

5th Sunday in Lent

March 29th, 2019

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD
*Those who are able are encouraged to stand.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 130 Waiting for Divine Redemption

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

² Lord, hear my voice!

**Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!**

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ **But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.**

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

⁶ **my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸ **It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.**

OPENING PRAYER

Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own.

Help us to seek and be able to follow your will.

May our prayers be joined
with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith,
that together we may glorify your name
and enjoy your fellowship forever.

In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

HYMN #457 I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

CALL TO CONFESSION:

In repentance and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength,
but you would have none of it.
Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you;
he rises to show you compassion.
For the LORD is God of justice.
Blessed are all who wait for him!
—Isaiah 30:15, 18, NIV

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Lord of Life: We confess that our faith has been small. You promise to raise us up into a new way of life, yet we live as though that were not possible. We satisfy ourselves with the scraps of this earth, turning away from the riches of heaven you offer us.

Forgive our failure to believe your sure promises; Breathe on us again with your life-giving Spirit, That we may be filled with such a spirit of life that others may be drawn to the source of our life, Given to us through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

(A time for silent and personal prayer...)

DECLARATION OF PARDON:

Such is the promises of God: I will cleanse them from all the guilt of their sin against me, and I will forgive all the guilt of their sin and rebellion against me. —Jeremiah 33:8, NRSV
Let us rejoice in the salvation that our God grant us. Hallelujah!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ezekiel 37:1-14

SPECIAL MUSIC "Where the Light Shines Through" Switchfoot

A TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS "Cracked Pots "

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Prepare our hearts, O God,
to hear your Word
and obey your will.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSONS: 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

SERMON "Broken to Give"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN #316 Breathe on Me Breath of God

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Heidelberg Catechism

Q. Why did Christ have to suffer death?

A. Because God's justice and truth require it: nothing else could pay for our sins except the death of the Son of God.

Q & A 41

Q. Why was he "buried"?

A. His burial testifies that he really died.

Q & A 42

Q. Since Christ has died for us, why do we still have to die?

A. Our death does not pay the debt of our sins. Rather, it puts an end to our sinning and is our entrance into eternal life.

Q & A 43

Q. What further benefit do we receive from Christ's sacrifice and death on the cross?

A. By Christ's power our old selves are crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil desires of the flesh may no longer rule us, but that instead we may offer ourselves as a sacrifice of gratitude to him.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY

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

BEARING THE WORD OUT INTO THE WORLD

HYMN #281 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

OFFERING

Let's close our worship by giving our gifts to the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

O Mighty One,
you have done great things for us,
and holy is your name.
Bless all we offer you—
ourselves, our time, and our possessions—
that through us your grace and favor
may be made known to all the world,
for the sake of Jesus Christ,
our Redeemer. **Amen.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION —based on Colossians 3:12-14

As God's own,
clothe yourselves with compassion,
kindness, and patience,
forgiving each other
as the Lord has forgiven you,
and crown all these things with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

May the Peace of Christ be with you.