

First Presbyterian Church



March 13, 2016
10:45 a.m.

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Prelude

Aria

Paul Manz

Entering with the Candles of Presence

Emma and Jared Keller

Greetings

Minute for History

146th Anniversary of Church

Gary Huffman

*Call to Worship

Leader: As people created by God, we give praise to God:

**People: Dry ground in the sea, rivers in the desert, Christ among us—
God is doing a new thing!**

Leader: As people restored by God, we give praise to God:

**People: Dry ground in the sea, rivers in the desert, Christ among us—
God is doing a new thing!**

Leader: As people pressing on in faith, we give praise to God:

**People: Dry ground in the sea, rivers in the desert, Christ among us—
God is doing a new thing!**

*Hymn

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

No. 365

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, your love has the power to make us whole. Unfortunately, we are comfortable with the way things are in our lives, in the church, and in the world. We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ, for you overturn our notions of power and protocol. Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others. Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us. Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others. Bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice. Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world, with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new.

In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Silence

Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

The apostle Paul reminds us that we do not make ourselves righteous. Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ, who has made us his own. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. The old life has passed away—and a new life has begun. **Forgetting what lies behind, and straining forward to what lies ahead, we press on toward the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.**

*Song of Thanksgiving *Gloria Patri* No. 579

*The Peace

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

(The children may come forward during the greeting.)

Time with the Children

First Reading

Isaiah 43:16-21

Anthem

Morning Trumpet
Eric Lawrence, Soloist

arr. Shaw-Parker

Second Reading

John 12:1-8

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Preparing for the Death of Jesus:
Actions of Mary and Judas Contrasted”
The Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

*Hymn *O Lamb of God Most Holy!* No. 82

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer P.H. Pg. 16

Call to Stewardship

Offertory

The Greatest of These is Love
Marilyn Heffner, Alto

Roberta Bitgood

*Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love,
I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.*

*And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries; and all knowledge,
and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing.*

*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor,
and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love,
It profiteth me nothing.*

*Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not;
love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,
Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own,
is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil.
Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.
Beareth all things, believeth all things.*

*Love never faileth; but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail;
and whether there be tongues, they shall cease;
and whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.*

*But love never faileth,
And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.*

*Doxology

No. 592

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

No. 310

*Charge and Benediction

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Choral Response

Recessing with the Candles of Presence

*Postlude

Elegy

John Ireland

*signifies congregation standing (for those able)

Worship Leaders

Senior Pastor

Brent O. Johnston

Liturgist

Ann Eastwood

Director of Music

Steve Bixler

Organist

Jonathan Murphy