

***First Sunday in Lent***  
***February 21, 2010***  
***Worship 8:00 and 10:45***

**GATHERING FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude            *"Come, Now is the Time to Worship"*

\* Call to Awareness

One: We come to worship God in this season of Lent.

**All: Lent calls us to a heightened attentiveness to the presence of God.**

One: The empty chair is a sign reminding us that God is in our midst even when we are unaware of God's presence.

One: The light from the candle is a sign declaring God's light is always aglow in the world.

**All: Lent calls us to a heightened attentiveness to the presence of God.**

One: The God of infinite manifestation is here. The God of many and varied names is with us.

\* Opening Hymn

*"Bring Many Names"*

#11

**CENTERING ON GOD'S PRESENCE**

\* Call to Confess

By being honest about who we are and how we approach life, we better position ourselves to receive God's love and grace. Let us be honest. Let us confess.

\* Prayer of Confession

**Caring and compassionate God, we enter this time and place set apart for worship, knowing that we have sometimes failed to see you in other times and places. We have missed your beauty, which is all around us, in the earth and sky, in the creatures and vegetation of this planet, in the people who populate our community and your world. Forgive our blindness which has caused our failure to recognize your majesty, glowing in and through everything you have created. In these moments together, draw us so close to your divine presence, that we cannot help but know each and every day, that you are with us, wherever we go. Amen.**

## Words of Assurance

We have this assurance that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

The Scripture Lesson

Psalm 139:1-12

St. Luke 4:1-13

Chancel Choir Anthem

*"Open My Eyes That I May See"*

Scott/Hopson

A Time for Young Christians

(Prayer requests and guest forms will be collected by ushers at the side aisles.)

The Morning Message

***"Being Known and Knowing"***

\* Hymn

*"Be Now My Vision"*

#451

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

Invitation to Give a Symbol of Our Discipleship

**One:** As we give an offering, a tithe, an alm, we give expression of our faith, that God is with us. We offer a symbol of our willingness to be God's blessing to the world.

**All:** **God receives this symbol of our discipleship. May we have the wisdom to use it to bring blessings to God's world.**

Offertory

\* Offertory Response

(Tune #562)

*Take whatever I can offer — gifts that I have yet to find,  
Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,  
Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:  
Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.*

Sharing Our Thoughts with God

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, for ever. Amen.**

Expressing Thanks, Seeking Blessing, Pledging Support

**CONTINUING THE LENTEN JOURNEY**

\* Closing Hymn                    *"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"*                    #410

\* Benediction

One: Friends, let us continue this Journey of Lent. Let us be more attentive to the presence of God in our lives and in the world. Let us be faithful in our daily prayer. Let us grow in our love for one another.

May the blessing of Holy God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer be upon each of us, today and always. Amen.

\* Musical Postlude