



Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

March 31, 2019, 10:00 AM
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gather in God's Name

*Thank you for silencing all mobile phones. * Stand as you are able. Please sign the fellowship pad, found on the chair on the center aisle. When all have signed, pass the pad back to the center.*

Prelude *More Precious than Silver/When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Arr. Pethel
Julie Wiens – Flugel

Opening Prayer and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors

Introit *Teach Us the Wisdom of God* Marty Haugen

Call to Worship (responsive, inspired by Psalm 32:6-7, NIRV)

Worship Co-Leader: Rev. Denise Edwards

Let everyone who is faithful pray to God.
When troubles come like a flood,
they won't overcome those who are faithful.
God is our hiding place.
The Holy One will keep us safe.
God surrounds us with songs
sung by those who offer worship and praise.
Be glad because of what the Lord has done for the world.
Be joyful, you who do what is right!
Sing, all you whose hearts are honest!
With joy, we worship God and sing praise! Amen.

***Hymn #436** *God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*

Call to Confession (based on Psalm 32: 1-2 NIRV)

Blessed is the person whose lawless acts are forgiven.
Their sins have been taken away.
Blessed is the person whose sin the Lord never counts against them.
Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession (unison, based on A Brief Statement of Faith, excerpted)

We trust in you, O God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love you created the world good
and you make everyone equally in your image:
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.

But we rebel against you; we hide from you, our Creator.

Ignoring your commandments,
we violate your image in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

Forgive us for turning away from you.

Lord, in your loving kindness, hear the silent prayers of our hearts.

(Please pause to offer silent prayer.)

O God, you act with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

You make us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
you are faithful. Amen.

(Quiet prayer and reflection)

Sung Response for Lent

Tune: 471

O Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.

Words of Assurance (responsive, based on 2 Corinthians 5:16-18)

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view.

Even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,
we know him no longer in that way.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

All this is from God!

We are reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Sung Response**

Tune: 2276

Glory to God in the highest!
Sing glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth!

***The Passing of Christ's Peace**

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you...**and also with you.**
Please turn to your neighbor and share a sign of Christ's peace.

Choral Anthem

Can't Carry These Burdens Alone
Mountain Shadows' Choir

Parker & Barret

Proclaim God's Word

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3 and 11b-32 (N.T. pg. 73; lg. print pg. 95)

Response

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Prodigal People, Compassionate God

Rev. Rachel Srubas

***Hymn of Affirmation #774**

There Is Now a New Creation

Respond to God

Invitation to the Offering

Once we were lost and felt so far away;
now we have been found and welcomed home.
God's love is lavished upon us forever.
Rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!
With our grateful offerings and prayers,
let us celebrate and praise the God of love.

The Offertory

Prelude on "New England"

Arr. Colin Curtis

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit ever more.
Praise God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

Forgiving God, we are grateful that you receive us as beloved children.
Like the father in Jesus' parable of the lost son,
you rejoice when we repent and return to you.
Thank you for not holding our sins against us.
Help us to welcome each person as someone you love.
Use our offerings to support ministries that encourage people
as they live into new life in Christ.
We pray in his precious name. Amen.

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*You are invited to speak your prayer requests first on behalf of the wider world;
then for those close to you, and for yourself.*

The People's Prayer

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.

Go in God's Name

*Hymn #840

When Peace Like a River

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

It Is Well With My Soul

Spafford & Bliss

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.