

\*Offertory Prayer

THE LORD’S SUPPER

*Invitation to the Lord’s Table*  
*Litany of Thanksgiving*

Loving God, we thank you for mothers and fathers who lovingly raised and are raising their children and teaching them to be kind and thoughtful people. We thank you for the times they teach children how to work through difficult times, remembering they are always loved.

**We thank you for teachers and pastors who challenged us to explore meaningful ways to be servant leaders serving with compassion and a sense of justice, with openness to all your people.**

We thank you for strangers who do not look like us or sound like us, but serve as examples and role models as they lead and interact with others in tender, loving and caring ways.

**We thank you for children and youth who are curious and searching and invite us to join them on their journeys. We are grateful that they remind us of the importance of play and not taking ourselves too seriously.**

God, we also pray this day for those who do not lead with love. We pray for those who lead with a hardness of heart that shows disregard and disrespect for the human family and their welfare.

**Give all leaders hearts of love and the desire to do better and be better. Grant them forgiveness and a commitment to be among those who lead with love, purpose and compassion. Be with all your people, loving God, this day and in the days to come. Amen.**

*Pastoral Joys and Concerns of the Church*

*Prayer for the People* Choral Amen

God, the Great Healer, we pray for all of those who are hurting from the loss of a loved one, whose health is failing, and those who are recovering from surgery or sickness. Put your loving arms around the lonely, give comfort to the poor, and blessings to all in need. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, 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.**

*Words of Institution*  
*Serving of the Elements*  
*(Gluten-free bread is in small cups on each tray.)*

Communion Voluntary Hymns of the Faith

IV. Bearing and Following the Word into the World

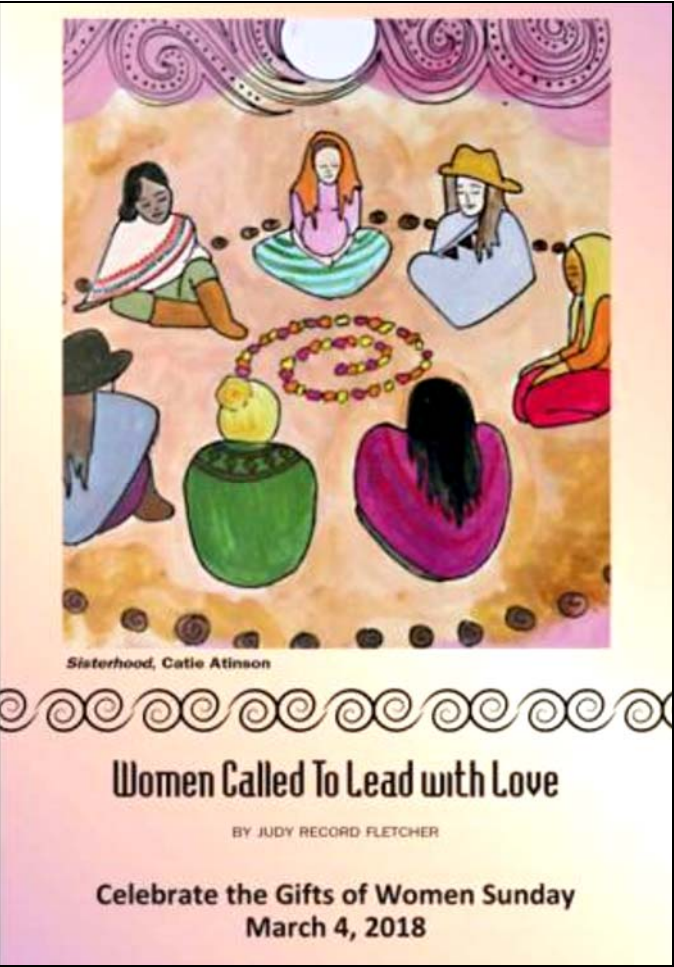
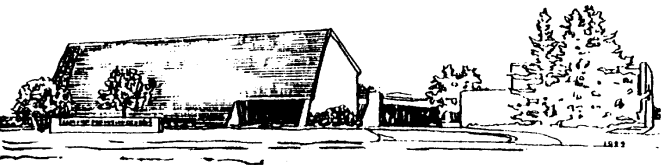
\*Hymn 722 Canonbury  
“Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

\*Invitation to Discipleship

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Closing Choral Response Hymn 747 *Enviado*  
**The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth a better place to live.  
The angels are not sent into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant to do in Jesus' name;  
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today.**

\*Closing Voluntary arr. Anna Laura Page  
“When Morning Guilds the Skies”



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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**  
March 4, 2018      10:40 A.M.

*\*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. Let us lift up our voices in song and prayer 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      Buinessan/Arr. Alfred V. Fedak  
“Like the First Bird”

Chimes      The Entrance of the Bible

Call to Worship (Responsive)  
We gather to worship God, for God is good.  
**God’s steadfast love endures forever.**  
We gather to worship God, for God has called us, God’s own people, and has given us gifts to be a faithful people.  
**We remember that God’s steadfast love endures forever.**  
Let us now offer worthy worship to God,  
**whose steadfast love endures forever.**

Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn 494      *Quebec*  
“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)  
**Loving and merciful God, you have searched us and known us and still you love us. We confess that we take this**

**love and mercy for granted; we are careless with our gifts and resources, and we refuse to focus on you and your will for all creation. You call us to lead with love but we are reluctant leaders or we lead with only rules and efficiency in mind. Grant us, O God, caring hearts, attentive minds and renewed commitment to follow you and to help lead others to you. In the saving grace of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession...

Assurance of Forgiveness

\*Congregational Response      Hymn 213 (v. 4)      *Rathbun*  
**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure,  
joys that through all time abide.**

**II. Proclaiming the Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Music Ministry      Charles Wood/Sanctuary Choir  
“Expectans Expectavi”  
(This Sanctuary of My Soul)

This sanctuary of my soul,  
Unwitting I keep pure and whole,  
Unlatch’d and lit if Thou shouldst care  
To enter or to tarry there.  
With parted lips and outstretch’d hands  
And list’ning ears Thy servant stands.  
Call Thou early, call Thou late,  
To Thy great service dedicate.  
My soul, keep pure and whole.

Old Testament Reading      Pew Bible  
1 Kings 2:1–3      Page 304

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Anthem      Dorothy Christopherson  
“Lord, Bless My Growing”  
Carol Choir

Lord, bless my growing!  
I know your word, unchanging Lord,  
you have promised me, your child I’ll always be.  
Lord, bless my growing, bless my knowing,  
Bless my growing years.  
Lord, love my changing!  
I need your care, unchanging Lord,  
I will trust in you, my faith each day renew.  
Lord, love my changing, love my wond’ring,  
Lord my growing years.  
Lord, guide my journey!  
I’ll follow you, unchanging Lord, you will light my way.  
My heart will never stray.  
Lord, guide my journey, guide my footsteps,  
guide my growing years.

Kids’ Worship

Sermon Text      Pew Bible  
Ephesians 4:1–6      Page 193

Sermon      The Rev. Dr. Edith A. Gause  
*LINKAGES FOR LENT: LOVE*

**III. Responding to the Word**

\*Hymn 324      *Nyland*  
“For All the Faithful Women”

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

Offertory      June Nixon  
“Prelude on *Rockingham*”

\*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.**