

COMMUNITY OF FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1400 Highland Pike, Covington, Kentucky, 41011

(859) 331-3238

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Worship 11:00am

+ All who are able may stand

Regular type, one speaks; **bold type, everyone speaks.**

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle

+Call to Worship *from Ministry Matters*

L: We come this day hoping to encounter Christ.

P: We come with burdens and questions that only He can answer.

L: May we open our hearts to him.

P: May our lives be healed and strengthened for service.

+Prayer of the Day and The Lord's Prayer-

Let us pray: **Dear God, you created human beings to love and serve you and those around us. As we show our love to you today, may we dream of ways to show your love to the world around us, making this world a heaven on earth. We pray this to you in the name of Christ Jesus, who taught us also to pray: *Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.***

+Hymn of Praise

The God of Abraham Praise

#488

Call to Reconciliation

We are but imperfect human beings, created by God as good but fallen short of

God's intention for our existence. Let us admit our errors and seek God's grace; let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and merciful God, you asked Abram to leave his homeland for an unknown place, and he went, and became ancestor of us all. But we are hesitant to follow you, fearing you will lead us to unknown places where we might be hurt or lose our possessions. Forgive our timidity, O God, and give us the courage to follow you wherever you may lead. (moment of silence.)

Assurance of Forgiveness

L: Thanks be to God we live under grace and are forgiven for our imperfections and our errant ways. In gratitude to God for grace we learn to live as holy people, bringing light and grace to others. Let us rejoice, for this is good news! Amen.

P: We rejoice in the good news of forgiveness! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response of Praise

Come and Fill Our Hearts (2x)

STF2157

Passing of the Peace

L: By offering the peace of Christ to one another, we recognize each other's place in the family of God. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

P: And also with you.

Please greet one another with a handshake and/ or the exchange of the peace.

Anthem

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Hear our prayer, O Lord, as we prepare to hear your word and meditate on its meaning; through it may we find you within your word and feel your loving presence among us. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a, Romans 4:1-5

Hymn

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

#316

Second Reading

John 3:1-17

Sermon

Rev. Sharon Carter

Responding With Thanks and Praise

Affirmation of Faith based on Psalm 121

We look to the mountains for help,

but our help always comes from God—

God who made heaven and earth, and all that is in it.

God will not let us fall, for God is always with us.

God, protector of Israel, will keep us safe;

God will be at our side shielding us from the sun by day and the moon by

night. The Lord will protect us from all danger and will keep us safe;

God will protect us as we come and go, now and forever.

The Service of Giving

Prayer of Dedication

Musical Offering

+Response of Praise

Glory Be to the Father

#577

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

L: Loving God, we offer to you the concerns of our church, our community and the world (prayers and a moment of silence are shared.)

All: We thank you, O God, for loving us and caring for us in our times of joy and of sorrow. May we continue to feel your loving kindness through the presence of the Holy Spirit in our homes, our communities and the world. Amen.

Going Forth to Love and Serve

+Sending Hymn

The Spirit Sends us Forth to Serve

STF2241

+The Charge and Benediction

+ The Postlude