

Order of Worship

March 7, 2010

11:00 am

Amistad Sunday

Communion Sunday

SALUTATION

Be Still and Know

GREETING - ANNOUNCEMENTS - SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE

Hymn to Peace

Martin

A LENTEN MOMENT

Carol Richert

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather today, as the people of God, looking to the sacred stories of our past to help us plot a course for our future. We come, seeking divine wisdom to guide us on our journey.

All: We remember our ancestors in faith who traveled through the desert, seeking your promised land. We remember our forebears who passed through the waters on their way to freedom.

One: We reflect upon the tragedies of the past, of times when the human spirit was crushed beneath the yoke of oppression. We remember, too, the times when our ancestors broke the chains of slavery, freeing themselves and others.

All: The Hebrew people trusted in God's promise for a new life and a new land. The Africans aboard *La Amistad* resisted their captors and

won their freedom. Our forebears looked beyond their own interests to defend the rights of others.

One: Let us drink deeply of the living water of Christ. May our encounter with God transform our lives and lead us in paths of righteousness and justice.

All: We open ourselves to the presence of God. We seek freedom from all that enslaves us and the courage to share that freedom with all people.

* HYMN *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* 495

* MORNING PRAYER

Today we recall how you were present with the faithful before us. To the *Amistad* captives and the abolitionists, you gave the power to resist the evil of slavery. As we remember their witness and work, bind us together as a community to work for equality and justice. Help us to live in covenant with you, valuing and loving others as we would ourselves. Forgive us when we lose heart. Shape us as a people alive in your spirit. Amen.

* LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

*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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the Kingdom and the Power
and the Glory, forever. Amen.*

* GREET EACH OTHER IN THE SPIRIT OF LOVE

The children may leave for Sunday School.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Carmen Samuels
One Great Hour of Sharing

CHORAL CALL TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Micah 6:5-8* OT 672
Acts 16:13-15 NT 104

ANTHEM *Dry Your Tears Afrika* Williams
sung in the Mende language,
translation:

Dry your tears, your children are coming home.
We're coming home, Afrika. Hush child! Don't cry,
Sing a song of joy. We're coming home, Afrika

CONGREGATIONAL JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Faithful, You are faithful.
Lord, hear my prayer, change my heart
and make me faithful.
You are faithful. Great is Your faithfulness.
Great is Your faithfulness.

* HYMN *Community of Christ* 314

MESSAGE *What Does God Require?*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *More Like the Savior* Gabriel

OFFERING HYMN

Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong."
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

* HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* 330
Children join us for Communion.

OBSERVANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who come in faith are invited to come forward. Please take the
bread, dip the bread in the chalice and partake as we share in the
celebration of sacred love with our brothers and sisters
gathered here today.

DEACONS' OFFERING

This is a special voluntary once a month offering
for the needy within this church
and within the community.

* HYMN *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* 76

* BENECTION

Micah 6:5-8

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Acts 16:13-15

On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.” And she prevailed upon us.

*Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.
Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.
Let us dream together, pray together, work together
To build one world of peace and justice for all.*

-The Upanishads

* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Go now in peace, never be afraid;
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith – steadfast strong, and true;
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe;
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above;
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.
Amen, Amen, Amen.*

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Air

Purcell