

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
3rd Sunday in Lent

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

March 8, 2015

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music
Concerns of the Church
Prelude

“Lenten Song”

Anonymous

Call to Worship

The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;

But to us it is the power of God!

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

***The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,
and the weakness of God is stronger than our strength.***

* Hymn 216 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

***we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed***

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,

that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your holy name.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 578 “O Lord, Have Mercy”

O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy;

O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.

O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;

O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Special Music

“Why, Lord, Why”

J. Herman

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: John 2:13-22 (NT, p. 93)

Psalter: Psalm 19 (Hymnal 61)

A Time with Children

Anthem “What Wondrous Love is This?”

arr. Collins

Our young children are invited to attend “Joyful Noise” in room 103.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NT, p. 166)

Sermon: “Ugly Beauty”

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 213 “In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles’ Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering

Offertory

“My Song is Love Unknown”

arr. Sedio

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 826 "Lift High the Cross"
Joyful Noise! participants will return to the sanctuary.

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Kimball

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by The Deremer family and Bonnie McIntyre to the glory of God and in memory of Catherine, Keith and Paul Richards.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Director of Educational Ministries	Tina Ide
Director of Music	Susan Kelly
Organist / Director of Chapel Choir	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgists	Members of the Chapel Choir
<i>Joyful Noise</i> leaders	Laura Schillinger, Wayne Griffiths
Ushers	Vi Dygert, Jack Pittman
Welcomers	Jo and John Conklin



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

First Presbyterian Church
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For
God's foolishness
is wiser
than human wisdom,
and
God's weakness
is stronger
than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:25

John 2:13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for 46 years, and will you raise it up in 3 days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who

believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.