

**HOPE CHURCH
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**

March 08, 2015 ~ 11:00 AM

THE APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE *Variations on Wondrous Love*

David Dahl

CALL TO WORSHIP Red #719 *God's Glory Fills the Heavens*

CREATION

God's glory fills the heavens with hymns; the domed sky bears the Makers' mark.
New praises sound from day to day and echo through the knowing dark.
Without a word their songs roll on; into all lands their voices run.
And with a champion's strength and grace from farthest heaven comes forth the sun.
God's perfect law revives the soul; its precepts make the simple wise.
Its just commands rejoice the heart; its truth gives light unto the eyes.
For ever shall this law endure: unblemished, righteous, true, complete.
No gold was ever found so fine, no honey in the comb more sweet.

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VOTUM AND SENTENCES

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Amen.

Psalm 124:8

The promises of God are eternal;

God's covenant love never ends.

**Renew us, Living God,
in your grace and our gratitude.**

In all God's ways we rejoice,
joining all creation in praise to God:

"the heavens are telling the glory of God!"

Psalm 19:1

We worship God not through our own wisdom,

**but through Christ,
the power and foolishness and wisdom of God.**

In all the journeys of life,
in this Lenten journey of sacrifice and promise:

**renew us, Living God,
in your grace and our gratitude.**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN Red #579 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

*SALUTATION

*Congregation standing as able

Bold type indicates congregational response

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Red #639 *Lord, Have Mercy*

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy on us." The second staff continues the melody for the second line: "Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, on — us." The word "on" is followed by a long horizontal line indicating a sustained note.

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Christ our Savior,
we confess that we accept the faulty wisdom of the world
to determine what is reliable and true;
**Turn us again to your saving power
found in the foolishness of the cross –
the power and wisdom of God for us and for the world.**

prayer continues in stillness

Holy Spirit,
flame of God for righteousness,
cleansing breath of life and source of wisdom;
**overturn in us all that keeps us from you,
all that diminishes others and ourselves,
all that denies your ways and shuts us off from your grace.**

prayer continues in stillness

sing "Lord Have Mercy" as above

WORDS OF ASSURANCE & LAW AS GUIDE FOR GRATEFUL LIVING

In the blessing of God's law we receive the way of life;

**"the law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul and more precious than gold."**

Psalms 19:7, 10

In the challenge of God's law we hear the call to faithfulness;

"you shall have no other gods before me."

Exodus 20:2

The commandments of the LORD are clear and true,
giving light to our eyes and wisdom for our path;

**"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer."**

Psalms 19:14

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

Children ages 3 through grade 5 leave for Children in Worship

THE WORD OF GOD

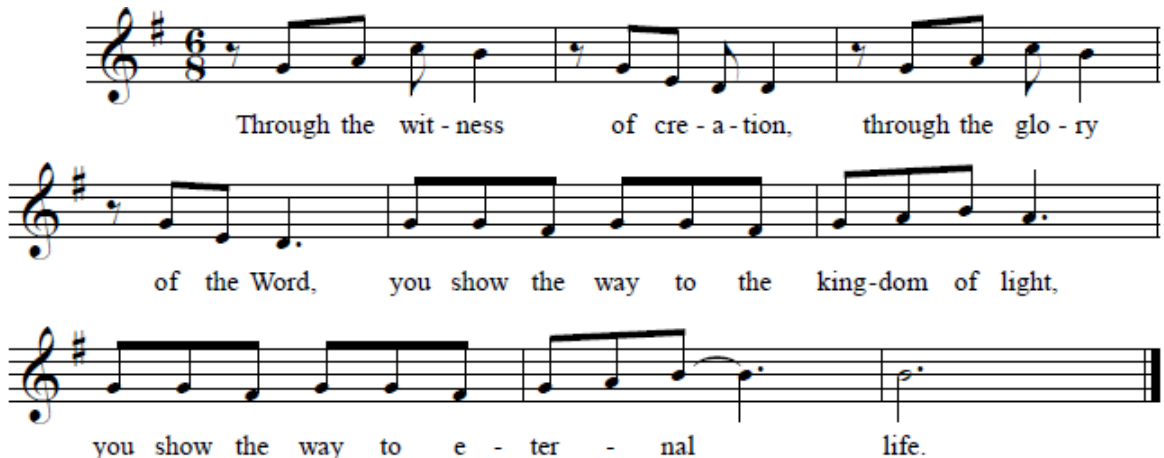
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Red #757 *O Word of God Incarnate*

MUNICH

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise you for the radiance that from the Scripture's page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Red #722 *Litany: The Ten Commandments*

PSALM 19



Through the wit-ness of cre-a-tion, through the glo-ry
of the Word, you show the way to the king-dom of light,
you show the way to e-ter-nal life.

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The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge. *Refrain*

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are pure and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb. *Refrain*
Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. *Refrain*

THE EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

p.926

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL LESSON John 2:13-22

p.863

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *Tending Wisdom*

PRAYER FOR BLESSING ~ *silent meditation*

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*CONFESSION OF FAITH *Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

LIFE OF HOPE

CALL TO PRAYER Red #320 *Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading*
stanzas 1,3

NJOO KWETU ROHO MWEMA

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

Throughout the prayer the following response will be used:

Hear our prayer, O God,

Our Rock and our Redeemer.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, and pass it back.

Offertory *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Robert A. Hobby

*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below;

praise God above, ye heavenly host;

***praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost, Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

*RECESSIONAL HYMN Red #859 *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Final Variation on Wondrous Love*

David Dahl

Leading in worship today are Rev. Gordon Wiersma, preaching; Julia Brown, liturgist; Andrew Spidahl, reader; Tom Mullens, Crucifer; Chancel Choir directed by Brian Carder; Rhonda Edgington, organist.

Pastor Gordon Wiersma will be on vacation March 11-18. Pray for rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation as he spends this time with his family and friends.

In this season of Lent & Eastertide we are using the new hymnal, *Lift Up Your Hearts* (Red) in our worship. The new *Glory to God* purple hymnal that was used for the past several months will be returned to the pews this summer alongside *Lift Up Your Hearts*, held in new hymnal racks that will be installed. The *LUYH* hymnal was developed with the joint leadership of CRC/RCA leaders, and we are happy to introduce this compilation of hymns, psalms, and worship songs to our congregation. In April there will be a 2-session Adult Ed. calls to give further background and introduction to both of our new hymnals.