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March 8, 2015

LENT 3

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.

All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

- * Gathering Hymn MV #127 – *“I Saw the Rich Ones”*

Opening Story – Melissa Horbas

Call to Worship

One: Our stories of faith are not the same.

All: We discover God in our own way, in places special to just us.

One: In the midst of such diversity one thing binds us together.

All: Our God is real. Our God makes our lives and our world rich in all the ways that matter.

One: Let us celebrate our faith in worship!

- * Opening Hymn MV #28 – *“God of the Bible”*

Prayer of Approach and Confession

God, we come to you this day with so many things laying claim to our lives, our hearts, and our spirits. Open our ears and our hearts to hear your words of healing love. Prepare us to be faithful disciples for you. Patient Lord, we have cluttered the “temples” of our lives with so much unnecessary things that they have blocked out your healing words of hope and mercy. Forgive us when we have been so preoccupied with these things that we have not listened to your words and followed your ways. Clear away our fears and frustrations. Give us clean hearts and spirits. Help us to be confident in your mercy and transformational love. These things we offer in the name of Jesus, the Christ. AMEN

Words of Assurance

Children’s Time

- * Hymn MV #80 – *“Beyond the Beauty and the Awe”*

The Word

- 📖 Scripture Reading – 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25
John 2: 13-22

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation – “This is just crazy!”

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – “Only a Shadow”

The Response

Announcements

- * Offering / Response (VU #389 – vs. 4)

**God of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
Help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day’s dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!**

Pastoral Prayer

- * Hymn VU #416 – *“Forth in Your Name, O Christ”*

- * Benediction / Response

**Go, my friends, in grace,
Beneath the blessed sky.
Where you go, God is there,
Beneath the blessed sky.
Come again, my friends,
To worship and to pray.
Where we meet, God is here,
Benedictus Deus.**

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister
Luci Toews, Church Administrator
Myrna Hagues, Organist
Edna Erickson, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister
Laura Steidl, Music Director
Jessica Steidl, Joyful Noise Director
Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers

Ushers: Joyce & Morris Deveson
Greeters: Dorothy and Peter Harder