



Nicodemus

JESUS MAFA art comes from the Christian community in Cameroon, Africa, as a way to teach the Gospel to local populations. Scripture readings were selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

March 12, 2017

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT NEW HOPE

We are grateful you have joined us today and invite you to participate fully in the worship, education, and mission life of our church.

During Today's Worship

We welcome to our pulpit today the Rev. Dr. Craig Howard. Dr. Howard began his ministry as the Presbytery Leader of the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy on January 8, 2017. Craig's undergraduate work was completed at DePaul University. He earned his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from McCormick Theological Seminary. He went on to serve the seminary as the Director of Recruitment and Admissions, and then as the Chief Development Officer. Craig came to Giddings-Lovejoy after serving as the Executive Director of Strategic Partnerships, the chief leadership role, for the Presbytery of Milwaukee.

Large-print bulletins and hearing enhancement equipment are available for ease of worship. An usher will be happy to assist you. At the close of worship, please return the unit to the sound booth at the rear of the sanctuary.

Children are especially welcome in our worship services, because faith is formed by the practices that shape it. Red worship bags for young children (non-readers) and blue bags for older children (readers) may be found on the wall outside the sanctuary. An usher will help you locate one. If you would like a worship bag with your child's name on it, you may fill out a request form on the Information Table or call the church office (936.2200). Parents who prefer child care will find the nursery on the first floor (Room 204).

Worship Feast, an experience to help elementary-age children develop awareness of God's presence and openness to mystery through a variety of prayer practices, is available during the 11:00 service. Children who wish to participate will be dismissed after the Gospel Reading. They will exit by the side (north) door and be escorted to the lower-level.

Preparing for worship...Please silence cell phones upon entering the sanctuary. The need may arise for you to exit the service early. If so, please refrain from exiting during prayers, reading of scripture and choral anthems. Natural and appropriate exit points are during congregational hymns or sung responses. Your courtesy is appreciated. Also, as a kindness to fellow worshipers, please do not take flash photos during the worship service.

Ushering for today's worship: (8:45) Michael Black, Cindy Martin, Jim & Debbie Phillips.
(11:00) Craig Clarke, Kirk Garten, Bill & Linda Judd, Kristin Judd, Debbie McDanel, Joe Seidler.

The single red rose at the foot of the cross is to the glory of God and in celebration of the birth of Henry Robert Gonterman, son of Lindsay & Trevor Gonterman, born on March 6th. Henry's grandparents are Linda & Bob Dencker.

Liturgist: Christopher James

Sound Booth: (8:45) Paul Hacker (11:00) Deb Garten

Last Sunday's Attendance: 189

If You Are New to New Hope

Information about our church can be found at the Outreach & Information Center in the foyer.

New Hope Cares

For pastoral care and to notify the church of illness, hospitalization, or death, please contact the church office at 636/936.2200 (lbrown@nhpres.org). To arrange for home bound Communion, contact Pastor James at cqjames@nhpres.org or 936.2200 x.11.

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2017

8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

*As the people gather, worshipers greet one another, welcoming newcomers.
Please silence electronic devices.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

+ GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Jesus Loves Me*

arr. Joe E. Parks

Prayer of Preparation

The start of the Prelude signals the time to enter a period of quiet reflection.

This prayer is offered as an aid to help worshipers center the heart and mind for worship.

God our helper, our shade, our protector,
you are able to give life to the dead,
to call into being things that do not exist.
We trust in your power to make all things new;
to keep us in sunlight and moonlight,
along rocky paths and pathways unknown;
until all our going and coming brings us at last
to your kingdom promised in Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

Lent was created by the Church with Easter and baptism in mind. So, Lent is not about the small stuff, but aims to place us at the center of it all: the crucified and risen Christ and our identity given in baptism. Lent, then, is a yearly invitation to go deeper into the heart of Christianity.

*INTROIT *What Wondrous Love Is This*
(11:00) Cathy Woelbling-Paul, oboe

WONDROUS LOVE

*OPENING PRAYER
...one God, now and forever.
Amen.

