

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

Sunday, March 17th, 2019

The Second Sunday in Lent

GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

**indicates the community stands, as able

PRELUDE *Fantasy on Londonderry Air* M. Bober

Please rise to sing:

VOICES UNITED **410 *This Day God Gives Me*

**CALL TO WORSHIP ...Luke Powell

This is the day that God has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

As we gather in this season of reflection,

we seek the deep peace and presence of Holy Mystery:

Christ be with me, Christ within me,

Christ behind me, Christ before me,

Christ beside me, Christ to win me,

Christ to comfort and restore me.

Christ beneath me, Christ above me,

Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,

Christ in hearts of all that love me,

Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. *(attributed to St Patrick)*

Let us worship God, the Holy Trinity, confident we are not alone.

**PEACE GREETING ...Michael Brooks

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(The Community exchanges words and signs of peace;

Children and youth may proceed to programs)

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY NEWS

INVITATION TO CONFESSION ...Martha Reynolds

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of heart, soul, mind, and strength,

we confess that we have not always loved

our neighbours as ourselves.

Too often, our love stops short of reaching out to others.

Too often, we store up treasures for ourselves

instead of bringing our best to you.

Too often, we yield to the temptation of selfish greed

over your call to selfless love.

(Silent Prayer)

Forgive us, O God.

Free our souls to love you as you have first loved us. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God revives our soul and sets us free. *(lift open palms)*

God stirs our hearts and brings us joy! *(put hands on heart)*

God enlightens our minds and grants us wisdom. *(hands to head)*

God strengthens us and shines a light on our path. *(arms extended)*

SUNG RESPONSE **(sing three times)**

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil:

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory

forever and ever. Amen.

SEEKING TO GROW SPIRITUALLY

**BIBLE READING Matthew 22: 34-40 (page 25, NT)

For the Word of God in Scripture, among us, and within us.

Thanks be to God.

MORE VOICES **120 *My Soul Cries Out*

SERMON "SOUL SEARCHING"

2. Loving

SILENT REFLECTION

RESPONDING IN CARE

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *The King of Love* arr. K. Lee Scott

VOICES UNITED **544

**In gratitude and humble trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REACHING OUT IN LOVE

VOICES UNITED **642 *Be Thou My Vision*

**COMMISSIONING

**CHORAL BLESSING *Prayer of St Patrick* B. Sexton

POSTLUDE *Morning Has Broken* L. Trapp



Worship Words:

Today is the **Second Sunday in the Season of Lent**. It is a season of self-reflection as we prepare for the new life to come in Jesus at Easter. The colour purple is used as a visible reminder of solemnness and reflection. As Lent invites us to a time of “repentance” – of turning from old ways in search of the new – it is most appropriate to publicly offer our confessions of shortcomings to God in prayer, and to be assured of God’s love and grace. Therefore, throughout Lent, we will share in **Prayers of Confession and Words of Assurance**.

Music Words:

To celebrate the **Feast of St Patrick** – the commemoration of the traditional death date of St Patrick (March 17th) – the hymns, choir anthem and instrumental music in today’s service are all of Irish origin.

Following today’s service:

- Register for *Listening to Indigenous Voices* (March 29-30)
- Book your photo shoot for the new church directory (April)
- Purchase tickets for “*Second Night on the Bayou*” (May 4)