



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 12, 2006

Eleven o'clock

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

THE GATHERING

The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship. In the spirit of Christian fellowship, we invite you to wear a name tag which is available from the greeters. As a community that prays with and for one another, we invite you to share your joys and concerns by using the blue cards available from the ushers and in the welcome pad folders. Those parts of the Service of Worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in bold type.

**Stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

When I Can Read My Title Clear
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy *arr. Judy Endean*
CHANCEL RINGERS

* HYMN 488

The God of Abraham Praise *Leoni*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:	All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to God.
People:	<i>All the families of the nations, shall bow down and worship.</i>
Leader:	God has not ignored or despised the afflicted.
People:	<i>God's face is not hidden; every human cry is heard.</i>
All:	Let the children of God give praise!

INTROIT

Iain Quinn

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy; Come let us adore him. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please use the welcome pad in the blue folder at the end of the pew. Record your presence. Pass it back, noticing who is worshiping with you. When the pad has been returned, please tear off the sheet and place it in the offering plate.)

MINUTE FOR MISSION Michael Stuart

MINUTE FOR OUTREACH Gwen McLoud

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

God of mercy and grace, we confess that when temptation has come our way we have often failed to meet its challenge. We have strayed from what we know to be right. We have taken the easy way instead of the way that leads to life. We have sought our security in mere possessions, status, and wealth instead of placing our trust in you. Forgive us, we pray, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PRAYERS OF SILENT AND INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

KYRIE Hymnal No. 565

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Our mighty God is far more willing and able to forgive than we are to ask. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: **This is God's amazing gift of grace! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

created by Emily Ye and adapted by Marianne Montero and presented by the After School Kids: Victoria Kwak, Joy Okorie, Ilta Schulzrinne, Sommer Thomas and Emily, Ruth & Stephen Ye with Marianne Montero and Carol Schulzrinne.

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: Let us open our hearts to one another as Christ has opened his heart to us, and God will be glorified.

People: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(Exchange Signs of Reconciliation and the Peace of Christ with your neighbor - e.g., *“The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.”*)

Response - *“And also with you.”*)

† *Children and Youth may now leave for their classes.*

* **HYMN 275**

God of Our Life

Sandon

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

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.

CHORAL PRAYER RESPONSE

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

ANTHEM Pie Jesu (from “Requiem”) *John Rutter*

Margot Bennett, soprano

Pie Jesu Domine dona eis requiem.

Merciful Lord Jesus grant them rest.

NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 4:13-25

SERMON “It’s Not All Small Stuff” Rev. Richard S. Hong

OFFERTORY I Want Jesus to Walk with Me *Roderick Williams*

Christopher Schaljo, piano

(The text may be found in the Hymnal at No. 363)

* THE DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

THE SENDING OUT

* HYMN 421

The Church of Christ in Every Age

Wareham

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

O God, Our Faithful God

Johannes Brahms

(Our worship ends with the conclusion of the Postlude. It is the custom of our church to remain seated. Those who wish to leave may do so.)

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TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (NRSV)**

1 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. *2* And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." *3* Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,

4 "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. *5* No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. *6* I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

7 I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

15 God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. *16* I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Romans 4:13-25 (NRSV)

13 For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. *14* If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. *15* For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. *16* For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,

17 as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. *18* Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be."

19 He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. *20* No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, *21* being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. *22* Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness."

23 Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, *24* but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, *25* who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.