+ *HYMN 51 *To Abraham and Sarah*

LLANFYLLIN

*THE CONFESSION

**God of great mercy, we confess
that we have sinned against you.
You provide our daily bread;
still we hunger for other things.
You give your word to guide us;
still we surrender to temptation.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Create a clean heart within us,**

**teach us your holy way,
and restore the joy of salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Worshippers may reflect on this prayer and offer personal confession in silence.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Lord, Have Mercy* Kyrie Eleison



DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

...In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE PEACE

Greet those around you with: "The peace of Christ be with you," responding, "And also with you."

During Lent we "fast" from singing the Alleluia, but we still acclaim the Gospel that brings us God's promised steadfast love.

The Gospel readings from John during this season have been proclaimed for over 1500 years to prepare the church for its baptisms at Easter.

(11:00) ANTHEM *What Wondrous Love Is This* James Mansfield

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 12: 1-4a

EPISTLE READING

Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17

*THE GOSPEL

THE ACCLAMATION

*Cantor: The Son of Man must be lifted up,
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.*

GOSPEL READING

John 3: 1-9

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Craig Howard

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

∞ In silent prayer and reflection you may renew the covenant into which you are baptized. If you would like to learn more about this sacrament, Pastor James would welcome the opportunity to speak with you about it.

PRAYERS OF JOY & CONCERN

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC (8:45) *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*
(11:00) *Were You There*

arr. Fred Bock
arr. Gay Holmes Spears

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues. After the words, "... who forever sing to the glory of your name:" the congregation sings,

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might,
9 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.
17 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na
25 in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

The prayer continues. After the words, "Let us proclaim the mystery of faith," the congregation sings,

Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a-gain.
5 Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a-gain.

The prayer continues and ends with 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.**

A - men, a - men, a - men.
5
A - men, a - men, a - men.

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD
COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

☞ Coming to the Table—Ushers will invite worshipers to the Lord's Table by rows. All the baptized may come to the Table at the center and return by the outside aisles.

☞ Receiving the elements—You may take the bread, dip it into the chalice and partake of both together (intinction), or you may partake of the bread first, and then proceed to partake of the juice separately from the tray of individual cups. Gluten-free bread is available with Pastor James from the plate in his left hand.

☞ After the presider and communion servers have received the elements, and before the concluding prayer, the whole assembly is invited to share a moment of silent contemplation before God.

PRAYER AFTER THE MEAL

THE SENDING
My Faith Looks Up to Thee

*HYMN 829

OLIVET

*BLESSING & CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

*Please rise in body or spirit.

+ Those arriving may be seated.



MUSIC NOTES

Lowell Mason (1792-1872) was the composer of approximately 1600 tunes, including the tune OLIVET to which we sing the hymn *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*. Mason founded the Boston Academy of Music in 1832. He was awarded a Doctor of Music degree in 1855, only the second person awarded such a degree in the United States. He began an experimental music program in one Boston school, which resulted in the inclusion of music classes into the curriculum of all Boston public schools; therefore he is known as one of the first important music educators in the U.S. (*The Presbyterian Hymnal Companion*)

WORSHIP RESOURCES

JESUS MAFA. "Nicodemus," from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48385> (retrieved February 22, 2017).

Prayer of Preparation, as found in *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Vol. 1*, Kimberly Bracken Long, ed. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2013), 101.

Prayer of Confession, as found in as found in *Call to Worship: Liturgy, Music, Preaching & the Arts*, Vol. 50.1, 54.

"Kyrie Eleison", anonymous.

"Mass of Creation-Memorial Acclamation"; "Mass of Creation-Sanctus"; "Mass of Creation-Amen": Words are traditional liturgical texts in the public domain. Music: Marty Haugen, ©1984 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-726483.

