

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

*February 25, 2024*

**Pre-Service Music:** *He Keeps Me Singing* - Cindy Berry

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** *Meditation No. 10* - John Turner

**Introit#89:** *For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits* v. 4 *Psalm 25*

**Call to Worship**

Every time we gather in God's name, we learn something new.

**What will be God's gift of revelation to us today?**

We enter this time of worship joyfully, assured of God's new mercies.

**Celebrating these blessings to come, we bring our love to God.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**The ever-present power of your grace in our lives will never cease to amaze us! It lifts us from our doubts and worries, saves us from our despair. You see us as your beloved creation. We are in awe of your steadfast hope in the sacred purpose of our lives. It is your belief in us that fuels our faith in you. Oh, what a joy divine to be found in your glory, and we respond, "Lift every voice and sing!" Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #339:** *Lift Every Voice and Sing* v. 1 & 3 (please stand)

**Call to Confession**

Standing in the light of Christ, we see the shadows hidden in our hearts.

**Let us tell the truth about ourselves, trusting in God's grace, that we might receive mercy and be renewed.**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Magnificent God, we cannot stand before the glory of your presence. You shine with divine light, and we are overwhelmed by your goodness. Lift us in your mercy, release us from our fear, and fill us with your Spirit, that we might reflect your light and share your love, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.**

**Declaration of Pardon**

Children of God, hear the good news:

**We are forgiven, again and again, by this glorious God.**

What a wonder! **Alleluia!**

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:** *As the Dark Awaits the Dawn*

**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*)

We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders.

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

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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 #39:** *Great is Thy Faithfulness* v. 1 & 3 (seated)

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.**

**Scriptures for the Day**

**Old Testament Lesson:** Genesis 17:1 - 7

**Epistle Lesson:** Romans 4:13 - 25

**Gospel Lesson:** Mark 9:2 – 9

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:**

*Transfiguration: A Glimpse of Glory*

Susan Murray

**Affirmation of Faith**

(please stand)

(1993 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand)

**Christ Jesus, Child of Mary, God with us, King and Suffering Servant,  
High Priest and Lamb of God, Teacher and Word, living, suffering,  
dying and rising again, you challenge, redeem and restore us.**

**Holy Spirit, Breath of life, Counsellor and Comforter,  
Fire of God, you inspire, sustain, and purify us.**

**Forming us in the nature of Christ, transforming us with your gifts,  
you bind us together in one body, your church.**

**God of all creation, made known to us in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit,  
your boundless love exposes our rebellion and greed.**

**A mother who will not abandon her child, a father who welcomes the prodigal  
home, you forgive, accept and embrace us and call us into loving communion  
forever.**

**In life and death we belong to you, everlasting God, Father,  
Son and Holy Spirit.**

**Dedication of Tithes, Offerings and Pledges**

(please be seated)

**Offertory Hymn #697:**

*Take My Life*

vs. 1, 3, 4, 6

*As the offertory hymn is sung, bring your pledge cards and offerings to the table.*

