

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service for the First Sunday in Lent**

February 18, 2024

Pre-Service Music: *Walking in Grace* - Todd Heaney

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Meditation #2* - John Turner

Introit: *For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits* *Psalm 25*

Call to Worship

The praise we come to share is praise of thanksgiving.

In our worship, we hold God's love close to our hearts.

We desire to surround ourselves with community.

As our songs echo, our prayers rise, claiming God as our strength.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation, you protected your son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Opening Hymn #482: *Baptized in Water* (please stand)

Call to Confession

When we stay silent, when we do not acknowledge what we need to change, we waste away.

Our guilt turns into shame that eats away at us like a poison.

God calls us to repent and be healed;

let us turn to God.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful One, we are so easily tempted. We turn away from your word so quickly. We seek anything that claims to save us from discomfort, inconvenience, pain, fear, and emptiness. But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind. You are our true hope and salvation, our hiding place, our guide, our guardian. We confess our transgressions to you: forgive our sins. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

Be glad in the Lord!

Rejoice!

God does not count our sins against us, but offers us a free gift of righteousness.

Thanks be to God!

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Kyrie Eleison/Lord, Have Mercy #577: *(please stand)*

Anthem: *Trust in the Lord* Allen Pote

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the world, the well-being of creation, and a world in need. *(brief silence)*

God our truth, the ark of your church has room for many expressions of faith. We give thanks for voices that challenge and awaken your people.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who taught us to pray:

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, forever. Amen

Hymn #164: *Down Galilee's Slow Roadways* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 9:8 - 17

Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18 - 22

First Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:9-15

Second Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:1-13

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Saved from the Time of Trial* Rev. Bob Morrison

Invitation to Discipleship

After forty days and forty nights, Jesus came down from the mountain to invite disciples to follow him. We, too, hear the question, "Will you come and follow me?"

Whether we have given up something dear to us or taken up something we yearn to do in this season, it is always the season for discipleship.

Will you answer the call of Jesus?

We give thanks to God that our hearts and our hope are all we need to follow.

Dedication of Tithes, Offerings and Pledges (please stand)

Offertory Hymn #708: *We Give Thee but Thine Own* vs. 1 & 2

Prayer of Dedication:

**God of good gifts, receive these and all of our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Through the grace of God we have gifts in abundance and pour them out like perfume from a flask, not for our sakes, but to worship the One who lavishes love on the world.
Amen.**

Sending Hymn #775: *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

Jesus walked on the earth and knows the temptations that lead us away from God. His gift of healing extends even to our transgressions. His life shows us the transforming power of God's mercy in a world of hurt and pain. His ceaseless love and grace assure us of our forgiveness. He will be with you as you leave this place. Let Him guide your journey through this season.

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Joy in My Soul* - Mark Hayes

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Jeff Sandquist, the Chancel Choir and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Cheryl Koederitz and sermon provided by Rev. Bob Morrison.

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