

**ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let the ears of the people be attentive;
Jesus was anointed to become the Redeemer of our sins –
to reveal the wonder of God's grace;
Let us gather to hear God's good news for the poor.
As we journey through the season of Lent,
let us come to know God together:
Let us rejoice and worship God
by joining our voices in prayer; let us pray...

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

Out of our need, we come, O God, to you.
In prayer we offer our hearts, hopes and lives for you to renew.
Gathered, waiting – pray meet us here,
We long to know you're near:
We come to worship and give praise to you.

From our homes – our places of hiding and darkness,
Through pain, doubt, the countless reasons not to come – we came,
gathering here, chosen bearing your name,
We praise you, giving thanks for your forgiveness.

On our own we come to know you together;
Brother, sister, each an adopted heir,
As your children worshipping, we praise your name,
Seeking to live and obey the Word we proclaim,
We come, called, your kingdom to share.

Transformed, by your Spirit, we imitate your caring.
As disciples we listen, learn – are called to be daring.
Made into one body, faithful in our service,
Rescued, redeemed, restored – your love preserves us.
We offer ourselves, humbly, your name adoring. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

God of Lent, your Word tells us of your saving promise to us.
May our hearing of your Word move us to respond by living
lives worthy of your sacrifice. Amen.

READINGS:

Romans 3:21-31; 4:7b (NRSV)

But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

“Blessed are those whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.”

Colossians 1:19-23b (NRSV)

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him – provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard...

SERMON: “T.R.F.E: A Satisfaction to God.”

PRAYER THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION:

Let us pray.... Almighty God,
We praise you for all that you have shown us in your Son Jesus Christ.
You sought us out when we go astray.
You look for us when we are lost.
You call to us and rejoice when we are found.
We thank you for the abundant life you have made us for –
the life you give to us through Your relationship with us.

Through your grace you restored and redeemed us as yours –
You are the light that illuminates our every step,
the well from which we can find refreshment.
Through you, once we were blind, now we see; lost, now found.
Today we pray for those who remain in darkness;
for those who are lost – and for those unable to find their way.
For your grace, O God, we pray: hear our prayers....

God of wisdom, as we seek to live according to your will for us,
we hold before you our – and all – governments –
we recall the need for justice and peace
for an equal sharing of the things that this earth affords,
for a human touch and a divine way of walking...
For your grace, O God, we pray: hear our prayers....

Compassionate Shepherd – full of mercy and grace –
we hold before You our church and our ability to reach others –
we pray for our children, families, members, and Session –
we pray for all of our people who strive to serve you
and show forth your light and your love in all that they do....

Ever present God, we recall before you the concerns on our hearts
the individuals and events in our lives;
our brothers and sisters and for ourselves as we pray in the
silent language of our heart.... SILENCE...
For your grace, O God, we pray: hear our prayers....

God of all goodness, we offer these prayers up to you,
through our Lord and Saviour, who taught us to pray saying ...

LORD'S PRAYER:

**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,
the power and the glory, forever and forever. Amen.**

COMMISSION:

*As you go out into the world –
out into the rest of this day and into the week to come;
out into the places where you live, work, and play –
may all that you say and do reflect a life transformed and sustained
by the promised*

BENEDICTION:

.... Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you today and forevermore....
Amen.