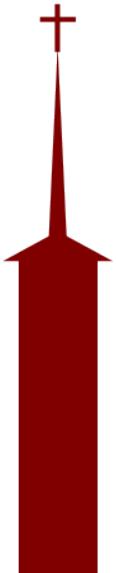


FEBRUARY 18, 2018

1ST SUNDAY IN LENT

*A Message To
The Early Church*



Beckwith Hills Christian Reformed Church

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THE SEASON OF LENT

LENT is a season of preparation and repentance during which we anticipate Good Friday and Easter. Just as we carefully prepare for big events in our personal lives, such as a wedding or commencement, Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' passion and celebrating Jesus' resurrection.

The practice of a forty-day preparation period began in the Christian church during the third and fourth centuries. The number forty carries biblical significance based on the forty years Israel spent in the wilderness and Jesus' forty-day fast in the wilderness. The forty days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday and continue through holy week, not counting Sundays. Many congregations choose to focus Sunday worship on the themes of repentance and renewal.

As a period of preparation, Lent has historically included the instruction of persons for baptism and profession of faith on Easter Sunday; the calling back of those who have become estranged from the church; and efforts by all Christians to deepen their piety, devotion, and readiness to mark the death and resurrection of their Savior. As such, the primary focus of the season is to explore and deepen a "baptismal spirituality" that centers on our union with Christ rather than to function only as an extended meditation on Christ's suffering and death.

The Worship Sourcebook 2nd ed.

MORNING WORSHIP

Please enjoy fellowship together as you enter. When the prelude begins, please use the time for centering yourself for worship. Please take this time to mute all mobile devices.

THE CHURCH GATHERING IN CHRIST'S NAME

**Indicates standing, as you are able, in body or in spirit.*

Prelude

Call to Worship

Revelation 1:3; Psalm 134

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.

To the one who is LORD of the Church:

Praise the LORD, all you servants of the LORD who minister by night in the house of the LORD. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the LORD. May the LORD bless you from Zion, he who is the Maker of heaven and earth.

O God, you have made and redeemed all that is, and blessed your people in immeasurable ways. We lift our hands and hearts to you in worship, glorifying and enjoying you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Lift Up Your Hearts #575

**God's Greeting*

**Mutual Greeting*

**Before the Throne of God Above*

Lift Up Your Hearts #682

BUT THIS I HAVE AGAINST YOU

Call to Confession—*You Have Forsaken The Love You Had At First.*

Prayer of Confession—*Repent*

There are many times we think we love you well, O God. But upon hearing your call to love you with all our heart, and all our mind, and all our strength, we confess that our love for you is a diluted love, made insipid and flat by lesser loyalties and a divided heart. Our love seems pure only for brief moments; soon our affections are drawn away. How easily our devotion dies. Forgive us; in deep mercy spare us, despite our lost first love for you; in grace rekindle our love for you in seeing anew Jesus' love for us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Lift Up Your Hearts #168:3

**What language shall I borrow to thank you, dearest Friend,
For this, your dying sorrow, your pity without end?
Lord, make me yours forever, a loyal servant true,
And let me never, never outlive my love to you.**

Profession of Faith of Abby Jeltema

Do you accept the gracious promises of God sealed to you in your baptism and do you affirm your union with Christ and his church, which your baptism signifies?

Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God sent to redeem the world, do you love and trust him as the one who saves you from your sin, and do you with repentance and joy embrace him as Lord of your life?

Do you believe that the Bible is the Word of God, revealing Christ and his redemption, and that the confessions of this church faithfully reflect this revelation?

Do you promise to do all you can, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to strengthen your love and commitment to Christ by sharing faithfully in the life of the church, honoring, and submitting to its authority; and do you join with the people of God in doing the work of the Lord everywhere?

I do.

*Welcome and Encouragement

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we now welcome you to all the privileges of full communion. We welcome you to full participation in the life of the church, to its responsibilities, its joys, and its sufferings.

Thanks be to God! We promise you our love, encouragement, and prayers.

*Apostles' Creed

Lift Up Your Hearts #783A

WHOEVER HAS EARS, LET THEM HEAR

Children's Blessing

Children ages 3 - 1st grade are dismissed for either Children's Church or Worship Center.

**Show Us Christ*

insert

Revelation 2:1-7—*To the Church in Ephesus (Ephesians)*

Holy Bible, pg.1914

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon—*The Lampstand of Ephesus*

**There In God's Garden*

Lift Up Your Hearts #684:1-4

THE TREE OF LIFE

Declaration of God's Invitation and Promises

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Let us pray...

...We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray:

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 today our daily bread. 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.

Preparing the Bread and Cup

Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord. The gifts of God for the people of God.

Passing of the Bread

Passing of the Cup

**Bless the Lord, O My Soul*

Lift Up Your Hearts #516

Prayer

Offering—*Benevolence*

Please pass the friendship folders.

Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Mighty God and Father, you overwhelm us with your great mercy. At the time of our greatest need, you surprised us with your wondrous love. Jesus offered his life for us to remove our dreadful curse. As you draw us into this renewing relationship of love, may we respond with gratitude as we offer the substance of our souls to continue the ministry of Christ. For his name and glory, we pray and present our gifts. Amen!

SENDING

Call to Discipleship

Hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

For we have had the good news proclaimed to us,

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts,

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

*God's Blessing

**There In God's Garden*

Lift Up Your Hearts #684:5,6

**This is my ending, this my resurrection;
Into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for; now I can possess it.
This ground is holy.**

**All heaven is singing, "Thanks to Christ whose Passion
Offers in mercy healing, strength, and pardon.
Peoples and nations, take it, take it freely!"
Amen! My Master!**

Postlude

Preaching: Rev. Rick Pinckney
Scripture Reader: Arlis Katerberg
Video: Caitlin Sanders

Organ: Chan Jang
Audio: Kevin Soodsma

Show Us Christ



1. Pre - pare our hearts, O God, Help us to re - ceive.
2. Your Word is liv - ing light up - on our dark - ened eyes,



Break the hard and ston - y ground, help our un - be - lief.
guards us through temp - ta - tions, makes the sim - ple wise.

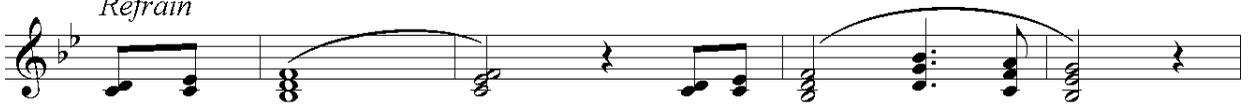


Plant your Word down deep in us, cause us to bear fruit,
Your Word is food for fam - ished ones, Free - dom for the slave,



o - pen up our ears to hear, lead us in Your truth.
rich - es for the need - y soul, speak to us to - day.

Refrain



Show us Christ, show us Christ,



O God, re - veal your glo - ry through the preach - ing of your Word



un - til ev - ery heart con - fess - es Christ is Lord.