

FIRST (SCOTS) PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

53 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Organized 1731

MARCH 29, 2020

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

5TH SUNDAY IN LENT

THE VISION OF GOD

PRELUDE

“How Fair, and How Pleasant Art Thou” (*antiphon V*) Marcel Dupre (1886-1971)
“(May the beginning of the prelude serve as a call to silent meditation and prayer.)”

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling

INTROIT

“There is Balm in Gilead” Spiritual
Greg Pipkin, bass-baritone

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Suzy S. Edwards

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God,

People: **the dawn from on high will break upon us,**

Leader: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

People: **to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

†OPENING HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Hymn No.260

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper He amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, And, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing;
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He,
Lord Sabaoth His Name, From age to age the same,
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, For lo! his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also;
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is forever.

†PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

†CALL TO CONFESSION (A pause for silent confession follows.)

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Most Merciful God, we know and believe that you are our fortress; yet, at times like these, and when faced nearly every day with news of disease and illness, we can feel overwhelmed and defeated. Despair makes it difficult for us to see the light at the end of the tunnel – the night seems so long, O Lord! Restore our hope and breathe peace into our troubled hearts. Help us to know that your light always shines and that it is only our vision that grows fuzzy. Praise be to you, Gracious God, for your faithfulness endures throughout all generations and your promises are renewed day by day! May such promises continue to be ours as we strive to walk in your light and live in your truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

†ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†GLORIA PATRI

“Glory be to the Father”

Hymn No. 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

†CHILDREN’S HYMN

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” (v.2)

Hymn No. 379

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil.

On Christ, solid Rock I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

THE TIME FOR CHILDREN

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE WORD READ

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 30

(pew Bible, page 439)

1 I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me.	mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.
2 O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.	8 To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication:
3 O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. ^[a]	9 “What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?
4 Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.	10 Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!”
5 For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.	11 You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
6 As for me, I said in my prosperity, “I shall never be moved.”	12 so that my soul ^[b] may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.
7 By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong	

28 We know that all things work together for good[a] for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family.[b] 30 And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. 31 What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? 32 He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33 Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.[c] 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

“JOY COMES IN THE MORNING”

The Rev. Dr. L. Holton Siegling, Jr.

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

†THE APOSTLES' CREED (unison)

The Rev. Tracey W. Daniel

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

†HYMN OF REFLECTION

“How Firm a Foundation”

Hymn No. 361

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said, To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

5 "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“The Lord’s Prayer”

Albert Hay Malotte

†DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

Hymn No. 592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

†HYMN OF COMMITMENT

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Hymn No. 464

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o’er us,
Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Amen”

Dresden

POSTLUDE

“Fugue in G Major” (*BuxWV175*)

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637—1707)