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Sunday, February 25, 2024 Second Sunday of Lent

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Andante Betty J

Betty Jackson King

Welcome to all — especially to our guests.

Hymns labeled GTG are in the Glory to God Hymnal (purple)

Hymns labeled AAHH are in the African American Heritage Hymnal (beige)

There is Sunday school for children today. They will be excused after the Passing of the Peace.

*Please stand as you are able

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (based on Mark 8:31-38)

Let us not be ashamed of our Savior.

Let us sing and praise our God out loud.

In the midst of the crowd, we will praise you.

In our community, we will bear witness to our faith.

Let us set our minds on divine things.

Let us take up our cross and follow Christ.

Gospel Praise

Hold Back the Night

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Savior God, the public spectacle of the cross calls us to account. We hesitate and hedge when opportunities arise to speak of you. We are shy in faith and not bold to proclaim. Your story saves, yet we keep it to ourselves. Forgive our reticence of faith. Forgive the ways we fail to serve as public witnesses. Help us be your candlelight, held high to set the world aglow. Amen.

Declaration of God's Forgiveness

Passing of the Peace/A Time for Celebration

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

(Exchange signs of Christ's peace and forgiveness with others. We greet one another as neighbors in Christ. You may say "Peace be with you," or respond, "And also with you.")

*Response GTG #792

There Is a Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole; there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul. (Refrain) Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain, but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Here's One

arr. Mark Hayes

Chancel Choir; Carol Tallieu, flute obbligato

Gospel Reading

Mark 8: 31-38

Message

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Affirmation of Faith (from A Brief Statement of Faith) In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ. fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified. suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

Hymn GTG #269

Lead On, O King Eternal!

Call to Offering

We are not currently passing an offering plate.

We have placed an offering plate outside the sanctuary where you may place your offerings or if you would like to make an offering online, scan the QR code located in the Westminster News section of today's bulletin.

Invitation to Offering

*Doxology GTG #606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever, Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn AAHH #549 This Little Light of Mine

*Benediction

Postlude Roll, Jordan, Roll arr. Ralph Simpson

The organ postlude is offered as an instrumental prayer. You are invited to remain seated; if you wish to depart, please do so quietly, remembering those who are still worshiping.

Worship Leaders:

The Rev. Dakota Whitaker, Pastor/Head of Staff
Dalos Grobe, Chancel Choir Director/Organist
Victor Boyd, Gospel Choir Director
Angel Zama, Liturgist

* Please stand as you are able.



549 THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.



- 4. Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine....
- 5. All in my home, I'm gonna let it shine....