First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day 3rd Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2012

9:00 and 11:15 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Hymn
Concerns of the Church
Prelude 9:00 "Adagio and Allegro" from Concerto No. 8 Handel
11:15 "Arioso" Bach

Call to Worship

The heavens are telling the glory of God;

the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

There is no voice, there are no words,

yet their voice goes out through all the earth—words of great praise to the end of the world!

* Hymn 167 (PH) "God's Law Is Perfect and Gives Life" Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

- * Call to Confession
- * Prayer of Confession

Righteous God, how we need to know your forgiveness!
Our lives fall short of your will for us.

We transgress your holy law,

or fulfill its letter but violate its spirit of divine love.

Our sin distorts our values,

perverts our justice,

and deceives us with lies dressed up as truth.

We need your mercy and your power, O God.

Cleanse our hearts of every fault,

and refresh us with your Holy Spirit,

that our lives may please you

with true obedience and loving service.

- * Silent Confession
- * Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
- * Assurance of Pardon
- * Passing of the Peace

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Exodus 20:1-17 (OT, p. 66)

Psalter: Psalm 19 (Sing 88)

A Time with Children

11:15 - Children through grade 4 are invited to Children's Worship in Room 110.

Anthem 9:00 "The Lord My Shepherd" David Ashley White 11:15 "Whiter Than Snow" W. G. Fischer, arr. J. Walters

Gospel Lesson: Mark 5:1-20 (NT, p. 39)

Sermon: "Living Among the Tombs" Rev. Carter

Lenten Series: Deliver Us from Evil

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 85 (PH) "What Wondrous Love Is This"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (PH, p. 14)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory 9:00 "Siciliana" from Concerto No. 8 Handel
11:15 "Largo" Leclair

- * Doxology (PH 592)
- * Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 387 (PH) "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"
- * Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Allegro" Anonymous

* All who are able shall stand.

PH Presbyterian Hymnal

Sing Sing! A New Creation (green songbook)

The flowers this morning have been given to the glory of God. They have been given by Alma Herron in memory of her brother, George R. Herron.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor William Carter Director of Educational Ministries William Cosnett Director of Music Alan Baker Kay Ten Eyck Organist Oboist Tom Heinze Liturgists Paul Lyon (9:00); Charles Swisher (11:15) Children's Worship Leader Sue Flynn, Patti Williams Ushers Deb Traettino, Lee Wirth (9:00); Sara-Ann Hosier, Carole LaCoe (11:15)

We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S SPECIAL MUSIC

At the first service, we will enjoy the talents of one of our newest church members, Tom Heinze. The region's premier oboist, Tom teaches woodwinds and directs the Jazz Ensemble at Marywood University. He will share three movements from the Handel Concerto Grosso No. 8 at the prelude and offertory, and join the adult choir for the anthem, "The Lord My Shepherd." Using a new poetic translation of Psalm 23, the music by David Ashley White sounds very much like an old tune from the American Southern Harmony tradition (as is our second hymn, "What Wondrous Love"), but it is the composer's own creation. White is currently the Director of the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston.

At the second service a male quartet from our adult choir (Warren Grill, Andy Kepler, Dave Comly and Alan Baker) will sing the old hymn, "Whiter Than Snow." The tune was written by Philadelphia musician William Gustavus Fischer, who also composed the hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story." Based on a passage from Psalm 51, the text should sound familiar as it has appeared more than once in recent service readings, including Ash Wednesday: "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow." The title is extra appropriate, as the gentlemen have suggested naming their ensemble the "Snow on the Mountain" Quartet...Baker, however, at this point still only has snow on his foothills.



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Exodus 20:1-17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Mark 5:1-20

They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. And when he had stepped out of the boat, immediately a man out of the tombs with an unclean spirit met him. He lived among the tombs; and no one could restrain him any more, even with a chain; for he had often been restrained with shackles and chains, but the chains he wrenched apart, and the shackles he broke in pieces; and no one had the strength to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always howling and bruising himself with stones. When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and bowed down before him; and he shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." For he had said to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." He begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. Now there on the hillside a great herd of swine was feeding; and the unclean spirits begged him, "Send us into the swine; let us enter them." So he gave them permission. And the

unclean spirits came out and entered the swine; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and were drowned in the sea.

The swineherds ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came to see what it was that had happened. They came to Jesus and saw the demoniac sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, the very man who had had the legion; and they were afraid. Those who had seen what had happened to the demoniac and to the swine reported it. Then they began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you." And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed.