Homecrest Presbyterian Church

Worship of the Lord's Day March 13th, 2016

5th Sunday in Lent



Forget what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly calling. (Philippians 3:4-14)

<u>Gathering Around the WORD</u> Call To Worship

(Based on Isaiah 43:18-21)

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. For God says, "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

The wild animals will honor God, the jackals and the ostriches; for God will give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to God's chosen people. We have been formed by God so that we may declare God's praise.

Gathering Hymn #74 "When God Restored Our Common Life"

When God restored our common life, our hope, our liberty, at first it seemed a passing dream, a waking fantasy; a shock of joy swept over us, for we had wept so long; the seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.

Gathering Hymn #74 "When God Restored Our Common Life"

We went forth weeping, sowing seeds in hard, unyielding soil; with laughing hearts we carry home the fruit of all our toil. We praise the One who gave the growth, with voices full and strong. The seeds we watered once with tears sprang up into a song.

Gathering Hymn #74 "When God Restored Our Common Life"

Great liberating God, we pray for all who are oppressed. May those who long for what is right with justice now be blest. We pray for those who mourn this day, and all who suffer wrong; may seeds they water now with tears spring up into a song.

Gathering Around the WORD Call to Confession

Sisters and brothers, if we ask God to restore us to the way we have been, then we have not asked for as much as God intends to give. God is not content simply to return or restore us to former things. Instead, God seeks to give the gift of resurrection – a new and abundant life. With confidence in God's generosity, let us confess our sins and seek the new life offered through Christ.

Gathering Around the WORD Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Purifying God, we grow comfortable with the way things are in our lives, in the church, and in the world. We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ, for you overturn our notions of power and protocol. Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others. Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifs you give us.

Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others. Help us bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice.

Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world, with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

Gathering Around the WORD Passing of the Peace of Christ

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

(I John 4:7-8)



Proclaiming the WORD Message to the Youth/ Prayer of Illumination

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13 Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.



Responding Hymn #846 "Fight the Good Fight"

Fight the good fight with all thy might.

Christ is thy strength

and Christ thy right.

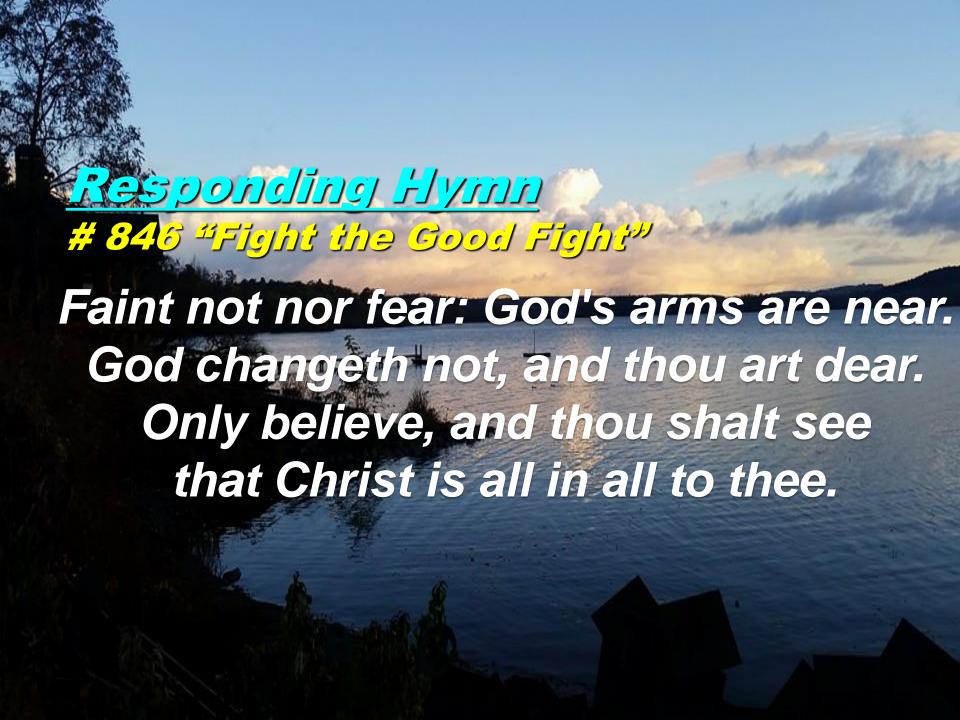
Lay hold on life, and it shall be

thy joy and crown eternally.

