

# Order for the Worship of God

Highland Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2015

## OPENING PRAYER

Most Loving God, we gather as pilgrims on a journey of faith.  
We come seeking the awareness of God's presence as we tra  
We come seeking light for our darkness, strength in our  
Shine in our hearts, O God, with the light of your love.  
Make your presence known through Jesus the Christ. Amen

In the darkness of the earth, seeds break open.  
In the darkness of sleep, old burdens fall away.  
In the darkness of night, dreams blossom into new vision.  
In the darkness of the womb, new life comes to birth.  
In the darkness of Lent, may you trust in God's promises  
of transformation, renewal, hope and birth.

+HYMN

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

306

+CALL TO CONFESSION

+TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

## Gathering around THE WORD

PRELUDE

Dr. Kit Loong Yee (Raymond)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Kelly

CENTERING SONG

*Holy Ground*

see insert

CALL TO WORSHIP

Todd Stewart

Creating God, still center of the world you have made,  
we come to you in this season of turning and returning.

**We do not know how to seek you with our whole hearts,  
but we know you are our source and our destiny.**

We thank you that you receive even the broken heart,  
the troubled conscience, the conflicted spirit.

**Seeking you in secret we return to you;  
we turn toward you through Jesus Christ,  
our path homeward to you.**

**O God, we confess that we forget who we are.  
We don't listen for that still small voice.  
We walk with our heads down  
and miss all that could be ours,  
But we know, O God, that you are a God of hope  
who does not forget your covenant with us:  
a shepherd God who looks for lost sheep,  
a faithful God who keeps calling us  
in spite of our deafness,  
a God who enters our history  
and opens our eyes  
and heals our blindness.  
O God, accept us as your children  
that we may walk in the hope of your love. Amen**

+ASSURANCE OF PARDON

+THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

+At this sign, you are invited to rise in body or in spirit.

**Bold: all people respond** Offer the sign of Christ to one another in word, handshake, hug, c

## Proclaiming THE WORD

SCRIPTURE Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Mark 8:31-38

SERMON “NO VISIBLE SIGN!”

## Responding to THE WORD

+HYMN *When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son*

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – *The Apostles’ Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## Sealing THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER  
Todd Stewart

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE  
Pastor Kelly

Friends, we have been invited to eat supper in the Lord’s house

**We come hungry and thirsty.**

Jesus walked in the world inviting everyone to his feast – the rich and the poor, the faithful and the unfaithful, the strong and the weak, the old and the young, adults and children . . .

Hymn 86

**We meet at the Lord’s Table.**

Come then and sit down to life with our Lord Jesus Christ, for he has washed the dust from your feet – he will wipe the tears from your eyes – he will take away the burden from your shoulders and the heaviness from your hearts

**We come to this table to celebrate life, to celebrate faith**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

BREAKING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP

*When invited to come forward,  
move toward the center aisle and proceed down the aisle to  
receive the bread, dip it into the cup, and partake of the elements.  
If you are unable to come forward,  
please remain seated and we will come to you.*

Dr. Kit Loong Yee (Raymond)

+CLOSING PRAYER

*The Lord’s Prayer*

Hymn 592

+POSTLUDE

Dr. Kit Loon