

March 17, 2024

Prelude and Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Ever-surprising, ever-faithful, ever-merciful Lover of creation, you lavish us with cherry blossoms, bright pink and glowing white, floating above deep blue, wind-whipped waves.

People: **You fill your world with tulips and woodpeckers, with forsythia and robins, with redbud and bluebirds, with storm clouds and open sky.**

Leader: You show yourself to us in all these things, calling us to prayer, to worship, to knowing ourselves as members of your Holy Body.

People: **Renew once more the covenant you made with our ancestors, put your law of love within us all and write it deeply upon our hearts, for we would be your people, and you shall be our God. Amen.**

***Hymn #8:** "Praise to the Living God"

***Passing the Peace**

***Prayer of Confession**

God of love, we confess that our ego can all too often get in the way of our ability to serve you and others with our lives. Our false self is driven by our lack of trust in you to provide for our every need. We rely on our own strength. But, our true self can let go and be formed anew by your love. Forgive us our false ways and transform us and raise us to new life. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Friends, Jesus reminds us that those who serve him will have the assurance of his presence with them. Trust that you are you are forgiven, that new life rises, and that Jesus abides with you. In the name of Christ, Amen.

Scripture:

John 12:20-33

Carol Belamy

Anthem: He Became A Lamb, by Mary Kay Beall

Time With Young Disciples

***Unison Prayer**

God most compassionate and merciful, we thank you that you have come to us in Jesus Christ the Servant-Christ, whose disciples we are. Make us strong in your strength; make us wise in your wisdom; and make us gentle in your compassion. May we be signs of the human unity you seek to accomplish through the cross of Jesus Christ, that your name may be glorified in all the earth. Amen.

Sermon: "Drawn to the Christ"

***Hymn #190:** "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

The Community at Prayer (*Joys and Concerns, Prayers for the People, Lord's Prayer*)

If you are watching online, type any prayer requests in the chat by the end of the sermon and we can voice them and get the names on the prayer list.

Prayer Response

Invitation to the Offering

(Opportunities to give for the ministries of this church are available through an offering plate during service, by mailing your gift to the church office, or by signing up for electronic giving through our website.)

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

We dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love, of peace. Receive our gifts, and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen.

***Hymn #473:** "Blessed Assurance"

***Commissioning and Blessing**

***Choral Response**

***Postlude**