

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 2, 2017

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book (“pew pad”) where you can also record any prayer requests. Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of the Living God as we worship together. We invite you to focus your heart and mind in worship.

** indicates please stand as you are able.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mike Helland

PRELUDE

“Nocturne in E Minor”

Organ

“Fredric Chopin

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Mike Helland

He was wounded for our transgressions, and crushed for our iniquities;

**Upon him was the punishment that makes us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.**

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way.

And the lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

—from Isaiah 53

***SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

“MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE”

(Hymn #101)

(VERSE 1)

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine,
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, My Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

(VERSE 2)

I love thee because thou hast first loved me,
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

(VERSE 3)

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;

I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

“LAMB OF GOD”

(VERSE 1)

Your only Son, no sin to hide
But you have sent him from your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

(CHORUS)

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
O wash me in his precious blood
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God**

(VERSE 2)

Your gift of love, they crucified
They laughed and scorned him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God

(CHORUS)

(VERSE 3)

I was so lost, I should have died
But you have brought me to your side
To be led by your staff and rod
And to be called a Lamb of God

(CHORUS)

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TIME OF PRAYER

Chenayla Welch

Call to Confession

If we say that we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just,
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

—based on 1 John 1:8-9, NRSV

Prayer of Confession

**O Lord, if you held our sin against us
who could live, who could stand?
We seem to have more faith in death
than hope in your promise of life.
We seek peace through war
and find security in weapons.
We abandon the hungry, sick, and dying,
and pursue wealth by making others poor.
And even so, you love us;
still there is forgiveness with you!
Therefore we worship you;
for you alone, O Lord,
can save us from death
and redeem us from our sin. Amen.**

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[Silent Prayer]

Declaration of Forgiveness

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.
You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways
inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things
like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ,
like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.
By the blood of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. —based on John 3:17 and 1 Peter 1:18-19

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Don Meekhof

SONG OF WORSHIP:

...PLEASE REMAIN SEATED

"ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED?"

(Hymn #208)

(VERSE 1)

Alas! and did my Savior bleed, and did my sovereign die?

Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?

(VERSE 2)

Was it for crimes that I have done, he groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown, and love beyond degree!

(VERSE 3)

Well might the sun in darkness hide, and shut its glories in,
when Christ, the mighty Maker, died for his own creature's sin.

(VERSE 4)

Thus might I hide my blushing face while his dear cross appears;
dissolve my heart in thankfulness, and melt mine eyes to tears.

(VERSE 5)

But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe;
here, Lord, I give myself away; 'tis all that I can do.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

Chenayla Welch

Invitation to the Offering

The psalmist asks,
What shall I return to the Lord for all God's bounty to me?
And then declares:
I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord;
I will pay my vows
and offer thanksgiving
in the presence of the congregation.
With gratitude for God's bounty to us,
we join the psalmist,
praising God with our offerings.

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***Doxology**

**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.**

*Please be seated. The ushers will pass the offering plates.
The children are excused at this time to attend Junior Chapel.*

“Fairest Lord Jesus”*arr. T. Smith and D. Hustad***SCRIPTURE READINGS****Exodus 12:1–13** (NIV)**Marsha Pettijohn**

¹ The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ² “This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵ The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷ Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. ⁸ That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ⁹ Do not eat the meat raw or boiled in water, but roast it over a fire—with the head, legs and internal organs. ¹⁰ Do not leave any of it till morning; if some is left till morning, you must burn it. ¹¹ This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord’s Passover.

¹² “On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. ¹³ The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

John 6:53–61 (NIV)**Mike Helland**

⁵³ Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you?”

MESSAGE

Rev. Don Meekhof

“Embracing His Blood” (Passion Sunday)

Sermon Text: “You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.”

– 1 Peter 1:18-19 (NSRV)

***SONG OF WORSHIP:**

“WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS”

(Hymn #213)

(VERSE 1)

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

(VERSE 2)

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

(VERSE 3)

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Oo thorns compose so rich a crown?

(VERSE 4)

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

SHARING AROUND CHRIST'S TABLE—COMMUNION

Rev. Don Meekhof

Christ becomes a part of our flesh through Holy Communion.

The Lord's Supper is not an end in itself. It always points beyond itself to celebrate God's grace and covenant faithfulness. This does not mean the physical aspects of the celebration are incidental or unimportant. The Lord's Supper should be a celebration fitting to the abundant grace of God offered in Christ.

**Invitation to the Lord's Supper
Breaking of the Bread & Pouring of the Cup
Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ**

***CLOSING SONG**

It is the custom at Knox, in celebration of Holy Communion, to hold hands and form a circle around the sanctuary to sing our closing song...

"BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS"

(Hymn #708)

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

BENEDICTION

Rev. Don Meekhof

POSTLUDE

Organ

"March from the 'Occasional Oratorio'"

Geo. F. Handel

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Please remain after the worship service today for a ***brief*** congregational meeting to elect new church officers.

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In the pulpit today: : **Don Meekhof** is our “*Temporary Stated Supply*” pastor. Those words in quotes are the official title given by Presbytery because with Shared Ministry there is no full-time pastor. However, Don most definitely has a full-time love for shepherding the flock of Christ and we are blessed to have him with us!