

Long Lake Pastoral Charge
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March 14th, 2010 - Lent 4
*Congregation responses are in **BOLD***
We Prepare Ourselves for Worship

Processional Hymn: #171 “Christ Has No Body Now but Yours”(1,2&3)

Welcome and Announcements
Birthday and Anniversaries

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God calls us to travel through the season of Lent where the promise of newness of life unfolds. During this time, we are called to wilderness wandering

All: where our burdens and brokenness are revealed.

One: We are called to venture through unknown lands

All: to face our deepest fears.

One: We are called to a dry and weary land

All: where our souls thirst for living water.

One: We are called to live in right relationship

All: to forgive and be forgiven.

One: Come join the Lenten journey with the God who is about to do a new thing!

PRAYER OF APPROACH:

You are the God who calls us by name, gathering us in as your sons and daughters. We come as the lost and the found, seeking to live in right-relationships, guided by your grace and enlivened by your presence. Love us into being, we pray, that in this place and on this journey we may be guided home. In the name of the One who leads us, we pray. Amen.

Lenten Cross

The Crown of Thorns and Purple Robe

**#149 When I survey the wondrous cross,
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

Matthew 15:16-20

Then the soldiers led Jesus into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's; and they called together the whole court. And they clothed Jesus in purple; and after twisting some thorns into crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting Jesus, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They struck Jesus' head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking Jesus, they stripped him of the purple and put his own clothes on him. Then they led Jesus out to be crucified.

Hymn: # 348 "O Love, How Deep"(1,4,5,6,7)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Let us confess to God things we have done that have made it difficult for others to enter into the love of God, to experience God's grace and forgiveness, to feel a part of Christian community. Think of those times. (silent reflection)

Let us confess to God those occasions when you have been jealous of others, especially when it seems they were receiving special treatment and you were not. Think of those times. (silent reflection)

Let us confess to God those times when you have been stubborn, unwilling to bend, closed to new ideas, new dreams, new possibilities. Think of those times. (silent reflection)

**In a time of open and honest silence, take those other things you regret, that you wish to confess to God. (silent reflection)
Amen.**

Words of assurance

One: It is written that "God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Him."

All: Indeed because of him, "God no longer counts our sins against us." (II Cor 5:19,21)

One: Therefore I tell you, your sins are forgiven. If you would have the joy and peace promised by Christ, be though likewise forgiving.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen
We listen for God's word

The Hebrew Bible: Joshua 5: 9 - 12

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 32 Page 759

Anthem

The Gospel: Luke 15: 1 – 3; 11b - 32

One: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Hymn: #364 "Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive"

Sermon:

We Respond to God's Word

Hymn: #266 "Amazing Grace"

MINUTE FOR MISSION:

Offering:

Hymn: #171 (MV v-4) is sung as the offering is present –all will stand as able.

Offering Dedication

Prayers of the people and Lord's Prayer:

Hymn: #288 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

The Commissioning and Benediction:

One: Go in peace, journey with God, know that wherever you go, wherever you are taken, whatever befalls you, whenever you find yourself lost, simply turn, and know that God – Creator, Friend, Companion – stands arms outstretched to welcome you home.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Choral Amen