

March 7, 2010, 9:15 am - Fresh Spirit Worship - Third Sunday in Lent

As we gather for worship,
please introduce yourself to those around you.
There are no strangers in God's house.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Come, All You People* Alexander Gondo

Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker!
Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker!
Come, all you people, come and praise your Maker!
Come now and worship the Lord!

WELCOME

REFLECTION FOR PEACE

GATHERING THE PEOPLE

One: A love that will not let us go,

All: *You have declared the height, breadth, and depth of your love in Jesus Christ:*

One: A love that searches out the lost and rejected,

All: *A love that brings wholeness and healing,*

One: A love that is not satisfied with half-truths or evasion,

All: *A love that confronts evil and injustice head on,*

One: A love that accepts the despised and unlovely,

All: *A love that stayed faithful to you, O most loving God, all the way to the Cross. Amen.*

SUNG RESPONSE (from The Servant Song)

All: *We are pilgrims on a journey,
We are travelers on the road.
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.*

UNISON PRAYER FOR LENT

All: *We are chosen...
Chosen to proclaim the wonderful work of God
Who has called us out of darkness
Into God's marvelous light.
Once we were no people:
Now we are God's People.
Once we didn't know God's mercy:
With open hearts we wait for God's love and mercy to be fulfilled!
Amen.*

OPENING SONG (see insert) *You Are The Voice* David Haas

RENEWING THE COVENANT

One: Let us pray.

All: *God, you constantly show and reveal to us glimpses and previews of your glory and wonder. And at the same time, you remind us that we have to keep living our everyday lives, lives that more often than not lead to broken promises.
Help us to hang on to the wonderful "moments" that you send our way, always remembering that in each of them there lies a hope that miracles always lie ahead.
Help us to keep believing that all of these blessings are signs of what ultimately awaits us.*

---time for silent reflection---

One: God forgives us.

All: *God makes peace within us: we claim this healing, in faith and hope. Amen.*

PASSING THE PEACE

TIME WITH CHILDREN


OFFERING OUR GIFTS BACK TO GOD

OFFERTORY SONG *God Has Chosen Me* Bernadette Farrell


Verses




1. God has cho - sen me, God has cho - sen me to
2. God has cho - sen me, God has cho - sen me to
3. God is call - ing me, God is call - ing me in



bring good news to the poor. God has cho - sen me,
set a - light a new fire. God has cho - sen me,
all whose cry is un - heard. God is call - ing me,



God has cho - sen me to bring new sight to those
God has cho - sen me to bring to birth a new
God is call - ing me to raise up the voice with no




search - ing for light. God has cho - sen me, cho - sen me:
king - dom on earth. God has cho - sen me, cho - sen me:
pow - er or choice. God is call - ing me, call - ing me:

Refrain



And to tell the world that God's king - dom is near, to re -



move op - pres - sion and break down fear, yes, God's



time is near, God's time is near, God's time is near.

DOXOLOGY

*We thank you God for all you have given.
Now we return a portion to you -
For all that we have, and all that we are,
We bring our gifts, and thank you God for life.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING John 2:1-11 CEV

Three days later Mary, the mother of Jesus, was at a wedding feast in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited and were there. When the wine was all gone, Mary said to Jesus, "They don't have

any more wine." Jesus replied, "Mother, my time hasn't yet come: You must not tell me what to do." Mary then said to the servants, "Do whatever Jesus tells you to do." At the feast there were six stone water jars that were used by the people for washing themselves in the way that their religion said they must. Each jar held about twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus told the servants to fill them to the top with water. Then after the jars had been filled, he said, "Now take some water and give it to the man in charge of the feast." The servants did as Jesus told them, and the man in charge drank some of the water that had now turned into wine. He did not know where the wine had come from, but the servants did. He called the bridegroom over and said, "The best wine is always served first. Then after the guests have had plenty, the other wine is served. But you have kept the best until last!" This was Jesus' first miracle, and he did it in the village of Cana in Galilee. There Jesus showed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him.

SERMON *The Gospel of John—A Wedding* Rev. Thomas D. York

FOCUS SONG (see insert) *Servant Song* Richard Gillard

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, for ever. Amen.

CLOSING SONG (see insert) *Go Make A Difference* Angrisano/Tomaszek

BLESSING THE PEOPLE

Sources for today's liturgy: Gathering - David Sparks, *Prayers to Share, Year C*; Renewing the Covenant - David Haas, *To Give You A Future With Hope & Gifts of Many Cultures, Prayers of Confession.*

If you feel called to serve God by researching, writing or speaking liturgy in future services, please feel free to talk with any of the worship leaders or drop a note in the offering plate.

Fresh Spirit Prayer Request cards and offering envelopes are available in the black fellowship pad folders. If you have a prayer request, concern or joy you wish to share, please fill out a card and place it in the offering bags. All concerns and joys are welcome!

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