



#### First Presbyterian Church of Lynn Haven

...the Son of Man must undergo great suffering. ~Jesus

Prelude Variations on "Wondrous Love"

Robert Lau

Call to Worship (Psalm 22:27-28)

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; and all the families of the nations shall worship before God! For dominion belongs to the LORD, and God rules over the nations.

Hymn Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

#### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

God who journeys with us, we confess that we would rather go our own way. We're impatient to get where we want to go, and hesitant to follow your way. Along life's road, we'd rather be popular than prophetic, wealthy than wise, fabulous than faithful. Forgive us, we pray. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with a willing spirit, so that we may be your committed pilgrims. In Christ, Amen!

### Declaration of Forgiveness

Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ, and Christ was raised from death so that we, too, might be triumphant in life. This day and always, believe the Good News of the Gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to our all-powerful, all-loving God!

# The Gospel Mark 8:31-38

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and

of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

### Message Pilgrimage to Life

**Affirmation of Faith** (from the Patmos Abbey, Order of St. Columba, in Australia)

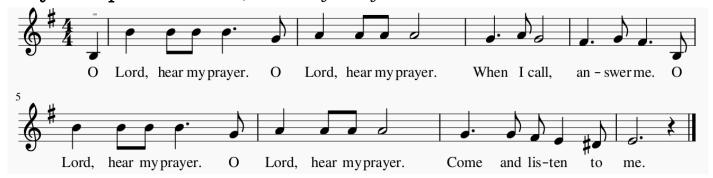
We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child. We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. This is our faith and we are humbled to profess it in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Musical Meditation I Have Decided to Follow Jesus Trad. Hindi, arr. B. Thoreson

## 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.

### Prayer Response O Lord, Hear My Prayer



**Hymn** Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

#### **Benediction**

# Postlude Higher Ground

Charles Gabriel, arr. J. Koerts

Our Lenten Prayer Wall stands outside the sanctuary ready for your prayers for others and/or yourself! Purple ribbons (the color of Lent) are provided at the wall; choose one and tie it on the lattice wall. The wall will be up throughout the 40 day Lenten season, and you are welcome to offer as many prayers as you like!