

teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

**Sermon** Rev. Sharon Carter

**Responding in Faith**  
**Affirmation of Faith**  
*Apostles' Creed, ecumenical p.14*

**The Service of Giving**  
 Prayer of Dedication Offering Music  
**+Response** *Give Thanks STF2036*

**Notes**

**Celebration of Holy Communion**  
**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**  
**Invitation to the Table**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**  
 The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts (2x)**

**The whole world is full of God's glory (3x)**

**Holy is the Lord!**

Great is the mystery of faith:  
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**Breaking of the Bread**  
**Communion of the People**  
**Prayer After Communion**

**Going into the World**  
**+Hymn** *The Summons STF2130*  
**+Charge and Benediction**  
**+Postlude**

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church  
February 25, 2018  
+Stand as you are able  
*Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold*

## Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Christ candle

### +Call to Worship

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless God's holy name.

**P: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.**

L: Who forgets all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

**P: Who redeems your life and crowns you with mercy and lovingkindness.**

### +Opening Prayer

Let us pray: **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known.**

**May the thoughts of our hearts be inspired by your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name. We pray this in the name of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray together: 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** *The God of Abraham Praise*  
#488

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

Let us pray: **Gracious God, we ask your mercy today, for we have not lived as you call us to live, nor loved as you call us to love. We seek our own comfort while ignoring the plight of those who suffer. We put our faith in the things of this world rather than putting our trust in you. Have mercy upon us as we turn away from our worldly expectations and toward our life in you. (moment of silence)**

### Assurance of Forgiveness

L: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

**What does it mean to 'hope against hope?' Have you ever experienced this? What happened?**

**P: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Song** *Change My Heart, O God* STF2152

### The Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another: the Peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

**Anthem** *We Are God's Family* –  
African Folk Tune

## Hearing the Word

### Prayer for Illumination

**Open our hearts and minds, O Lord, and give us ears to hear your word today. Amen.**

### Scripture Readings

**Romans 4:13-25** For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life

**Why does Jesus call Peter 'Satan?' What is the difference between 'human things' and 'divine things?'**

to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

**Hymn** *Take Up Your Cross...*#393  
(Alternate Tune)

**Mark 8:31-38** Then he began to