



# GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

11100 College Blvd., Overland Park, KS 66210 ♦ 913-345-1256 ♦ gcpc.org

Service of Worship  
Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2018 11:05am

*Gathering All People in a Caring Christian Community*

GATHERING MUSIC Gaelic melody  
"Morning Has Broken"  
Cal Sweeten, dulcimer

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Fred Holbrook  
*(Please sign and pass the Grace Greetings books at this time.)*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP  
One: The early church was threatened and persecuted, but they stood firm.  
**All: The church throughout the ages has faced threats and persecution over and over, yet has stood firm for Christ.**  
One: The church continues to stand firmly in the love, mercy, and peace of Christ.  
**All: During this season of Lent, we stand ready—ready to worship, to love, and to serve.**

\*HYMN 399 "God Welcomes All" THEMBA AMEN

COME AS A CHILD  
*(There is no Awakening to Worship this morning. Our Nursery welcomes young children and the ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing.)*

Sing #300 "We Are One in the Spirit"  
*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;  
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,  
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(antiphonal)*  
One: Almighty God, you alone are good and holy. Purify our lives and make us brave disciples. We do not ask you to keep us safe, but to keep us loyal, so we may serve Jesus Christ, who, tempted in every way as we are, was faithful to you.  
Left: From lack of reverence for truth and beauty; from a calculating or sentimental mind; from going along with mean and ugly things;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Right: From cowardice that dares not face truth; laziness content with half-truth; or arrogance that thinks we know it all;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Left: From artificial life and worship; from all that is hollow or insincere;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Right: From trite ideals and cheap pleasures; from mistaking hard vulgarity for humor;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Left: From being dull, pompous, or rude; from putting down our neighbors;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Right: From cynicism about others; from intolerance or cruel indifference;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Left: From being satisfied with things as they are, in the church or in the world; from failing to share your indignation about injustice;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Right: From selfishness, self-indulgence, or self-pity;  
**All: O God, deliver us.**  
Left: From token concern for the poor, for lonely or loveless people; from confusing faith with good feeling, or love with wanting to be loved;  
**All: O God, deliver us. For everything in us that may hide your light, O God, light of life, forgive us. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON  
One: Friends, as far as the east is from the west, as far as the north is from the south, our transgressions have been removed from us. Declare the good news of the gospel with me:  
**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
One: May the peace of Christ be with you and everyone.  
**All: And also with you and all others!**  
*(Let us greet one another with expressions of love.)*

\*HYMN 702 "Christ Be Beside Me" BUNESSAN

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND SILENT PRAYER

*Equipping People to Develop and Share a  
Faith That Works in Real Life*

SUNG SCRIPTURE "The Lord Is My Light" by Craig Courtney  
Chancel Choir Based on Psalm 27:1-6  
*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear,  
of whom shall I be afraid? Though evil-doers assail me,  
when adversaries attack me, they stumble and fall.  
The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear,  
of whom shall I be afraid? Though an army besiege me,  
though war break out against me, my heart will not fear.  
One thing I ask, one thing I seek of the Lord:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.  
For in the day of trouble he will hide me in his dwelling;  
and he will set me high upon a rock.  
Then shall my head be exalted above my enemies round about me;  
I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.  
The Lord is my light and my salvation, the Lord is my light!*

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Acts 4:5-13, 18, 23-31 Anne Stroud  
*(New Testament, Page 121)*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words.  
**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "Peter's Conviction" Fred Holbrook

*Sending People to Serve in the World*

OFFERING OF GIFTS & MUSIC  
"Shines the Light" Music by Lee Dengler  
Cal Sweeten, dulcimer; Edwin Fukunaga, piano  
*On the edge of a day dimmed with grief and sorrow,  
though the dark would consume that radiance so bright,  
from a rough wooden cross on a hillside called Calvary  
shines the light that is Jesus. Alleluia!*

\*HYMN 726 "Will You Come and Follow Me" KELVINGROVE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Linda Dover, organ

*\*If convenient/able, please stand.*

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