

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022, 9:45 am

Pre-service Music: *Communion Meditation* - Victor C. Johnson

Welcome

Prelude: *Oration* – Gregory Hamilton

Introit#421: *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (Psalm 51)

Call to Worship

Remember the story of our faith. **We are the people God has delivered.**

Rejoice in the hope of our faith. **God goes with us, step by step.**

Cling to the promise of our faith. **Our God will not abandon us.**

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Opening Hymn #166: *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days* (please stand)

Call to Confession

The journey of life inevitably leads to wilderness. Times marked by guilt, frustration, and the sense that we are not in the right place.

**But even in the wilderness, God is with us.
Even in the wilderness, God's mercy is sure.**

Prayer of Confession

**As Lent unfolds before us, great God, we see how far we have to go to Jerusalem. The road is long, our sins are many, and our burdens are heavy. We can't imagine new life, Easter life, because our current lives are filled with bad choices and failed efforts. Meet us in our weakness. Take up our sins. Ease our burdens. Carry us on the way. Bring us to Jerusalem, at last. Show us a love that is stronger than death, a love no tomb can hold.
Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Walking this earth, facing temptation, defeating sin, Jesus has done for us what we could never do for ourselves.

This is good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Kyrie#551: *Lord Have Mercy Upon Us*

Time for sharing of joys and concerns, and the prayer list (please be seated)

Prayers of Intercession

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Merciful God. **Hear our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn #455: *Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken (sing 3 times)*

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Epistle Lesson: Romans 10:8b-13

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:1-13

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Temptation in the Desert* Jonathan Kimball

Communion Hymn #537: *When at this Table vs. 1, 2, 4, 5*

Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from north and south, from east and west, to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed it, and broke it and gave it to them.

Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right and our great delight to praise you, O God.

We thank you for your steadfast love in spite of our human sin.

We join with the heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place to sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and give it to his disciples saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

**Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

According to Christ's commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us pray:

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

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.

Come to me and never be hungry; believe in me and never thirst.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. *(take the communion)*

Prayer After Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all of your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Closing Hymn #694/361: *Great God of Every Blessing vs. 1, 3 361 – vs. 1*

Benediction

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, bless you this day and always.

Amen

Go in Peace, Live in Love, **Serve the Lord.**

Postlude: *Fanfare in G - John S. Dixon*

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Maudanne Pursley and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.

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