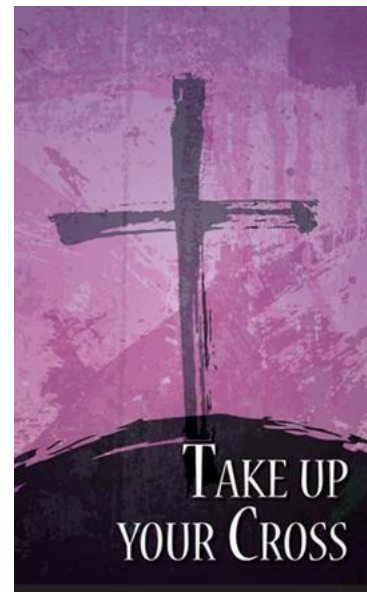


Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day

3rd Sunday in Lent
March 24, 2019



† Those who are able, please stand

Westminster Peal

Prelude *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"* Frederick C. Maker (1844-1927), arr. Jan Sanborn

GATHERING

Welcome and Church Family Life

Rev. Susan Haynes

Choral Introit

"Thou Art My God"
*O God, thou art my God.
Early will I seek thee.
My soul thirsteth for thee
To see thy power and thy glory,
Thy loving kindness.
My lips shall praise thee!*

Matthias Young

† Gathering as the Children of God

Rev. Haynes

One: Isaiah 40:31 says, "Those who wait upon the LORD will renew their strength.

All: *We will wait on you, Lord.*

One: Psalm 37:7 says, "Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him."

All: *We will wait on you, Lord.*

One: Psalm 40:1 says, "I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry."

All: *We will wait on you, Lord.*

One: Lamentations 3:24 says, "The LORD is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

All: *We will wait on you, Lord, today and every day and in this hour of worship.*

† Hymn No. 482

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

† Prayer of Confession (*unison*)

Dale Morine

Gracious God, we bow before you.

We confess our hurry, our busyness, our rushing about.

We fight against stillness, against quiet, against waiting.

In this day and age, waiting is an inconvenience and stirs in us anger and frustration.

Yet, what we need is to wait on you.

You have asked us to wait – to be still, to listen, to quiet ourselves, to wait.

It is in those moments when we sit in waiting that we are able to hear you,

to feel you, to experience your abiding presence.

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*Slow us down, God.
Help us to relish stillness, to love quiet, and to embrace waiting.
Thank you for your grace as we put this into practice. Amen.*

† Assurance of Pardon Dale Morine
Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!
People: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*

† Response (#347) *"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"*
v. 1 *"Forgive our sins as we forgive," You taught us, Lord to pray.
But You alone can grant us grace To live the words we say.*
v. 4 *Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls And bid resentment cease.
Then, bound to all in bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.*

† Passing of the Peace Dale Morine
One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: *And also with you.*

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination Elizabeth Small

Old Testament Scripture Isaiah 55:1-9 Elizabeth Small

Anthem/Special Music "Ah, Lord, Thy Dear Sweet Angels Send" J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
*Ah, Lord, Thy dear sweet angels send,
In my last hour my soul attend,
To Abraham's arms bear it.
This body in its narrow room
So softly rests from pain and gloom,
And waits the day prepared it.
Ah, then from death awaken me,
Unbind my eyes that I may see
In boundless joy Thy Holy Face,
My Savior, and my Throne of Grace!
Lord Jesus Christ, O hear Thou me,
O hear Thou me!
I will Thee praise eternally!*

Gospel Lesson Luke 13:1-9 Rev. Haynes
One: This is the word of the Lord.
All: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon *"Why Must We Wait?"* Rev. Haynes

† Affirmation of Faith from The Heidelberg Confession - questions 40 - 45 Rev. Haynes
One: Why did Christ have to suffer "death"?
All: *Because the righteousness and truth of God are such that nothing else could
make reparation for our sins except the death of the Son of God.*
One: Why was he "buried"?
All: *To confirm the fact that he was really dead.*
One: Since then, Christ died for us, why must we also die?
All: *Our death is not a reparation for our sins, but only a dying to sin and an
entering into eternal life.*

One: What further benefit do we receive from the sacrifice and death of Christ on the cross?

All: *That by his power our old self is crucified, put to death, and buried with him, so that the evil passions of our mortal bodies may reign in us no more, but that we may offer ourselves to him as a sacrifice of thanksgiving.*

One: Why is there added: "He descended into hell"?

All: *That in my severest tribulations I may be assured that Christ my Lord has redeemed me from hellish anxieties and torment by the unspeakable anguish, pains, and terrors which he suffered in his soul both on the cross and before.*

One: What benefit do we receive from "the resurrection" of Christ?

All: *First, by his resurrection he has overcome death that he might make us share in the righteousness which he has obtained for us through his death.*

Second, we too are now raised by his power to a new life.

Third, the resurrection of Christ is a sure pledge to us our blessed resurrection.

† Hymn No. 324

"Open My Eyes That I May See"

Prayers of the People

Elizabeth Small

THANKSGIVING AND OFFERING

Offering

Elizabeth Small

Offertory

"We Are an Offering"

Dwight Liles, Arr. Mark Hayes

† Doxology (hymn #592)

"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.*

† Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Haynes

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.

SENDING

† Closing Hymn No. 341

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"

† Benediction

Rev. Haynes

† Congregational Response (#535)

"Go With Us, Lord"

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

*Go with us Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true
Our lives may be our gift to You.*

† Postlude

"Suite Gothique," Op. 25: IV. Toccata

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)



MVPC Mission Statement

Blessed to Be a Blessing

We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service*.

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God's will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.



Giving to MVPC is easy online
<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>

MVPC Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor
Elizabeth Small, Interim Dir. of Congregational Care
Matthias Young, Interim Dir. of Music
Dr. Won-Hee An, Organist
Steve Ray, Church Finance & Operations

Jill Thompson, Administrative Assistant
Yvonne White, Financial Secretary
Lauren McClintock, Communications & Membership Coord.
Mike Gillespie, Director of Christian Education