

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 18, 2018 10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

- * Call to Worship: Psalm 121
I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD, who made the heavens and the earth.
The LORD will preserve you from all evil.
The LORD will preserve your soul.
The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.
- * Hymn: “Shout to the Lord” Insert
- * God’s Greeting:
Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;
His mercy endures forever.
O God, come to our assistance.
O Lord, hasten to help us.
- * Prayer of the Day:
Journey with us, holy God, as we make our way to the cross. Sharpen our focus, that our attention may center more on you than ourselves. Lead us through the shadows of darkness and prepare our hearts, that we might be a people of prayer, ready to perceive and respond to your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.
- * Response: “Prepare the Way of the Lord” (Repeat 3 times.)
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) ©1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. CCLI 1099351

CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession: based on Isaiah 55:6–7

Prayer of Confession:

Most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another, that we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have

left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not always had in us the mind of Christ. You alone know how often we have grieved you by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways, by forgetting your love. Forgive us, we pray you, most merciful Father, and free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Our Common Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 5 PH 865
Assurance of Pardon: from II Timothy 1:15; I Peter 2:24
God's Will for Our Lives: Deuteronomy 5:6–21
Choral Anthem: "I Lift Up Mine Eyes" Pote
Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

- * Hymn: "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" PH 385
- Children's Message: *What Is Lent?*
- Prayer for Illumination
[Children age 3 - grade Pre-K may leave for Children's Church after the prayer.]
- Scripture Reading: Esther 1 (p. 488)
- Sermon: *Shadow Mission*
- Prayer
- * Hymn: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" PH 384

OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

- * Offertory Prayer
- Offering: Fairlawn General Fund
- Offertory: "Seek Ye First" Lafferty
- * Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed (inside front cover of the Psalter Hymnal)

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

- * Benediction: Jude 24–25
To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! **Amen.**
- * Response: "Let All Things Now Living" PH 453
- * Postlude