



7:00 PM

March 9, 2011

*An offering will be received in the baskets at the center doors as you leave. It will be given to Knoxville FISH Hospitality Pantries serving people in need.*

### THE GATHERING

**PRELUDE** Von Gott will ich nicht lassen (I) Dieterich Buxtehude  
*From God I Shall Not Turn*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** John 3:17, Psalm 46:1-3

**Leader:** God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

**People:** **God's love endures forever.**

**Leader:** God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**People:** **God's love endures forever.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMN NO. 85 (blue hymnal) What Wondrous Love Is This

*Wondrous Love*

### THE WORD

\*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

**God, by your Holy Spirit open our minds, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

**Leader:** The Gospel of the Lord.

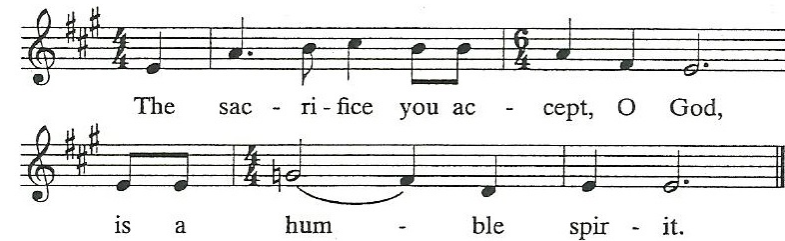
**People:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SILENCE AND MEDITATION ON THE SCRIPTURES

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Psalm 51:1-17 (responsive)



Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving kindness;  
in your great compassion, blot out my offenses.  
Wash me through and through from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin. **Refrain.**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.  
Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.  
And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgement.  
Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb. **Refrain.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,  
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.  
Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.  
Make me hear of joy and gladness,  
and the body you have broken may rejoice.  
Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not from your presence  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me. *Refrain.*

Give me the joy of your saving help again  
and sustain me with your bountiful spirit.  
I shall teach your ways to the wicked,  
and sinners shall return to you.  
Deliver me from death, O God,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness,  
O God of my salvation.  
Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,  
but you take no delight in burnt offerings.  
The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. *Refrain.*

SILENCE

LITANY OF PENITENCE (responsive)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole community of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**People: have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**People: Have mercy on us, O God.**

Leader: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness: The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives, our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people, our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

**People: we confess to you, O God.**

Leader: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

**People: we confess to you, O God.**

Leader: Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

**People: accept our repentance, O God.**

Leader: For all false judgements and uncharitable thoughts, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

**People: accept our repentance, O God.**

Leader: For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

**People: accept our repentance, O God.**

Leader: Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**People: Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES (*The people uniting.*)

**Almighty God, you have created us out of dust of the earth. May these ashes be for us a sign of our mortality and penitence, and a reminder that only by your gracious gift are we given everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*The people are invited to come forward to receive ashes: Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.*

PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER

## THE SENDING

\*HYMN NO. 82 O Lamb of God Most Holy!

*O Lamm Gottes*

\*BENEDICTION

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The people will greet their neighbors with the words, **"Peace be with you."** The appropriate response is: **"And also with you."**

Departure in meditative silence.

A Lenten Series will be offered each Wednesday evening beginning February 24 through March 31. We will gather at 5:45 p.m. for a simple meal of soup and bread, followed by a service of evening prayers in the sanctuary. This reflective time focuses on scripture, song and prayer as we prepare ourselves for Easter.

A five week study on breath prayer, led by Ginny Baker, will begin on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> and conclude on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in the McKinnon Room for about an hour immediately following the Lenten service in the Sanctuary. "The Breath Prayer is a short prayer of praise and petition that is meant to help us become aware of the presence of God. 'It is a way to have on our lips what is always in our heart.'" Those interested are asked to sign up on the bulletin board in the Schilling Gallery or call the church office so that we may have enough books. Books are \$10 and will be available at the first session. Adult Lenten Study  
Learning Forgiveness

A six-week study from The Thoughtful Christian entitled "Learning Forgiveness" will begin on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Some of the topics to be discussed include "Who Needs Forgiveness?," "God's Love and Judgment," "The Call to Forgive," and "Forgiveness and Reconciliation." Copies of the first lesson will be available in the Narthex on March 6<sup>th</sup> and in the office during the week. Join us in the McKinnon Room during Lent for this unique journey.

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Ginny Harville Baker, Director of Christian Formation and Lay Ministries  
Angela Grobe, Children Christian Education  
Barbara Adamcik, Youth Director  
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Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant  
Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

*"Where Faith and Life Connect"*

## THE SESSION

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Anne Dungan  
Judy Jorden  
Stephanie Lynch-Wright  
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