

5th Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2014 ♦ 11:00 a.m. Worship

Welcome

*Passing the Peace

Chiming of the Hour (*please be seated*)

*Prelude

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy
from Norton: A Civil War Opera arr. Chávez

*Call to Worship

Call: Come and worship! In wonder and awe let us seek the face of God.

Response: Ahh! God invites us to come just as we are.

Call: We come longing to experience God's embrace.

Response: Ahh! God wraps us in the loving arms of our Creator.

Call: We come hungry to encounter the Word.

Response: Ahh! God feeds us the Bread of Life.

Call: We come parched for renewal and restoration.

Response: Ahh! God quenches our thirst with living water.

Call: We come weary and worn.

Response: Ahh! God shoulders our burdens and grants us peace.

Call: Come and worship! In wonder and awe God reveals the divine self to us.

Response: Ahh! We come as we are and are changed by God's love and grace.

All: Give glory to God! Amen.

*Opening Hymn #110

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Centering Prayer

God of life and love, we invite you to breathe upon us in these moments, so that our parched and barren souls may be revived with your quickening Spirit. Bring to us now, as we wait upon you, your energy, your life and your strength so that we might do your will. Amen.

Special Music *Steal Away to Jesus* from Norton: a Civil War Opera arr. Chavez

Psalter Reading

Psalm 4 Hymnal, Page 741

Leader: "The Word of God for the People of God." Response 1

People: "Thanks be to God."

Sermon

"The Replacements" Rev. Bates

Sermon Text: Luke 19:1-10 (The Message)

Invitation

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Creator God, forgive us for all that spoils our lives. Forgive us because, though we have seen of your holiness we have easily put it at the back of our minds. Forgive us because we think we can earn a place in your affections, and so easily forget that the place has been bought for us at a great price by Christ. Forgive us because we think we have only to go on as we are, and all will be well, when really we need to change as radically as if we had been born again. Forgive us our complacency, our lack of obedience to your call. Assure us of our forgiveness in Christ. (*continue to pray in silence*)

Offering & Offertory

*Doxology (#95)

The Great Thanksgiving (Musical Setting A, UMH pg. 18)

The Lord's Prayer (Kriewald)

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Special Music *It Is Well with My Soul* arr. Chavez/Brishcar
John Brishcar, baritone

Prayer after Receiving

How grateful we are for this family meal you have prepared for us, most gracious God. As we have gathered around your table, might we be open to receiving the gift of your love in the food we have shared. Let it nourish us when we feel depleted, sustain us when times are difficult, comfort us when we are sorrowful and enhance our joys when our cups overflow. Let it be that the meal we have shared will enable us to nurture others through the gift of this bread of life. For the meal we have eaten, O God, make us truly thankful. Amen.

*Closing Hymn #373

Nothing Between

*Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one God who created us and loves us, still and all.

We believe in Jesus Christ who leads us and calls us to follow.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, present to us in our challenges and changes.

We believe we are the church, called to bring solace to the troubled, hope to the hopeless and love to the lonely.

We believe in the power of prayer, which enables us to live a life of love and service in the grace of God. Amen.

*Benediction

**Please Stand As You Are Able*