PRAYERS

of Joy

the birth of Henry Robert Gonterman, son of Lindsay & Trevor Gonterman (Mar. 6)

for Healing & Wholeness

Alyssa Murray

Henry, Lindsay & Trevor Gonterman

John Morgan (friend of Carl & Carolyn Doerr)

Anna Mae Richardson

Diane James (friend of Joe & Susan Petrowsky)

Shari Mahon

Jim Phillips

Rose Mary Meyer (mother of Kathy Salter)

Donna Stromowsky (sister of Carolyn Rudolph)

Joe Pratte (step-father of Laurie Meinert)

Tammy Morales & family (friend of Bill & Martha Lamey)

Sally Usai

Anna White (granddaughter of Jim & Sue White)

Dean Dalton (father of Barb Knes and grandfather of Stacey Bordes)

Lee Cortelyou (brother of Susan Petrowsky)

Tom Clayton

Erin Murphy (daughter-in-law of Patrick & Robin Murphy)

Skyler Bazzell (grandchild of Donna Huffman's friend)

Rachael Harlan (friend of Donna Huffman)

David Routzahn (friend of Donna Huffman)

Zoey Mendenhall (granddaughter of Kathy Gibb's cousin)

Chris Hanson (father of Marion Hamilton)

Cassandra Barber (granddaughter of Allen & Carolyn Rudolph)

Dot Mandrell (friend of Ruth Reilly)

Jim McLaughlin (cousin of Jim Salter)

Pat Adelman (friend of Jim Pettit)

Marie Himmelbach (friend of Liz Resche)

Arnold Sanders (grandfather of Marion Hamilton)

Sheri Clayton

Kim Jackson (friend of Laura Eikmann)

Edd Mackin

Win Hill (grandson-in-law of Sue Stiegemeier)

Taylor Sutton (friend of Elizabeth Eikmann)

W.T. Bryant (nephew of Sue White)

Melissa Ayers (friend of Martha Lamey)

Jacob Daniel (great-nephew of Jane Cox)

Bob Mudrovic

for the Grieving

The family of Vi Boyd on her death (Feb. 21)

Cindy Martin on the death of her friend, Ron Hopkins (Feb. 15)

Jeff & Ruth Connor and family on the death of his brother-in-law, Don Buchholz (Feb. 12)

Tim & Sue Starkey and family on the death of his sister-in-law, Mary Starkey (Dec. 27)

Sue Starkey and family on the death of her father, David Gephart (Dec. 11)

Jody Romkey and family on the death of her father, Donald Fitch (Dec. 10)

for those preparing to present children for baptism and/or affirm their faith at Easter

Nicole & Nick Faubert

Julie Gaffney

Marion Hamilton

Tara & Jared Larrew

Greg Marshall

Alyssa Murray

Monica & Bobby Schrautemeier

Rachel Steele

Chris Truett

for the World & its People

victims of the tornado in Perryville

victims of the wildfires in CO, TX, KS, & OK

victims of the flooding in California

victims of the tornados in Louisiana

the people of Aleppo and Syrian refugees

FAQs about Worship

What is Lent?

Lent is a season of the church year. It is a period of 40 days (not including Sundays) that serves as a time of preparation for Easter. Lent, as is a liturgical season, is more restrained and somber than during other seasons of the year, yet the Sundays in Lent witness not only the Lord's passion and death, but also his victory over sin and death. Even so, service music containing "alleluia" is traditionally not sung during these weeks, which explains why the Doxology and the Gloria Patri ("Glory be to the Father") are omitted from the service.

The Lenten season is a journey with Jesus along the path to Jerusalem and the cross. It is a time to repent, which literally means "to turn around," to turn again to God with renewed trust and gratitude for the steadfast love and faithfulness of God. As such, Lent serves as a time of preparing for baptism and the renewal of the baptismal covenant in the journey toward Easter. The color of the season is purple, the color of royalty—and also the color of the robe put on Jesus when he was mocked and beaten (John 19:2). Thus, purple has become the color of sacrifice and penitence.

Why do we "bury" the alleluias for the season of Lent?

