

# A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

## The Third Sunday in Lent

February 27, 2005

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

\*All who are able may stand.

**Bold type spoken by the congregation**

### THE PEOPLE GATHER. . .

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit

*“Blessed Assurance”*

Phoebe P. Knapp

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

**No praise is too great for you, O Creator of all, and none is enough to tell of your greatness. Heights of the earth and depths of the sea acclaim your might; oceans and dry land meet to applaud your strength. All glory to you, Mighty One. We, the sheep of your pasture, worship and adore you. We delight in your gracious presence and exult in your holy name. Through Jesus Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit, we praise you now and forever. Amen**

\*The Hymn 446

*“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”*

\*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.)

