

Sunday, April 7th, 2019
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT
COMMUNION

Please stand at items marked * if you are able.
Passages in **Bold Print** are to be spoken in Unison.

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Susan Mattinson
Pianist/Organist: Carol Wehrstedt
Music Director: Carol Wehrstedt

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

* Entry of the Bible

Introit

Fifth Sunday in Lent (see insert)

* Hymn: "Immortal, invisible, God only wise" #290

Opening Prayer:

Gracious God, through Christ's death and resurrection, you have cancelled the debt of our sins and opened the door to new life for us. In you, dead ends can become new beginnings. And so, this moment is filled with fresh possibilities through your renewing presence. Yet we also confess that we have a hard time believing this good news, much less living it out. We carry our sins, and the sins others have laid upon us, like heavy burdens which sap our energy and enthusiasm. Lord, help us accept the gift of new life you offer us in Jesus Christ. Forgive us and refresh us with springs of living water, so that our parched lives may blossom in your renewing presence. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Choir Anthem: "Remember His Passion" Parker/Drennan

WE CELEBRATE GOD'S CHILDREN

*Praise Song: "His Name is Wonderful" (Blue Song Book) #53

Exploring God Together

"Be Still and Know that I am God" (Ps. 46: 10)
Please take the time before the service as an opportunity to quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship.

Upcoming Events at First



Apr 8 th Cards afternoon	1:00 pm
April 9 th More Than Mission	1:00 pm
Apr 10 th Session Meeting	7:00 pm
Apr 11 th Bible Study	10:00 am
Choir Practice	7:00 pm
Apr 12 th Crafts & Conversation	1:00 pm
Apr 14 th Sunday Worship	11:00 am
Palm Sunday	
Led By Kerry McLaughlin	

Cyril will be raising money for roof with "LAZY-SUSAN" production with same prices as last year. Will take 10 orders or orders up to the end of April. I may start up again in the fall. Also, in production are "PUZZLE BOARDS", roughly 30" X 25". The cost is 30 of which 2/3 goes toward the roof.

Soup and Sandwich Lunch- The More Than Mission group thanks you for your generous support on Mar. 31. We made \$357.25! And so, at two fundraisers, we have exceeded our \$500 goal for Lifewater Canada. We especially thank the Fellowship Committee, and several members of the congregation, who helped in various ways. And we want to thank each one of you who contributed financially to our success.

Thank you, this week, to: Apr 7th**Greeters:** Leila Pettigrew and Betty Irving**Lay Reader:** Sandra Allan**Fellowship Time:** Ian, Vikki & Evelyn Kinsman**Elevator Operator:** Ian Kinsman**Offering Counting:** Val Calder & Isobel Telford**Offering Collection:** Ian, Vikki & Evelyn Kinsman**Next week's volunteers: Apr 14th****Greeters:** Leila Pettigrew and Betty Irving**Lay Reader:** Lynae Grace**Fellowship Time:** Leila Pettigrew & Joyce Nystrom**Elevator Operator:** Leo Wehrstedt**Offering Counting:** Alice & Laird Morrison & Linda Rydholm**Offering Collection:** Alice & Laird Morrison

Downstairs during fellowship after worship, you will see a poster of our church displayed on one of the wooden divider walls. Until the end of the month, we invite you to use the paper and markers provided to share your answer to the question: "How are you doing church outside of church?" That could mean volunteering with an organization, performing various acts of kindness, and more. Let's see how many different places and people we touch through the love and faith we find in Christ!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**Hymn of Preparation:**

#384 v.3

"O breath of love, come breathe within us, renewing thought and will and heart: come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us, revive your church in every part."

Bible Readings:**Romans 9:19-24****P. 159 NT****Psalms 139:13-18****P. 578 OT****John 3:16-21****P. 94 NT****Gloria Patri:**

#594

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Sermon: "Chosen by God"**WE RESPOND TO GOD****Tithes and Offerings***** Offertory Response:**

#625 v.1

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Al-le-lu, al-lel-lu-ia!"

Prayer of Dedication:

Loving God, accept these our gifts, we pray. Bless them and use them to bring peace to places of unrest, love to places of hate, joy to places of fear, and hope to places of loss. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**Invitation***** Hymn: "I hunger and I thirst"**

#198

Affirmation of Faith:

As Christians, we strive to have the same mindset as Christ Jesus “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:5-11)

Remembering the Meal with Jesus

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And the Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give our thanks!

We give our thanks and praise to the Lord God!

Holy One, Holy Three—Spirit, Son, and Father, you unfolded time and space and created us to love and be loved, to live on this earth, and tend to it for your glory. With grateful hearts,

We offer our praise and thanks.

Holy One, Holy Three—Author, Word, and Breath, you chose your covenant people and you revealed yourself as holy, incomparable, and elusive—as liberator, judge, and compassionate forgiving love. With grateful hearts,

We offer our praise and thanks.

Grace-full God, whose saving power enlarges us and our capacity for love, setting us free to live in your wonder, hear us as we join our voices with angels and archangels, the saints around your throne, and all creation to sing your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy One, Holy Three—Lover, Beloved, and Energy of Love, you became human in Jesus, whose love goes beyond our limits, reaching out to good and bad alike and calling us to practice peace, mercy, and kindness, to forgive as we have been forgiven; and to love even our enemies. With grateful hearts,

We offer our praise and thanks.

Holy One, Holy Three—Giver, Given, and Gifting, as we share this bread and cup, we remember how Jesus died for us, bore our sins in his body on the tree, defeated the powers of this age, and lives among us here and now, breaking our dividing walls and giving us good news. With grateful hearts,

We offer our praise and thanks.

Holy Spirit, power and presence of Holy Three, Holy One, make this bread and cup our communion with the body and blood of Christ. With grateful hearts,

We offer our praise and thanks.

Sharing the Meal

Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

#535

WE GO OUT TO SERVE

* **Hymn** "The clay-stained hands of love"

#296

Blessing**Response:**

"Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow. He has washed and made me white as snow. I'm redeemed from all my sin and shame. Now and forever, praise his holy name. Praise his holy name. Praise his holy name. To God be the glory now and forever. Praise his holy name!"

Postlude

(Please maintain a reverent silence and stillness during the postlude, which is our organist’s gift both to you and to God. If you must leave before the postlude concludes, please do so as quietly as possible.)