

WELCOME

*HYMN #81

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

*SILENT CONFESSION AND RESPONSE

Jesus, Lamb of God, **have mercy on us.**
Jesus, bearer of our sins, **have mercy on us.**
Jesus, redeemer of the world, **grant us peace.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17 (p. 7 Old Testament)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 1:9-15 (p. 34 New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*HYMN #515

Now to Your Table Spread

LOVE UNKNOWN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (see insert)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For your church around the world, **we ask new life.**

For all who carry out ministries in your church, **we ask grace and wisdom.**

For people who have accepted spiritual disciplines, **we ask inspired discipleship.**

For Christians of every land, **we ask new unity in your name.**

For people of every faith, **we ask your blessing and our mutual forbearance.**

For those who cannot believe, **we ask your faithful love.**

For leaders and those in power in every place, **we ask your guidance.**

For people who suffer and sorrow, **we ask your healing peace.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Down to the River to Pray

Traditional

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,

O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe...

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are indeed holy, O God of Majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord...
... Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts...
... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all
glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

(see insert)

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. We invite you to partake in Communion by intinction, that, receiving the bread, dipping it in the cup, and eating. Anyone who does not wish to partake is invited to approach the table with hand(s) over their heart, signaling desire for a word of blessing. During Communion, you are invited to join in singing Hymn #513, Let Us Break Bread Together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Gracious God, you are our way in the wilderness. In our own times of testing, be our spiritual nourishment, protect us with your angels, and show your authority in our lives, so that we may hunger for righteousness and live in peace, worshiping and serving you alone; through Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

SENDING

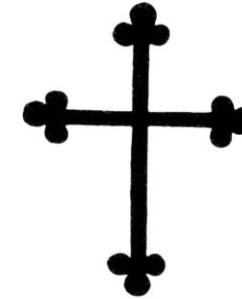
*HYMN #281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
February 18, 2018
Presbyterian Church in Needham

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you.

Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Good and upright are you, O Lord; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right and teach your way to the lowly.

All your paths, O Lord, are love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER