

THE SERVICE of Worship

March 19, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent
10:30 A.M.



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

We Gather Around the Word

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

OPENING VOLUNTARY “So Fades the Lovely Blooming Flower” G. Winston Cassler
Terry Metzger, Organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP | *Responsively*

Adapted from *The Minor Keys*

The words God speaks are the life
and sustenance of all that exists.

**The life Jesus gives is the re-creation
and renewed birth of all that is broken and worn.**

The Spirit's stirring in our souls is the inspiration for creativity,
compassion, joy and community.

**Life-giving, life-restoring, life-fulfilling God,
may our whole lives be worship.**

**In all things, may we seek to connect with
and to reflect your love and your hope.**

In gratitude, we praise you and we worship you.

*HYMN OF PROVIDENCE | “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Glory to God 39

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

**We cannot grasp your love for us, O God,
for it is unlike us to be that loving and forgiving.**

**We become enmeshed by our own needs, wants, and desires,
and we fail to see beyond anything but our own little circles.**

**Turn us around, O God. Help us to see as you see,
and to reach out as you reach out.**

Remind us once again of the sacredness of our ordinary, day-to-day lives.

By your Spirit, teach us to live truly as beloved children in your creation.

In your mercy, O God,

forgive who we are and bless who we will be.

Amen.

**Please rise in body or spirit*



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

Sisters, brothers:
hear this good news and see the grace of God:
You are forgiven!
You are accompanied by the Spirit, free to go
and live in the light of love.
Thanks be to God!
Amen!

*GLORIA PATRI | “Amazing Grace”

Glory to God 649

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now I see!**

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANS

Pastor Rosy

ANTHEM

“The Lord is My Shepherd”

Thomas Matthews

The Sanctuary Choir, Ralph Stannard, Director
Terry Metzger, Organist

Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.
He leadeth me besides the still waters.
He restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for thou art with me.
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.
Thou annointest my head with oil,
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

We Proclaim the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING	Psalm 51: 1—2, 10—12 <i>Prayer for Cleansing and Forgiveness</i>	NRSV O.T. Pg. 520
EPISTLE READING	Romans 8:9—11 <i>Life in the Spirit</i>	NRSV N.T. Pg. 158
GOSPEL READING	John 16:4—16 <i>The Work of the Spirit</i>	NRSV N.T. Pg. 110
SERMON	The Farewell Discourse in the Gospel of John: <i>Promise of Presence</i> Rev. Rosy Robson McCreary	

We Respond to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE | “Loving Spirit” *Glory to God 293*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison* Adapted from *The Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER | *Unison*

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“My Eternal King”

The Sanctuary Choir, Ralph Stannard, Director
Terry Metzger, Organist

K. Lee Scott
Text from 17th—cent. Spanish
Translated by Edward Caswell
(1814-1878)

*I love thee, Lord, but not because I hope for heaven thereby,
nor yet for fear that loving not I might forever die;
but for that thou didst all the world upon the cross embrace;
for us didst bear the nails and spear, and manifold disgrace.*

*And griefs and torments numberless, and sweat of agony;
e'en death itself, and all for one who was thine enemy.
Then why, most loving Jesus Christ, should I not love thee well;
not for the sake of winning heaven, nor any fear of hell.*

*Not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward;
but as thyself hast loved me, O ever-loving Lord!
E'en so I love Thee, and will love, and in thy praise will sing;
solely because thou art my God and my Eternal King.*

*DOXOLOGY | “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Glory to God 606

Praise God, from who all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN | “God of Grace and God of Glory”

Glory to God 307

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Voluntary on St. Christopher”

Alice Jordan

Terry Metzger, Organist

