

Southminster Presbyterian Church



A Service for the Worship of God

February 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

The First Sunday of Lent

Gathering Around God's Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 25:1-5

Hymn # 53

“O God, Who Gives Us Life”

omit verse 2

Call to Confession

Steve Davis

Prayer of Confession

*One: God who meets us where we are —
There is nowhere we can go that you are not.*

**All: You were with Jesus at his baptism.
You were with him in the wilderness,
And even in between, you were there,
Saying aloud, “This is my beloved.”**

*One: We know that you are with us too —
In the good, the bad, and everything in between —
But so often we act like we are alone.*

**All: Instead of coming to you with our hurt,
We hold it in or cast it onto others.
Instead of coming to you with our joy,**

We credit ourselves and offer you nothing.

*One: How can we long for a deeper relationship with you
While living like you are nowhere to be found?*

All: Forgive our self-centered ways.

Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there.

One: You are the God who meets us where we are.

God listens to us, fills us with grace, and sends us to serve others in Christ's name.

All: Before and behind, above and below, within and around. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, hear this:

God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning, And God calls you beloved.

All: We are washed by the water.

We are called beloved.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Response to Forgiveness #607

Doxology

Inclusive Version

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Steve Davis

Scripture

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Children's Time

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Anthem

"As the Deer"
Vocal ensemble

*Martin Nystrom
arr. Lloyd Larson*

Scripture

Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, 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. 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." 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: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me

and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, 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. 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.” 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.”

Sermon

“Again”

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Responding to God’s Word

Hymn # 833

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

omit verses 4

Presentation of Offerings

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

If you would like to give online, please go to www.sminster.com/give where you can give once or set-up a recurring monthly offering to the church. You can also mail your offering to the church office.

Presentation Hymn #223 “When I Survey the Wonderous Cross”

verse 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Prayers of the People and the 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn # 713

“Touch the Earth Lightly”

verses 1,4

Benediction

Rev. Laura Nile Tuell

Postlude

Jim Pera

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