

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

March 25, 2007

*The Fifth 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

*“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”*  
Jubilate Ringers

Douglas Wagner

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

Remember not the former things,  
**Nor dwell on the things of old,**  
For the Lord is doing a new thing; do you not perceive it?  
**Let us press on to make God's goal our own,**  
Forgetting whatever lies behind,  
**Straining toward what lies ahead!**  
As it was in the beginning,  
**It is now, and ever shall be,**  
World without end!  
**Amen! Amen!**

The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Hymn 281

*“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**The treasures of our hearts, O God, are leftovers on a store clearance table compared with the value of knowing Jesus Christ. We discount small kindnesses in favor of large, empty gestures. We cling to the trinkets of our experience and lament trivial losses while passing off the wreck and ruin others endure. Your astonishing everyday love in Christ becomes a commonplace. So great is Your love and so paltry is our refusal to trust You and accept Your grace. Forgive us our sins. . . (time for silent confession). . .**

\*The Choral Response

\*The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News!  
**The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,**  
**That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.**  
He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,  
**That we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.**  
I declare to you in the name of 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.)

Minute for Mission

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The *Old Testament* Lesson: *Isaiah 43:16-21* p. 823 in the pew Bible

The *Psalter* Lesson: *Psalms 126* p. 704 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Gilbert Martin.

The *Epistle* Lesson: *Philippians 3:4b-14* p. 242 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

\*The Hymn 339 (8:30 am) "Be Thou My Vision"

The *Sacrament of Baptism* (11:00 am)

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

The Baptism

The Welcome

**With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church  
to share with us in His ministry for we are all one in Christ.**

\*The Hymn 499 "Wonder of Wonders, Here Revealed"

The *Gospel* Lesson: *John 12:1-8* p. 129 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Invested with Love"  
*Allen H. Fisher, Jr.*

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

\*The *Apostles' Creed* (8:30 am) 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

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

**Extravagant God, like the woman who anointed Jesus' feet, You lavish us  
with love and acceptance and ask that we love and accept others. In returning  
these gifts, we express our commitment in Your way. May they bring hope and  
shalom to this congregation and to Your world. In the name of Christ, we pray.  
Amen.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME.

\*The Hymn 376 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"  
(to the tune BEECHER, 343)

\*The Charge and Benediction

\*The Postlude