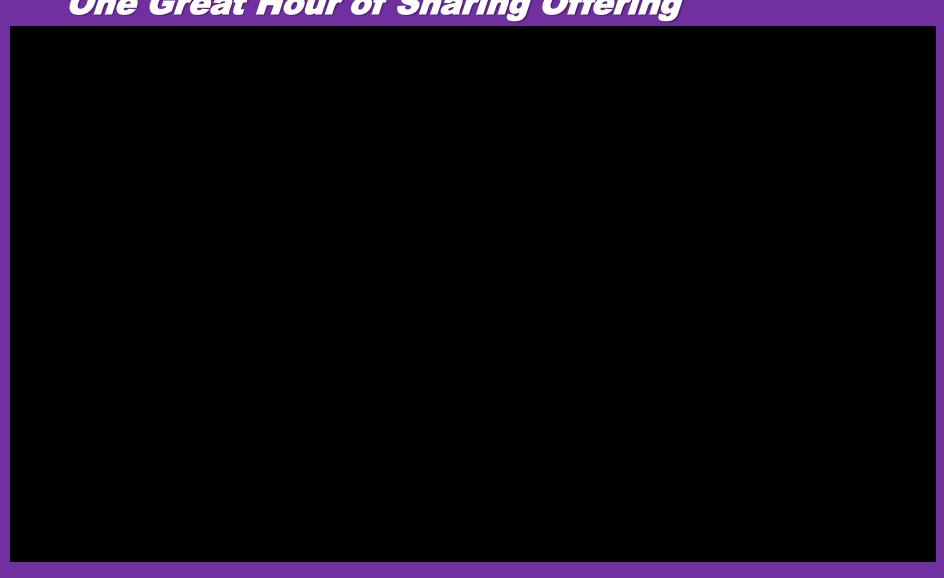


Run the straight race through God's good grace; lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face. Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.





Responding to the WORD Moment of Mission One Great Hour of Sharing Offering



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns

- We will continue our regular afternoon Bible Study group today. We will be studying a seven-part series on the Seven Days of Glory: Holy Week in preparation of the coming Lenten Season. Please join us downstairs at 12:30 in the basement. All are welcomed.
- The Women's Group will be meeting over at the Manse (2048 E 14th Street) every Wednesday evening @ 7:30pm. They are currently studying the book of Genesis. They will also be meeting every other Sunday morning before service at 9:30am over at the Manse for prayers and fellowship. For more information, please contact Margaret Lesman or Cara Chin.

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Announcements & Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Upcoming Dates:

3/19	St. Patrick's Day Dinner (6pm)
3/20	Palm Sunday after Church –
	Distribution of Palm Crosses
	at St. Joachim & Anne Nursing Home
3/25	Good Friday Service (7pm)
	(Service joined by Resurrection Sheepshead Bay)
3/27	Resurrection (Easter) Sunday (11am)

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Prayer of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven.

Halloweth be thy name.

Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our debts; as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptations, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever.

Amen.

Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Offering of our Gifts and our Lives

Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly."

And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."





Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Doxology and Offertory Prayer

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. Sending Hymn

203 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

Lesu Jesu fill us with your love:

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Master who acts as a slave to them.

Sending Hymn # 203 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Neighbors are wealthy and poor, varied in color and race; neighbors are near us and far away.

Sending Hymn # 203 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should love; all these are neighbors to us and you.

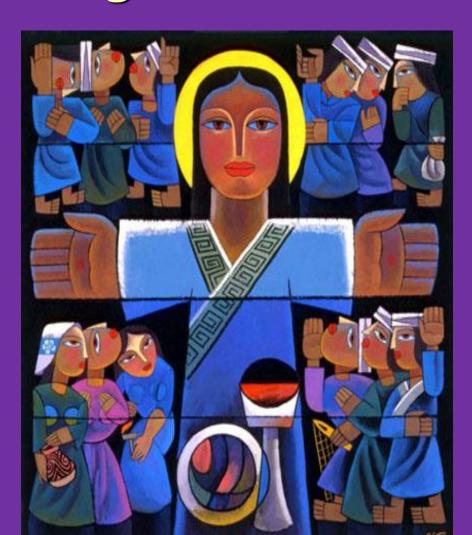
Sending Hymn # 203 "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love"

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love; show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Loving puts us on our knees, willing to wash others' feet; this is the way we should live like you.



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World The Charge and Benediction



Bearing and Following the WORD into the World Benediction Response

#140 "Shalom, Chavarim! Farewell, Good Friends"

Shalom, Good friends!
Shalom, Good friends!
Shalom, Shalom!
Till we meet again, till we meet again,
Shalom, Shalom.

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