

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, March 26, 2017

Laetare Sunday—Fourth Sunday in Lent

11:00 a.m.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Jesus Loves Me
Cherub Choir

Traditional
Marilyn Pace, director

INTROIT

Lord God, In Thee I Have Trusted

Arcadelt

Introit text from Psalm 25

Lord God, Lord God, in Thee have I trusted.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Adapted from John 1:1-17)

Leader: From the very beginning, the life of the world was in Christ;

People: And his life is the light of all people.

Leader: His light shines in the darkness;

People: But darkness cannot overcome it.

Leader: We testify to the light, so that all might believe.

People: The true light, which enlightens us all, has come into the world.

Leader: From his light, we have all received grace upon grace.

People: Grace and truth come through Jesus Christ.

HYMN #250

When Morning Lights the Eastern Skies
verses 1, 2, 3

ST. STEPHEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God: we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have not served You as You have commanded us; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. By the grace of Christ, cleanse us from sin and make us strong. In His mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your most holy name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

KYRIE #572

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF OUR YOUNG CHURCH

A World of Difference

WORDS WITH OUR YOUNG CHURCH

Children ages K-3rd grade are now invited downstairs for Children's Worship.

ANTHEM *Sing Me to Heaven* Gawthrop

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 5:8-14

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks Be to God.

SERMON **"Children of Light"** Rev. Curtis Christian

*HYMN #103 *Deep Were His Wounds, and Red* MARLEE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Gloria* Gloria Patri

MOMENT FOR MISSION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE *Amen* Franck

OFFERINGS FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH

OFFERTORY *Strikke des Todes* (from Lobgesang - Hymn of Praise, 1840) Mendelssohn
Joshua Sanchez, tenor

*DOXOLOGY #592 Old Hundredth

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN #610 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts* QUEBEC
verses 1, 2, 3

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *O Word of Life, Be Thou My Soul* C.T. Christian/Horner/
arr. J. Roberts

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand

***Late Arrivals Seated

Today's Lay Reader is Jackie Vance.