



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 1, 2009

Eleven o'clock

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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## THE GATHERING

*The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the blue cards available from the ushers and in the welcome pad folders. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.*

*\*Stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE                      Kyrie (from *Cathedral Windows*)                      Sigfrid Karg-Elert

\* HYMN 87                      The Glory of These Forty Days                      *Erhalt Uns, Herr*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 25)

Leader: To you, O LORD, we lift up our souls

**People: Make us to know your ways, O LORD; teach us your paths**

Leader: Lead us in your truth, for you are the God of our salvation

**People: Do not remember our sins; according to your steadfast love  
remember us**

Leader: The LORD leads the humble in what is right

**People: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness.**

INTROIT

*Richard Proulx*

*Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart, for I am gracious and merciful. Return to me.*

JOEL 2: 12-13

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please use the welcome pad in the blue folder at the end of the pew. Record your presence. Pass it back, noticing who is worshipping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, as we begin our Lenten journey, we want to follow Jesus but we confess our reluctance to face the difficulties of the journey. We confess that we are sometimes tempted to wish for miracles that would give us shortcuts past the troubles of life. We admire the difficult and risky journey that Jesus took, challenging injustice in the world, yet we confess that we want our journeys of faith to be devout but not too daring; comfortable and not too threatening. We cherish the faithfulness and humility of Jesus, yet we confess our fear of treading the way of obedience that he followed - the way of the cross. Lord Jesus, forgive us our sins and fill us with the joy and peace of your salvation. Strengthen us during this Lenten season to follow you wherever you choose to take us. In the name of Christ our Savior we pray, Amen.

## PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

KYRIE Hymnal No. 565

Lord, Have Mercy

*Weaver*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Friends, believe and proclaim the Good News: in Jesus Christ, love breaks through hatred, hope breaks through despair, life breaks through death.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and set free.  
Thanks be to God!

## \* EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has opened his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

*People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.*

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your neighbor - e.g., *“The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”*)

Response - *“And also with you.”*)

*+ Children and Youth leave for their classes. +*

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON                      Genesis 9:8-17

\* HYMN 162                      O Lord, Our God, How Excellent                      *Winchester Old*

SECOND LESSON                      1 Peter 3:13-22

SERMON                              “Worlds Apart”                      Rev. Richard S. Hong

### \* NICENE CREED

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible;  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father by whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead, whose kingdom shall have no end.  
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the

Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And we believe one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## OFFERTORY

### The Apple Tree

arr. K. Lee Scott

*The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit and always green:  
The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.  
His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell,  
His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see In Jesus Christ the apple tree.  
For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought:  
For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.  
I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.  
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive;  
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

(WORDS: FROM DIVINE HYMNS OR SPIRITUAL SONGS, COMPILED BY  
JOSHUA SMITH, 1784)

## \* THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

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

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### THE INVITATION

#### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

*People: And also with you.*

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

*People: We lift them to the Lord.*

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

Pastor: Eternal and ever-living God...

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name.

**SANCTUS 581** (choir and congregation)

Joseph Roff

Pastor: Holy God, in Your mercy . . .

. . . Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

*People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.*

Pastor: We take this bread and wine and joyfully celebrate this Holy Sacrament. ... And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray:

*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.*

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me. –Revelation 3:20*

All who trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to participate in this celebration.

**BREAD:** To be taken individually, symbolic of your personal commitment to God through Jesus Christ.

**CUP:** Please wait until all are served, symbolic of your corporate belonging together in the body of Christ. Grape juice is the fruit of the vine used in our celebration of the sacrament.

**MOTET**

Call to Remembrance, O Lord

Richard Farrant

*Call to remembrance, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy loving kindness, which hath been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth; but according to thy mercy think thou on me, O Lord, for thy goodness.*

PSALM 25: 5-6

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION****THE SENDING OUT**

\* **HYMN 81** Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days St. Flavian

\* **BENEDICTION**

\* **CHORAL AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

Fugue on a Theme of Corelli

J. S. Bach

*(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)*

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**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS****Genesis 9:8-17 (NRSV)**

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

<sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all

flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

### **1 Peter 3:13-22 (NRSV)**

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;

<sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

<sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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