

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May we who are blessed to give
be a blessing to those who receive;
and whether we give or receive,
may we know that you are the source of all good gifts. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(printed inside cover of hymn book)*

HYMN 423 Fight the good fight

SENDING OUT

Go now, and press on in the path to which God is calling you.
Do not get caught up in the things of the past,
or in the lesser, fleeting things,
but welcome the new things God is doing,
and take the new paths that open through the places of death.

BENEDICTION

And may God pour life-giving waters into your wilderness;
may Christ Jesus make you his own;
and may the Holy Spirit strengthen you
.....for the race that lies before you.

*You are invited to be seated for the playing of the postlude,
or to leave at this point without disturbing those who wish to listen*

POSTLUDE Herzlich tut mich verlangen J.S. Bach 1685-1750

Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church

Presiding Minister	Rev Jana Norman
Scripture Reader	Jon Miller
Organist & Choir Director	Peter Kelsall
Organ Scholar	Alexander Paine

The Choir of Pilgrim Church
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*Please join us for tea or coffee and fellowship in the Lounge
after the service.*

Lent 5

17 March 2013

*The church is fitted with a hearing loop which covers the body of the church.
Hearing aid wearers are advised to switch their aid to T-setting*

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE

The people stand for the entrance of the Bible

CALL TO WORSHIP

Whatever God did in the past,
the future is that much better
(even in Jerusalem!)
**We will not stop looking
for the newness God has for us!**
Whatever we have achieved to this point,
we have not completed our journey
(even into the unknown).
**We will quicken our pace
to follow Jesus wherever he leads.**
Whatever obstacles we put in the path,
God will make a way to our hearts
(even in the desert of death).
**We will move onward,
through our doubts and fears.**

HYMN 424 Fill thou my life, O Lord my God omit vv 5-6

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, you humble our pride, so we might open our hearts to your healing;
you restrain our fears, so we might reach for your joy.

Jesus Christ, you gather up our tears and wash away
the dust of our despair; you sit at our feet and anoint us
with your costly love; you wipe away our sin and make us new.

Holy Spirit, Impudent Joy: you grace us with gifts so abundant
they become a river bursting its banks in our lives.

God in Community, Holy in One, we collect ourselves in your presence
to receive these and all your gifts. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

We confess to remembering the things of old;
piecing life together with what could have been,
or should have been, or ought to be again.
What God would put behind us, we cling onto.
Unwilling to open to the unknown and the new.
No, we do not want to perceive it.

A time of silence as we reflect on these words for ourselves

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God beckons us to let go of the former things,
and come forward into the new.
Forgiven our stubborn clinging,
forgiven our willful ignorance,
God opens the pathway to something new.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

ANTHEM Drop, drop, slow tears Orlando Gibbons 1583-1625

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

May a new thing spring forth in each of our hearts
as we hear the word of God read and proclaimed.
If our hearts are deserts, let living waters flow.
In the word of God is our restoration and our joy.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 43: 16-21

In this is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 126

- 1 When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion then were we
like unto them that dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with joy.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen The Lord hath done great things for them.
- 4 Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already whereof we rejoice.
- 5 Turn our captivity, O Lord as the rivers in the south.
- 6 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.
- 7 He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed
shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

Please stand and sing the concluding Gloria

Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son:

and / to the / Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now and / ever /shall be
world without / end. / A / men**

SECOND READING Philippians 3: 4b-14

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Like as the hart Herbert Howells 1892-1983

Please stand for the gospel

A reading from the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Glory to you, Lord

GOSPEL READING John 12: 1-8

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HYMN 528 Not far beyond the sea

SERMON

THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION

HYMN 118 O love, how deep, how broad, how high

*During the singing of this hymn our offering will be received.
Remain standing for the dedication prayer.*