

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

March 4, 2007

The Second Sunday in Lent

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

“Come, Thou Fount ”

Gordon Young, arr.

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from *Luke 13:31-35* and *Psalms 27*)

People of God, be gathered together!

Like a hen with her brood beneath her wings,

God has brought us together.

Though trials and cares surround us,

The Lord is the stronghold of our lives;

Whom shall we fear?

One thing we ask for and seek:

To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives!

The Prayer of Adoration

God of the heavenly commonwealth, we praise You for Jesus, Who came as Your servant; He opened the gates for us to enter Your realm. We laud You for the prophets who proclaimed Your vision; through them we see clearly what Your covenant involves. We give You all honor for what the disciples delivered to us; they taught us to worship You, and to that end we now lift our voices and lives. Praise, honor, and glory to You, O Eternal God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

*The Hymn 488

“The God of Abraham Praise”

*The Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, stronghold of our living, we turn our faces to you in Lent. Seeking a richer worship, we turn from all else that claims our praise. Seeking your presence, we turn from all that distracts us. Seeking your purpose for our lives, we turn away from the clamor of lesser demands. Seeking your forgiveness, we turn away from the sin we cherish too deeply. . . .(time for silent confession). . . Forgive us, O Lord, and grant that in these days we may know you in ways that open us to your purpose for us, your grace to us and your abiding love known in Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

If our commonwealth is in heaven,

Can we ever really be at home here?

The One for Whom we wait is turning us homeward.

Believe the words that let us know we are headed home:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*The Gloria Patri

p. 579 in the Hymnal

*The Peace and Greeting

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

(Please exchange this ancient greeting with worshippers seated near you.

Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: *Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18* p. 14 in the pew Bible

The Epistle Lesson: *Philippians 3:17-4:1* p. 242 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "Wash Me Thoroughly" David Halls

The Gospel Lesson: *Luke 13:31-35* p. 93 in the pew Bible

A Moment with the Children

*The Hymn 424 "O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns Be Rising"

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 27* p. 619 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Coming and Going"
Allen H. Fisher, Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

*The *Apostles' Creed* p. 14 in the Hymnal

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession
The Lord's Prayer p. 16 in the Hymnal

The Service of Offering
The Gathering of Our Gifts

The Offertory "Amazing Grace" Gordon Young, arr.

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication Doxology p. 592 in the Hymnal

Great Shield and Defender, You visited Abram and Sarai and made them parents of a great nation. You sent to earth Jesus, Who called out the church. We join with the hosts who have gone before us, pilgrims on a journey toward Your promised land. We pause on the way to give You our offerings, and dedicate ourselves anew to the faithful quest. Accept and bless these gifts in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME.

*The Hymn 85 "What Wondrous Love is This"

*The Charge and Benediction

*The Postlude "Praising the Almighty" Edward Broughton