



The Season of Lent

Holy Conversations

Morning Conversation with God

Week two:

Lord of Creation, every morning you
renew the earth with light.

I praise you for the morning light, and
I rejoice in the life you have given me.

Let me be a friend to those who do not know your
love.

Let me offer hope to those who do not
trust your goodness.

Let me embody graciousness to those
who do not understand your peace.

Help me to be a blessing to all
I encounter to bear witness to your
goodness through Jesus Christ, Amen.

Leesburg Presbyterian Church

March 16, 2014

**Please stand if able*

THE GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are sitting at the end of a pew, please start the friendship register by signing it and passing it to your neighbor.

Wherever you may be in the journey of faith, Leesburg Presbyterian Church welcomes you. We are a community where persons from different faith backgrounds and understandings find unity in the wide embrace of Christ's love and call to service. If you are passing through, we extend God's blessing to you as you continue on your way. If you are seeking a home, we invite you to join us in the adventure of serving Jesus Christ in a challenging world.

PRELUDE *Adagio from Organ Sonata #1* Felix Mendelssohn

GATHERING SONG #37 *Let All Things Now Living* ASH GROVE
(verse 1)

**Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us;
pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished,
all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 121: 2, 5, and 8 pew bible p. 570

Leader: From where will our help come?

People: Our help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven earth.

Leader: Who is our keeper?

People: by day and by night.

Leader: How long will God protect us?

People: God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forever more.

***HYMN #645** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

GOSPEL LESSON

John 3: 1-17

pew bible p. 93

ANTHEM (11:00)

God So Loved the World

John Stainer

SERMON

Holy Conversation: *Rev. Deborah Dodson Parsons*
Nicodemus

***HYMN #53**

O God Who Gives Us Life

NOEL

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ

J. S. Bach

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Gracious God,

we dedicate to you not only these gifts,
but also ourselves, in deep gratitude—
for your call on our lives, your guidance in
our baptismal journey, and for blessing us
that we may be a blessing to others.

Accept what we bring for your own good purposes.

In Christ we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #634**

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

***CHARGE**

The cross. . .

WE SHALL TAKE IT.

The bread. . .

WE SHALL BREAK IT.

The pain. . .

WE SHALL BEAR IT.

The joy. . .

WE SHALL SHARE IT.

The gospel. . .

WE SHALL LIVE IT.

The love. . .

WE SHALL GIVE IT.

The light. . .

WE SHALL CHERISH IT.

The darkness. . .

GOD SHALL PERISH IT.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Pasticcio

Jean Langlais

PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION

Hymn #695

Change My Heart, O God

(Please remain seated)

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we come before you

In need of forgiveness and grace.

You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not.

We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead.

We justify our actions and words,

though we know they are not what you require.

We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers,

preferring old habits to risky change.

Forgive us, we pray.

Help us to be born again into the life of Christ,

trusting that you have included us by grace

in the family of faith.

In Christ's name we pray.

(silence is kept)

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

***RESPONSE #447**

We Are Forgiven

We are forgiven.

We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven.

We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks be to God.

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (11:00)



The Season of Lent . . .

Lenten Sermon Series

Holy Conversations in the Gospel of John

March 16 - A Conversation with Nicodemus John 3: 1-17

March 23 - A Conversation with A Woman at a Well John 4: 5-32

March 30 - A Conversation with A Blind Man John 9: 1-41

April 6 - A Conversation with Mary & Martha John 11: 1-45

Mid-Week

Holy Conversation Group

Wednesday Mornings

10:00 - 11:15 am

in the church parlor

A Time of Centering Prayer and
Reflection on Holy Conversations
in the Gospel of John

March 19th thru April 16th

Maundy Thursday

Tennebrae Service

A Service of Shadows

Thursday, April 17th

7:30 - 8:30 pm

The Story of the Passion and
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Palm/Passion Sunday

Sunday, April 13th

Sunday Morning

Adult Study

*Sowing Tears, Reaping Joy:
the Bible & Brahms' Requiem*

9:45 - 10:45 am

in the meeting room

March 9th thru April 27th

Led by Rev. Meredith Moore

See page 5 for more information
about this exciting new study!

