

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

Eleven O'Clock

Greeters: Elizabeth Price and Lori Gast
Liturgist: Pat Nash

PRELUDE:

CHIMING THE HOUR

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Psalm 118 says: **This is the Day that the Lord hath made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! Good morning and welcome. It is so nice to see all of you here this morning. Visitors, please sign the attendance registers located in each row.**

Please stand, in body or spirit, and join me in our Call to Worship and remain standing through the Assurance of Pardon

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Responsively)

Leader: **Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous;**

People: **shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

All: **Let us worship God.**

Please bow your heads for our Opening Prayer

***OPENING PRAYER** As the father greeted his lost son, **wo You rejoice when we return to You after we have strayed. Rejoice with the congregation, gathered here to worship the living God. Let us gather in joy with the One who defeated death for our sake. Amen.**

Our first hymn today is:

***HYMN** No 610 "*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*" AZMON

***CALL TO CONFESSION** **If we say we are without sin, we deceive ourselves. Let us confess our sins before Almighty God.**

Let us pray together

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of all creation, be merciful on Your sinful people. We are stubborn when we face change, sticking to our comfortable ways in the face of change. When things are going badly, we often wonder where You are. We rail against our misfortunes but fail to notice those around us in dire need. Wrapped up in our own problem we do not notice the homeless and hungry in our own community. God, forgive our short sightedness. Help us to see beyond our own needs and recognize what is needed around us. (Say **“Please pray silently,”** and after a little while say,) We ask these things in Your name. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: **Brothers and sisters in Christ, believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

People: Thanks be to God!

You may be seated.

A TIME FOR YOUTH At this time would our youth please come forward.

Please bow your heads for our Prayer for Illumination

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Lord, give each of us a deeper understanding of Your word for us today. Help us understand and respond to Your call to us. Amen.

PSALTER LESSON Our Psalter Lesson comes from Psalm 32:1-7, please read it responsively with me.

Leader: **Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.**

People: **Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

Leader: **While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.**

People: **For day and night Your hand was heavy on me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

Leader: **Then I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not hide my iniquity;**

People: **I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and You forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Leader: **Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to You; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.**

People: **You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with glad cries of deliverance.**

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

People: Thanks be to God!

OLD TESTAMENT LESSONS Our Old Testament Lesson comes from Joshua 5:9-12 you may follow along in your pew Bibles on page 197 of the Old Testament

Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

The choir will now sing the Anthem:

ANTHEM:

GOSPEL LESSON Our Gospel Lesson comes from Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 you may follow along in your pew Bibles on pages 78-79 of the New Testament

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

15Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable:

¹¹“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Those who are able, please stand and join with me in singing:

***HYMN** No. 649 “*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*” AMAZING GRACE

Please join me in Affirmation of Faith as it is printed in your bulletin.

***AFFIRMATION** The Apostles’ Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 581 “*Glory Be to the Father*” GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end, Amen, amen.

You may be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS It is time for announcements, does anybody have an announcement they would like to make?

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY And now it is time for our Prayer Concerns and Celebrations. Does anybody have anything they would like to share?

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 this day our daily bread; and 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

OFFERTORY:

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 606 “*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*”

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Let us come to God with our prayer of Thanksgiving

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Lord, we thank You for the gifts You have bestowed on us. Take what we have returned to You and use it for Your work in this world. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Our last Hymn today is:

***HYMN** No.802 "*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*" ST. COLUMBA

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE:**

Hymn No. 542 "*God Be with You Till We Meet Again*" GOD BE WITH YOU

**God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***POSTLUDE:**

***Those who are able may stand.**

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS
FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Daily Bread

Supplement

DeSoto Presbyterian Church www.desotopresbyterian.org

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THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TUESDAY – 10:30 AM Tuesday Morning Group

THURSDAY – 10:00 AM Art Group

NEXT SUNDAY – **Communion**

10:30 AM Sunday School

11:00 AM Worship

SIGN UP SHEET FOR EASTER LILIES

There is a sign-up sheet for Easter Lilies in the Opportunity Corner. The last day to sign-up for them will be on Palm Sunday, April 13th.

EASTER LUNCH

We are going to have a Pot-Luck Easter Luncheon on April 20th following the worship service. We understand some of you will be celebrating Easter with your families, but for those who don't have prior commitments, we would love to have you join us. Bring a dish to share, and let's celebrate this glorious day together.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Leaders

Our Presbytery, our church, our Session

Our Troops

Joe and Lorrinda Alexander

Thomas Alexander – please continue to pray

Jim Glander

Martha Brashear – continued prayers

The church and nation of Ukraine

Makia's people in Cameroon

DeSoto Food Pantry

Max Jewell is at home, but needs our continued prayers as he is still recovering

Chikezie is very weak

Christians in Pakistan

Janet

Joan Christy

Devynne's grandmother, Doris Poteet, is still on the ventilator but is doing much better

Pope Francis is very ill

Cheryl Fernandez is going through chemo and is not doing very well

Cori Laws is not doing very well, but she is improving.

CELEBRATIONS

Joan Christy is out of the hospital and is back at Five Points

Cindy Ballou is back home in Ohio