

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

March 10, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

Carrie Todd

OPENING REFLECTION

"When You said, "Seek My face," my heart said to You, "Your face, O Lord, I shall seek."" (Psalm 27:8)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

The early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord's passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus and the need we all have to renew our faith. You are invited in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, to observe a holy Lent: Let us join together in cultivating fruitfulness by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting and abstinence; and by reading and meditating on God's Holy Word. May we all grow in faith as we prepare ourselves for the coming celebration of Easter.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

****SONG** *Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated* #490

GOD DRAWS US NEAR

UNISON PRAYER

Lord, we would grow with you, new shoots reaching out, hands stretched upward, like leaves newly formed soaking up your light and warmth,

Lord, we would grow with you.

*** All who are able, please stand*

Lord, we would grow with you in sunshine and rain, in darkness and light, in cold days and summer days from Winter to Springtime,

Lord, we would grow with you.

Lord, we would grow with you, and bring forth fruit that is pleasing to you, fed by your living water, giving sustenance to others,

Lord, we would grow with you. Amen.

FIRST READING Luke 11:5-13 (Pew Bible NT p. 72)

MINISTRY MOMENT *"Devotional Reading Resources"*

**** SONG** *Open My Eyes, That I May See* #395

DISCIPLE'S MOMENT

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER ('...forgive us our sins')

GLORIA PATRI (#704)

SECOND READING Luke 8:4-15 (Pew Bible NT p. 67)

SERMON *"Cultivating Fruitfulness Through Seeking"*

WE RESPOND IN FAITHFULNESS

MUSICAL MEDITATION Carrie Todd

How can I cultivate fruitfulness in my life this Lent?

What one new thing will I do to grow my spirit during this season?

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

OFFERTORY MUSIC Carrie Johnson

****THE DOXOLOGY** (#706)

****PRAYER OF BLESSING**

****SONG** *Seek Ye First* #436

****BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Carrie Johnson