

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

5th Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2016

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music
Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley" arr. Wood

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord

Who made heaven and earth.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* Hymn 286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

we confess we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be your obedient people.

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love.**

We have not loved our neighbors,

and refused to hear the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.

Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

* Silent Confession

* Response: "Lord, Have Mercy" (Hymnal 579)

1) Lord, have mercy 2) Christ, have mercy 3) Lord, have mercy

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace
During Lent, we will refrain from singing alleluias.

Special Music "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Create in me a clean heart, make my spirit right and true.

Guide me with your wisdom, Lord, as I seek to follow you.

Refrain: God of creation and Lord of my life,

Show me how I can be more like you in all that I do,

In word and thought and deed, in word and thought and deed.

Create in me a clean heart, give me strength to trust and obey.

Call me with your voice of love to the light of your perfect way.

Refrain

Restore in me your joy, the gift of life anew;

And then shall my mouth sing songs of praise, for all that comes from you.

Refrain

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 (NT, p. 205)

Psalter: Psalm 51:10-19 (OT, p. 520)

A Time with Children

Anthem "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Forrest

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:14-30 (NT, p. 28)

Sermon: "Investment Strategies" Ms. Zeigler

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 729 "Lord I Want to Be a Christian"

* Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement, sections 1 and 4 (Hymnal, p. 37)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

A Minute for One Great Hour of Sharing

Offering
Offertory "Old Rugged Cross" arr. DeCou
* Doxology (PH 592)
* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 300 "We Are One in the Spirit"
* Charge and Benediction
* Postlude "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Schalk
During Lent, we invite you to remain seated until the Postlude is complete,
as a way to meditate upon the meaning of the season.

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by JoAnn Hall to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, Fritz.

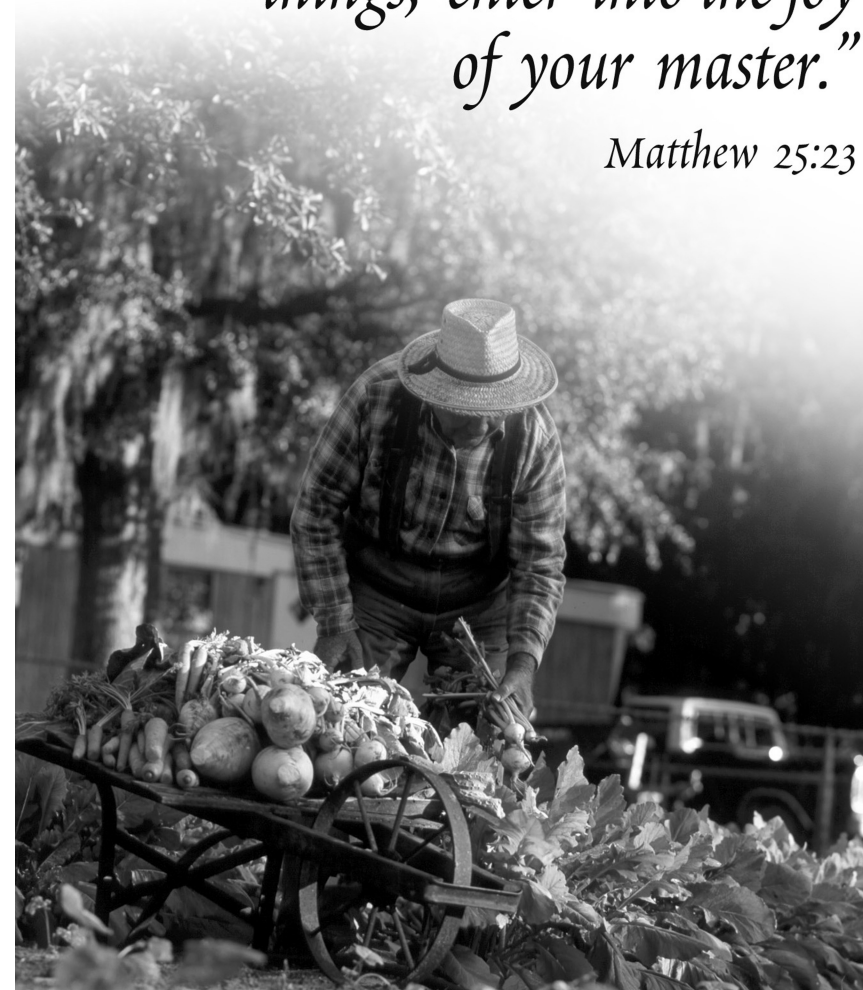
PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Guest Preacher	Margaret Zeigler
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Members of the Chapel Choir
Ushers	Jack Pittman, Sara Ann Hosier
Welcomer	Nancy London

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*"You have been trustworthy...
I will put you in charge of many
things; enter into the joy
of your master."*

Matthew 25:23



1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you; esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them. See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. Beloved, pray for us. Greet all the brothers and sisters with a holy kiss. I solemnly command you by the Lord that this letter be read to all of them. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Psalm 51:10-19

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,

then you will delight in right sacrifices, in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings; then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Matthew 25:14-30

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh

man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’