

Offertory Joyce Jones
“Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

*Doxology Hymn 606 *Old Hundredth*
**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.**

*Offertory Prayer (Unison)
**We remember your steadfast love and mercy,
which have removed our shame and drawn us into
covenant with you, O God. Through these offerings,
we give thanks for your patience and loving-kindness.
Direct these gifts toward the realization of your
purposes for us. In Jesus’ name. Amen.**

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, including joys & concerns
Sharing of the Elements
(Gluten-free bread is in small cups on each tray.)

Communion Voluntary Garrett Parker
“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

Prayer After the Meal (Unison)
**With grateful hearts, we give you thanks for
this meal. With bold memories of Jesus sharing, we
give you thanks for this meal. With gratitude for all
the ways you bind your people together, we give you
thanks for this meal. Help us to share with others the
joys you grant us. In Christ we pray, Amen.**

IV. Bearing and Following the Word into the World

*Hymn 697 *Hendon*
“Take My Life”

*Invitation to Discipleship

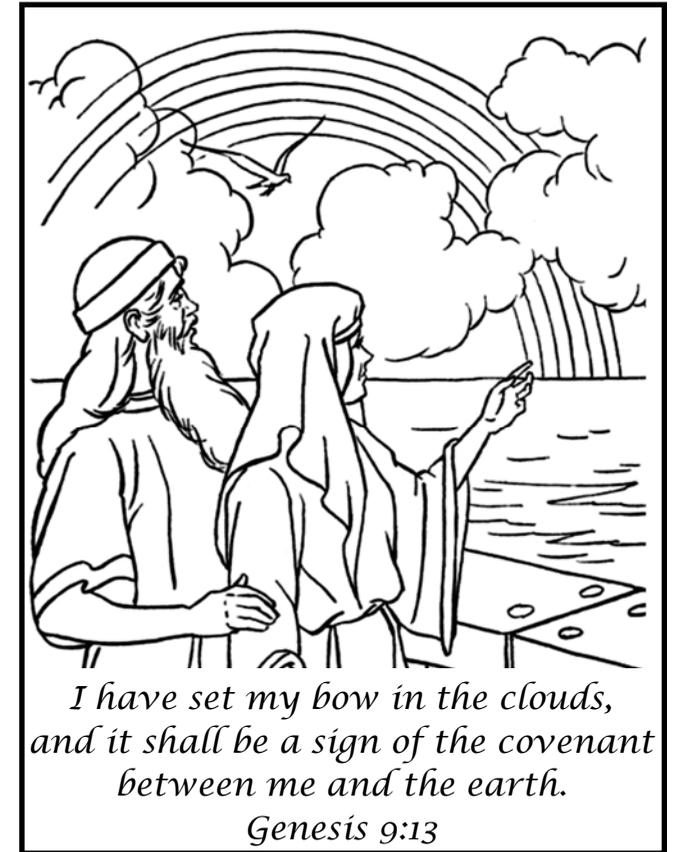
*Charge and Benediction
Go forth to live as covenant people this week.
For God is everywhere present and available.
**We would be led in God’s ways, devoting
ourselves to self-examination and growth.**
Reenter the everyday world, where Jesus walked,
learning from the example lived among us.
**We dare to walk in the power of Christ’s
resurrection, claiming our baptism as God’s
beloved children.**
Rejoice in the Spirit’s empowering gifts, for God
will enable your ministry.
**Thanks be to God for opportunities to make a
difference in the world!**
Amen. **Amen.**

*Closing Choral Response John Carter
“May the Grace of Christ Our Savior”
Sanctuary Choir

May the grace of Christ our Savior,
and the Father’s boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit’s favor
rest upon us from above.
Thus may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess in sweet communion
joys which earth cannot afford.
Amen

*Closing Voluntary Wilbur Held
“Voluntary on *Cwm Rhondda*”

*Today’s liturgy has been adapted from
Whispers of God by Lavon Bayler.*



 **Grace First**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Together – Worshipping, Witnessing, Working

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The Reverend Dr. Edith A. Gause, Interim Pastor
The Reverend David A. Slyter, Associate Pastor
Marialice Parish, M.M., Organist and Director of Music



THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

February 18, 2018

10:40 A.M.

First Sunday in Lent

**The congregation is invited to stand as music begins.
Additional worshippers may enter as the congregation sings.*

Welcome and Announcements

Welcome to God's house of worship. As we light the Christ Candle, we are reminded that Jesus is "the Light of the World" (John 8:12) and of his sustaining presence. With the pouring of the Baptismal Water, we know that we are made clean and given new life by our faith in God. Let us lift up our voices in song and prayer that we may be refreshed, and our hearts in praise and adoration that we may "walk in the newness of life" (Romans 6:4) as we joyously worship our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

(Please sign the attendance register and pass it along, greeting those near you. Guests, please share your address and telephone number with us.)

I. Gathering Around the Word

Opening Voluntary Michael Burkhardt
"My Song Is Love Unknown"

Chimes The Entrance of the Bible

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Lift up your souls to the Living God, who enters into covenant with us.

We wait on our Maker, trusting God's kindness and seeking to know God's way.

Raise your eyes to behold the risen Christ, who triumphs over death and destruction.

In Jesus Christ we renew our commitment to share the good news of God's realm.

Attune yourselves to the Holy Spirit's gifts and

leave behind the wilderness of despair.

The Spirit sets us free from limits of the flesh from bondage to sin and decay.

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn 166 *St. Flavian*
"Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We come to you, O God, an unfaithful people. We have sinned against you and done much that is evil in your sight. The shadows of sin dominate us, and our secret faults separate us from the light and knowledge of your presence. Have mercy on us, blot out our transgressions, forgive our iniquity, and remember our sin no more. Purge us and we will be clean, wash us and we will be purer than new-fallen snow. Grant us, O God, a new and right Spirit. Amen.

Silent Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Congregational Response Hymn 738, vs 1 *Maryton*
**O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret;
help me bear the strain of toil,
the fret of care.**

II. Proclaiming the Word

Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

In the covenant of baptism, you have cleaned us. In Christ, you have lifted us above the powers and authorities of this world to higher loyalties.

Make plain to us now, O God, what you expect of us. Clear our consciences and fill our lives with new purpose. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Music Ministry Carl F. Mueller
"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"
Sanctuary Choir

Create in me a clean heart, O God;
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence;
and take not thy holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation;
and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways;
and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God.

New Testament Reading Pew Bible
1 Peter 3:18-22 Page 234

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Kids' Worship

Sermon Text Pew Bible
Genesis 9:8-17 Page 7

Sermon The Rev. Dr. Edie A. Gause
LINKAGES FOR LENT: STEWARDSHIP

III. Responding to the Word

*Hymn 708 *Schumann*
"We Give Thee but Thine Own"

*Presentation of New Member

Call to Stewardship
All undesignated cash goes to the Compassion Fund.