FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

February 18, 2024, at 10:00am FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

GATHERING

PRESERVICE MUSIC

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

"Baptized in Water"

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

"God Is Calling through the Whisper"

"Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me"

"God of the Sparrow"

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

"Surely the Presence of the Lord"

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS/ PRAYER REQUESTS

OPENING PRAYER

CHIMES

PRELUDE "Seek Ye First" (Wagner)

CALL TO WORSHIP

(based on Psalm 25)

O God, in you we trust. **Lead us in your truth and teach us,**for you are the God of our salvation; **for you we wait, for you we worship.**

*OPENING HYMN #22

"God of the Sparrow" (Schalk)

CALL TO CONFESSION

We pause here to examine our lives, our temptations, and the ways we have fallen short before our God. Let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, as we begin this Lenten wilderness journey with Jesus, we confess our neglect of you and our faith. We make idols of nation, money and power. We build walls instead of better relationships. We fail to follow Jesus to the poor, the destitute, the stranger. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our faith so we can leave this wilderness season in the right relationship with you. Amen.

(Please take a moment for silent confession.)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Remember and receive these hopeful words from John 8:31-32, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Receive God's truth. Receive God's grace. Accept the freedom God provides. **Amen.**

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

*HYMN #582

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" (Vasile)

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Please exchange these words with your neighbors: "The peace of the Lord be with you." "And also with you."

REFLECTION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Reverend Rose McCurdy

DUET

"Blessed Assurance" (Arr. DeCesare) (Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of grace, help us seek you and the truth you intend for us today. Let us not be distracted by worldly pursuits or pleasures. Help us to focus our hearts and minds on you and your Word read and proclaimed. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING

Mark 10:17-31

SECOND READING

Genesis 2:4-10

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON I believe.... What?!?: "God the father Almighty"

Reverend Rose McCurdy

*HYMN #738

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" (Smith)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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 again 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

"Ave Verum" (Mozart)

*DOXOLOGY #606

Genevan Psalter

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.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #340

"This Is My Song" (Sibelius)
(February Hymn of the Month)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed. Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.

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