What we do with alleluias only makes sense in context with the larger meaning of Lent. So let's start there. Lent arrives each year as the earth prepares to awaken from its winter slumber. So, too, does the church prepare itself for renewal in the springtime of Christ's resurrection. Lent is about the church recovering its center in the dying and rising of Christ as well as preparing candidates being called by God to the waters of baptism. In short, we all learn again how deep is our hunger for God. Marking this spiritual journey are faith practices: communion with God, restraint from excess, and generous sharing. We know these practices as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. When we bury alleluias (removing them from our worship) for the season of Lent, we begin a "fast" from using a word which is pungent with the fragrance of Easter. Like seed planted in the soil, we put away our alleluias until that time (at the Great Vigil) when their return to the liturgy trumpets the glory of the resurrection. So, on Transfiguration Sunday, we sing an entire feast of alleluias and, then, with reverence and joy, place them in a "coffin" for 40 days.

Why do we call that tall candle the "Paschal" candle and what does it mean?

"Pascha" comes from the Hebrew word for "Passover," the central festival for the Jewish people in which the Hebrews celebrate their deliverance from slavery in Egypt to freedom

in the land of Canaan. On the night before their deliverance through the Red Sea to freedom, the Lord instructed the people to kill a lamb and spread the blood on the doorposts of their homes. That night, the Lord would pass through the land of Egypt and kill the firstborn of every home, but would pass over the homes that had the blood of the lamb on the doorposts, thereby sparing the Hebrews the punishment exacted upon the Egyptians (Exodus 12). We read this story in our worship every year on Maundy Thursday.

For us Christians, Christ is our “paschal lamb” who was sacrificed that we might be delivered from slavery to sin to the freedom of life in communion with God and one another. God completed that work with the Resurrection of Christ. So the fullness of Easter, lived out in our worship over the three days from Maundy Thursday to Easter is the Christian Passover, or Pascha. The Paschal Candle is lighted at the Great Vigil of Easter, in which we proclaim that the light of Christ shines in the darkness of sin and death to give light to the world. The candle remains lit throughout the Great Fifty Days of Easter through Pentecost, and then is again lighted at baptisms and funerals. In baptism, we die with Christ and are raised with him to newness of life. Death is the completion of our baptism in which all things are revealed and we are forever united with God.

So the Paschal candle tells our story as Easter people. Ours includes a lamb, a cross and the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, A (Alpha) and Ω (Omega), reminiscent of what Jesus said, “I am the Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end” (Revelation 22:13).

What if I feel moved to receive Communion, but am not baptized?

The Lord’s Supper and Baptism are inseparable. If you feel called by the Holy Spirit to meet Christ in Communion, we believe that you are also being called to Baptism. We will not turn anyone away from the Lord’s Table, but we do invite you to speak to the pastor or a member of the session about Baptism as soon as possible.

For more information about the relationship between Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, see the Presbyterian Church (USA) Directory for Worship (especially W-2.4006 and W-2.4011) and *Invitation to Christ: A Guide to Sacramental Practices*, available online at www.pcusa.org/sacraments.



*Striving to welcome and include all,
worship God,
grow in Christian faith,
serve others,
and be God's love in the world.*

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Q. James, *Pastor*
Dr. Gay Holmes Spears, *Director of Music Ministries*
Laura Meinert, *Office Manager*

Session

2017
Jim Cox
Jennifer Everly
Clark Hurrell
Lynne Snyder
Margo Van Mill

2018
Bryan Eikmann
Kathy Gibbs, Clerk of Session
Cindy Martin
Del Phillips
Rick Waldo

2019
Jerry Dyer
Kirk Garten
Bill Lamey
Alyssa Murray
Sue White

Diaconate

2017
Laura Eikmann
Donna Huffman
Kay McCarthy
Kurt Romkey
Stan Whiteley

2018
Mark Besselman
Bill Irvine, Moderator
Kelley Hurrell
Martha Lamey
Chris Truett

2019
Sharon Barnes
Jennifer Bommarito
Robert Dencker
Carolyn Doerr
Linda Judd

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