

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Third Sunday in Lent

February 24, 2008

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

*All who are able may stand.

Bold type spoken by the congregation

GATHERING. . .

The Prelude

“Toccata in A Minor”

Jan Pieter Sweelinck

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

The Call To Worship

(from Psalm 95)

Let us come into God’s presence with thanksgiving.

**O come, let us sing, let us make a joyful noise
to God with songs of praise!**

God is a great God who holds the depths of the earth,
the heights of the mountains, the sea and the dry land.

O come, let us worship this God, our Creator.

We are God’s people and God cares for us.

Let us worship this God, Creator and Lover of us all.

The Prayer of Praise

We do indeed bow down before You and sing You our praises, O God; You are the shepherd who tends to our needs. You gather us from among different races and cultures and blend us into a people who radiate Your love. You show deference toward us as You stoop to hear both our pleas and our praise. We wear proudly the mantle of Your grace and mercy as we worship You humbly in thought, word and deed. Glory to You Eternal God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The Hymn 281

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*The Prayer of Confession

Tattered memories and frayed hopes divide us from ourselves and one another, God of reconciliation. Bad memories turn us from the past; we pretend not to have done what we have done. We try to hide ourselves from our past, and hide our past from others. Embellished memories foster resentment of the present and fears of the future. Dreadful anticipations rewrite the past in tones of regret and keep us from enjoying the present. False hopes tempt us to ignore present needs. Foolish hopes lead us to believe we can simply walk away from yesterday’s shabby deeds. In Christ have mercy and forgive us our sins. . . (time for silent confession). . .

*The Choral Response

*The Assurance of Pardon

*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.)

Bicentennial Moment

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson: *Exodus 17:1-7* p. 79 in the pew Bible

The Psalter Lesson: *Psalms 95* p. 676 in the pew Bible

The Anthem "Lift Thine Eyes" Felix Mendelssohn

The Epistle Lesson: *Romans 5:1-11* p. 188 in the pew Bible

A Moment With the Children

The Children's Anthem (11:00 am) "Go Now in Peace"
Carol Choir

*The Hymn 85 "What Wondrous Love is This"

The Gospel Lesson: *John 4:5-42* p. 115 in the pew Bible

The Sermon "Found"
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

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

Just as our worship of You, O God, is not confined to this place, so also our praise is not limited to certain times or seasons. Accept the offerings that we bring as a witness to Your Spirit, who dwells in all that we do. May our acts of forbearance and love testify to Christ's truth pervading our lives. Use what we give so that others may come into Your presence with joyful songs of hope and thanksgiving. Through Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME .

*The Hymn 303 "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude