

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## The Second Sunday in Lent

February 17, 2008

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

*“Shine, Jesus, Shine”*  
Youth Choir

Graham Kendrick

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 121)

Let us worship God whose help is never failing.

**Our help comes from God who made heaven and earth.**

God will keep us safe from all evil, and be with us from this time on.

**God is our keeper and shades us from all that shall harm us.**

We open our eyes to see God who knows all about us and holds us forever.

**Let us worship this God of all creation.**

The Prayer of Praise

**All praise to You, O Lord, who made heaven and earth, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Our help and our God, Your watchfulness is faithful and without ceasing. We exult in Your steadfast love and bless Your name forever, our eternal God – Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.**

\*The Hymn 485

*“To God Be the Glory”*

\*The Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our Creator, we come before You a rebellious people. We have denied Your intentions for us; we have preferred our ways to Christ’s way; we have disobeyed Your commandments; and we have worshiped ourselves and the things we have made. Forgive us, restore in us the knowledge of who we are, and make us alive to serve You in faith, obedience, and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. . .(time for silent confession). . .**

\*The Choral Response

\*The Assurance of Pardon

(John 3:16-17)

For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Son,

**so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,

**but in order that the world might be saved through Him.**

Believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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

**Renewing Spirit, present in the waters of baptism, in the gentle breeze, and in the roaring winds, speak to us where we are and expand our vision beyond the immediate scene, that we may be equipped to follow where Christ leads, bearing witness to our faith and serving with joy wherever You send us. Amen.**

The Old Testament Lesson: *Genesis 12:1-4a* p. 12 in the pew Bible

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 121* p. 702 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "I To the Hills Will Lift Mine Eyes" Jean Berger

The Epistle Lesson: *Romans 4:1-5,13-17* p. 187 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

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

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

The Baptism

The Hymn 496 "Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Dear"

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 492 "Baptized in Water"

The Gospel Lesson: *John 3:1-17* p. 114 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Midnight Labor"  
Patrick Dennis

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

\*The Doxology and Prayer of DedicationDoxology, p. 592 in the Hymnal

**Almighty and Everlasting God, we offer our gifts as a sign of our determination to be open to Your mysterious presence, and to place our lives in the service of Your purposes of reconciliation and healing in our broken and hurting world. In our lives and in our world, may Your kingdom come, now and forever. Amen.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME.

\*The Hymn 360 "Hope of the World"

\*The Charge & Benediction

\*The Postlude