

**** UMH No. 882** *The Apostle's Creed, Ecumenical Version*

**** UMH No. 71** *"Glory Be to the Father"*

Prayers of Intercession (Please see bulletin insert.)

The Lord's Prayer (Words found at UMH No. 270)

Offering *"O, My God, Bestow Thy Tender Mercy"*
By G. B. Pergolesi

**** UMH No. 95** *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

**** Offering Prayer (In Unison)**

Eternal Spirit, Source of healing and wholeness, bless these gifts, that they may be Christ's promise of living water for the world. May all who are touched by today's offering be bathed in the goodness of God's life, grace and hope. Amen.

**** UMH No. 413** *"A Charge to Keep I Have"*

**** Announcements**

**** Sending Forth**

Go into a world that offers many paths to short-lived pleasure.

We confess Jesus Christ as Savior.

Go into homes, workplaces, and communities with little mercy.

We put our whole trust in his grace.

Go into systems that demand your allegiance, or else.

We promise to serve Jesus Christ as Lord.

Go into social media, meetings, and other groups that will seek to pit you against other sisters and brothers in Christ because of how old they are, where they are from, or who they are.

We are united and will stay united with people of every age, nation, and race in Christ's holy church, and represent Christ in the world.

Go then, with the blessing of our Triune God.

We go to live our baptismal calling. Amen.

**** Chiming the Trinity**

**** Postlude**

**** Please stand as you are able.**

A Service of the Word

Sunday, March 19, 2017 – Third Sunday in Lent

Chiming the Trinity

Welcome & Centering Words

Water gushing from a rock...Living waters welling up to eternal life...These are gifts from the One who pours love into our hearts, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Come and drink deeply. Taste and see that our God is good.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

Worship the Holy One with joy and thanksgiving.

Let us sing to our God.

Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

For we are the sheep of God's pasture.

We are the lambs of God's flock.

Come into God's presence with thanksgiving.

Worship the Holy One with joy and thanksgiving.

Glory Sightings

Opening Prayer (In Unison)

Living water, flow through our hearts this day. Meet us in our desert wanderings and quench our thirst, that we may have strength for the hard times ahead. Well up within us, and bathe us in the waters of eternal life, that the spirit within us may flow with faith and love, through the power of your Spirit. Amen.

**** UMH No. 127** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

**** Call to Confession** [Water is poured into the baptismal font.]

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sin.

**** Prayer of Confession (In Unison)**

Wellspring of salvation, when we are parched from thirst and turn to the dry wells of worldly promise, restore us with the healing waters of your grace; when the course ahead is littered with wreckage and refuse from our past, wash away our sins and our sorrows, and carry us forward on the river of your mercy and your love. Shower us with your living water, and refresh our souls, that we may be washed clean in the river of your forgiveness and your grace. Amen.

**** Words of Assurance**

Our hope and assurance rest in God's unfailing love and forgiveness. In this love and forgiveness, we encounter the living God. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**** Sharing the Peace of Christ**

Children's Time

Prayer of Illumination (In Unison)

Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures and by the power of your Spirit, may we hear for ourselves the good news, accept, believe, and confess because of your Word, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Amen.

Words of Response

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as Lord, in union with the church Christ opens to people of all ages, nations, and races? And by the grace given you will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

We do, and we will continue to do so personally, in our families and small groups, and together, by attending upon all the ordinances of God.

First Reading Exodus 17:1-7 p. 61 (OT)

**** Gospel Reading** John 4:5-19, 25-29, 39-42 pp. 89-90 (NT)

Sermon "CONFESS" Rev. Anita Taylor

**** UMH No. 350** "Come, All of You" (stanzas 1 & 2 only)