

03/14/1990
Sunday: Lent 4, Year B

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We give you thanks, O God, for you are good; your steadfast love endures forever.

When we cried to you with our troubles, O Lord, you saved us from our distress.

We give you thanks, O God, for your wonderful works to all of humanity.

Hear now our offerings of praise and thanksgiving, as we tell of your deeds with songs of joy.

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

God of infinite goodness and mercy, we cannot escape your presence. Your promise remains with us in every situation. When we are desolate, your Spirit comes to comfort us. Amid our tribulation, your Chosen One remains our firm hope. We can sing your song in whatever land we find our abode. We shall forever give thanks for the gift of your grace. You are God who never forsakes us. To you be glory and praise now and forever. Amen.

HYMN: For the Beauty of the Earth (14)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

O God, in Christ Jesus you proclaimed your love for all creation. Have mercy upon us as we confess our sin. We have overpopulated the earth and violated its goodness. We have depleted nature of its vital resources. Pollution besets us, waters lie stagnant. We care not for ourselves as temples, nor for communities as building not built with hands. We plead for forgiveness and ask for your guidance. Help us to be disciplined in taking care of your gifts, lest in neglecting them we lose them forever. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASSING THE PEACE (*honking horns, waving*)

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Numbers 21:4-9

PRE-SERMON PRAYER

SERMON: A Lenten Pep Talk

POST-SERMON PRAYER

HYMN: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross (223)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (from *The Heidelberg Catechism*, 4.127)

What does the sixth petition mean?

“And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one” means: By ourselves we are too weak to hold our own even for a moment. And our sword enemies- the devil, the world, and our own flesh- never stop attacking us. And so, Lord, uphold us and make us strong with the strength of your Holy Spirit, so that we may not go down to defeat in this spiritual struggle, but may firmly resist our enemies until we finally win the complete victory.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD’S PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT: **Our mission is to proclaim and demonstrate the inclusiveness of God’s Love to the people of the Ozarks and the needy of the world.**

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

HYMN: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing (610)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TRIPLE “AMEN” (601)

POSTLUDE