

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2019

Rev. Rosemary McMahan, Interim Pastor

Elder Bob Naumann, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude "The Majesty and Glory of Your Name" Dr. Gilbreath

We Prepare Our Hearts for Worship

Pastor's Welcome (Please sign the friendship roster.)

Call to Worship Elder Naumann

Leader: Mortal, can these bones live? Can a dry and dusty liturgy dance again?

All: Do ancient words still have the power to change the world? Our presence here is our hopeful "Yes."

Leader: In a valley of dry bones, we see possibility, not despair. In a broken world, crying out with parched throats, we sing the power of God's word.

All: Blow through the barren valleys of this world, O God. And breathe your Spirit upon our worship this day.

Leader: Let our prayer and praise give you glory and honor.

Prayer of Adoration

*Hymn of Worship "Come Thou Almighty King" #2
Please pass your prayer cards to the aisle for pickup.

Call to Confession: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Let us confess our failings together:

Prayer of Confession: **We want to believe, O God, that we bring our whole selves, our whole hearts, to you — but we often do not. You ask us to deny ourselves and follow you, but we do not. You ask us to share the good news of the gospel — but we do not. You ask us to put your concerns above our worldly concerns — but we do not. You ask us to take up our crosses and follow you, but we do not. Forgive us for all those times when we fall short, when we doubt, and when we treat your grace as anything less than costly, trusting that it is you who makes us whole. Amen.** (*We offer our own silent confessions . . .*)

Hymn "Change My Heart, O God" #695

Assurance of Pardon

Leader By grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing; it is the gift of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Peace: Forgiven and redeemed, let us share the peace of Christ.
(Please share the peace of Christ with those near you.)

*Gloria Patri #581

Anthem "Once Upon a Tree" Choir

We Listen for the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading Philippians 2:1-8 Elder Naumann

Scripture Reading Luke 24:19-21, 25-27 Rev. McMahan

Message "Cross Words" Rev. McMahan

*Hymn of Reflection "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #216

We Respond to the Word

* Affirmation of Faith from *Confessions of 1967, 9.07*

In Jesus Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself. We confess that Jesus Christ is God with us. He is the eternal Son of the Father, who became human and lived among us to fulfill the work of reconciliation. He is present in the church by the power of the Holy Spirit to continue and complete his mission. This work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, is the foundation of all we confess about God, humanity, and the world. Therefore, the church calls all people to be reconciled to God and to one another. This we believe.

Prayers of the People (debts/debtors)

Offertory Solo "I Can See (On the Emmaus Road)" Dr. Gilbreath
*Doxology #606
*Prayer

We Go Forth to Minister

*Hymn of Sending "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" #166

*Charge & Benediction Rev. McMahan

Postlude "I'll Fly Away" Dr. Gilbreath

*All that are able are invited to stand.

Bold italic type indicates our shared response.

All hymns are from the Glory to God (purple) hymnal.

To Our Visitors & Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today. We warmly invite your participation in the worship, fellowship, and ministry of this congregation where everyone is welcome as God's child. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship or by email or phone. There is a place for you here, and we are delighted to have you with us today.

Reflections for Lent from Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship*:

"Judging others makes us blind, whereas love is illuminating. By judging others we blind ourselves to our own evil and to the grace which others are just as entitled to as we are."

"When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die."

"Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: 'Ye were bought at a price', and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God."

"The will of God, to which the law gives expression, is that men should defeat their enemies by loving them."

The pastor will be out of town March 31. Please welcome Rev. Peggy McClure to worship.

A written copy of each week's sermon is available on the website at www.standrewdecaturn.org.

Welcome to



***"Growing in Faith; Sharing the Good News;
Living in God's Love."***

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Scripture Reading Elder Naumann: Philippians 2:1-8:

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death--even death on a cross.

Scripture Reading Rev. McMahan: Luke 24:19-21, 25-27

He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.

Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.