

GATHERING

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.
Let us worship God.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, you have appointed us your witnesses, to be light that shines in the world. Let us not hide the bright hope you have given us, but tell everyone your love, revealed in Jesus Christ the Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, **Amen.**

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*HYMN #263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31 (p. 668 Old Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:1-11

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor the Lord with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem and gathers the exiles of Israel.

The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

The Lord counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power, whose wisdom is beyond limit.

The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.

God covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

God makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve humankind.

God provides food for flocks and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.

The Lord is not impressed by the might of a horse and has no pleasure in the strength of a man;

But the Lord has pleasure in the God-fearing, in those who await God's gracious favor.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39 (p. 35 New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

*HYMN #457

I Greet The, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (see insert)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

There's a Balm in Gilead

W.L. Dawson

*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(see insert)

SENDING

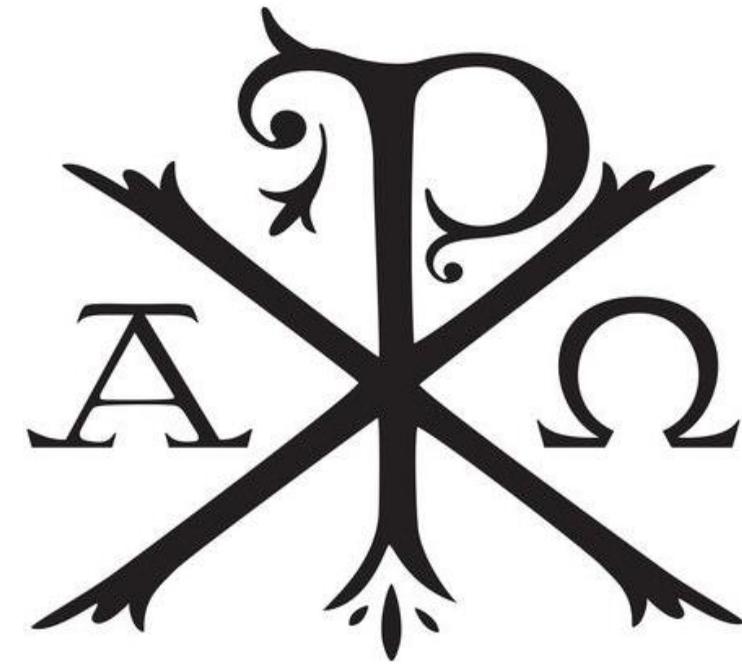
*HYMN #411

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



**ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

February 4, 2018
Presbyterian Church in Needham