

CALL TO CONFESSION

And yet. . . on some days, our singing voice falters under the weight of our own sin. Indeed, on Sunday morning, we sing out with gusto and conviction, and on Monday, we go back to singing our own song, a song filled with self-pity, a song which alienates and demeans, a selfish song. O God, hear now our silent songs of confession and lament.

CONFESSION OF SIN (Based on 1 Sam. 2:1-10)

Our hearts exult in the LORD.

Forgive us, O God, when our pride gets in the way of doing your will and serving one another.

Forgive us when the words that fall from our lips display our arrogance and disrespect for Creation and all its creatures.

Remind us again that new life comes out of death, and that new songs can be sung every morning.

O God you make the rich poor and raise the poor from the dust.

You lift up the needy from the ash heap. Lift up our spirits here in this place.

Lift us out of darkness and deliver us into the light of your love.

Anoint us with your healing touch and hear our silent prayers.

SILENT PRAYERS

SUNG RESPONSE

HS No. 70

Kyrie eleison. (x4)

Christe eleison. (x4)

Kyrie eleison. (x4)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Based on Ps. 27:6)

Hear these words from the Psalmist: "Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in God's presence sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD." In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

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*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

No. 83

All glory to our Lord and God

For love so deep, so high, so broad:

The Trinity whom we adore

Forever and forevermore.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

A TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

GOD'S WORD TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 1:9-15

(OT pg. 33)

ANTHEM

Sweet Spirit, Comfort Me

Russell Schulz-Widmar

GOSPEL LESSON

Acts 16:16-26

(NT pg. 128)

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel to Be Free

Ken Henry

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Grateful for God's loving action,

We cannot keep from singing.

God is creative and self-giving, generously moving in all the near and distant corners of the universe.

Nothing exists that does not find its source in God.

Our first response to God's providence is gratitude.

We sing thanksgiving.

Finding ourselves in a world of beauty and mystery,

of living things, diverse and interdependent,

of complex patterns of growth and evolution,

of subatomic particles and cosmic swirls,

We sing of God the Creator,

the Maker and Source of all that is.

God forgives. God reconciles. God transforms,

and calls us to protect the vulnerable, to pray for

deliverance from evil, to work with God for the healing of the world,

that all might have abundant life.



Westminster Presbyterian Church
Charlottesville, Virginia

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2018

"Those who wish to sing, always find song."
—Swedish Proverb

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

OPENING VOLUNTARY
Kyrie: Plainchant & Fugue François Couperin

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
Worthy is the Lamb!
Blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

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***HYMN** *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* No. 83
(verses 1 - 4)

We sing of grace.

*We sing of a church seeking to continue the story of Jesus
by embodying Christ's presence in the world.
We are called together by Christ as a community of broken
but hopeful believers, loving what he loved, living what he taught,
striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place.
Grateful for God's loving action in Christ Jesus,
We cannot keep from singing.*

***HYMN** *How Can I Keep From Singing* HS No. 42

**PRAYER CONCERNS AND PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION
CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Hymnal, p. 16)

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY (8:30) *Récit de cornet* François Couperin
(11:00) *Haste Thee, O God* Adrian Batten

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING** HS No. 52
**Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose every gift which you impart.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN** *The Glory of These Forty Days* No. 87

***THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Kyrie: Récit de chromhorne* François Couperin

**SILENT
PRAYER AND
MEDITATION**

*We are the young-
our lives are a
mystery, we are
the old who yearn
for your face,
we have been sung
throughout all of
history,
called to be light
to the whole
human race.
Gather us in the
rich and
the haughty,
gather us in the
proud and the
strong; give us a
heart so meek and
so lowly, give us
the courage
to enter the song.
Amen.*

from *Gather Us In*
By Marty Haugen
H.S. no. 51

*Congregation may stand. #Latecomers seated.
Please turn off cell phones during the service.