, Make Us More Holy

Lord, make us more holy; Lord, make us more holy;

Lord, make us more holy, until we meet again:

holy, holy, holy, until we meet again.

Postlude

Coming Home

Mary McDonald

John Pearson, soloist