Easter Celebration

of the Resurrection of Jesus

Sunday, April 20th

Three Worship Services

Identical in Hymns and Liturgy

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am

Childcare is available during the

9:30 & 11:00 Service

Continental Easter Breakfast

Join us anytime between

9:00 - 11:00 am

for coffee, juice and breakfast breads!

Sunday, March 16, 2014
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sun.	March 16	4:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class
		5:30 p.m.	Youth Group
Mon.	March 17	11:00 a.m.	Monday Morning Stitches
Tue.	March 18	7:30 p.m.	Session
Wed.	March 19	10:00 a.m.	Holy Conversations
		7:00 p.m.	Choir
Fri.	March 21		Overnight Confirmation Retreat

To Our Visitors Whether you have visited with us before or are visiting today for the first time, we hope you experience the open-hearted hospitality of the Living Christ in our community of faith as we gather in his name for Sabbath worship. Because it is our desire to get to know you better and to be able to communicate with you about our life and ministry, we appreciate you filling out the attendance register. One becomes a member of a Presbyterian church in one of three ways: 1) Profession of Faith, 2) Re-affirmation of Faith, 3) by Letter of Transfer from a previous church.

Prayer Chain Prayer requests are confidentially and conscientiously lifted to God by members of the Prayer Chain every day. Please email prayer@lpcva.org if you have a special need or concern you wish to share through a praying church.

In Our Prayers we remember: Kim Vigil, Barbara Drumm, Jane Wallace, Hal and Mary Lib Glovier. Our prayers are constant for the women and men of the Armed Forces and their families.

Mailing list Interested in receiving a weekly reminder of all things LPC? Did you receive a copy of the *Back Pew* at home this week? Maybe your address, phone number, or email address has changed? Please call or email the office so we are up to date. 703-777-4163, office@lpcva.org.

The Back Pew The deadline for submission to the April issue of LPC's monthly newsletter, *The Back Pew*, is Monday, March 17. Please email articles to office@lpcva.org. Volunteers are needed to help prepare the newsletter for mailing on Wednesday, March 26 at 10:30 am. No experience necessary.

2014 Flower Chart There is a flower chart hanging outside the office. If you would like to provide flowers during 2014, please sign up for a date. Please email Memorial or honorary dedications for the bulletin by the Tuesday before your date.

Children in Worship:

Because the safety of our young children matters deeply to all of us, we encourage families with little ones to choose a seat other than the front row of the balcony.

Infants to 3 year olds – are cared for by two professional caregivers, Miss Pat and Miss Angie, in the nursery on the first floor of the education wing from 8:15 to 12:15. *Only parents* can drop off children at the nursery in order to communicate with providers. Drop off can happen before worship, after Time with Children message, or at any other time during the worship service. Ushers or the acolyte will be happy to show parents where the nursery is located.

4 year olds to 3rd grade – are invited to participate in *Godly Play* after the children's message. *Godly Play* provides age appropriate worship for children that helps them deepen their understanding of God through storytelling, hands-on activities and prayer. If children decide not to enter the *Godly Play* room, or are too young or too old for the designated age range, they will be accompanied by the acolyte back to the sanctuary and reunited with their parents.

4th grade and up – remain in the sanctuary to participate in the worship service.

Today's Service Music:

Prelude: Adagio from Organ Sonata #1 by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847). Mendelssohn wrote conservative music of the early Romantic period, and his six organ sonatas (1845) are landmarks of organ literature. Mendelssohn was the grandson of the great Jewish philosopher Moses Mendelssohn, but his father denounced the family's Jewish heritage; thus Felix was baptized into the Lutheran Church. Like Mozart, Mendelssohn suffered a tragically early death. Mendelssohn was largely responsible for the revival of interest in the music of J. S. Bach, which had fallen out of favor. In tribute to Bach, Mendelssohn's organ sonatas are not in sonata form, but are collections of pieces grouped into suites. Today's prelude is the second of four movements that form the first organ sonata.

Choral Anthem: God So Loved the World by John Stainer (1840-1901). English composer Sir John Stainer wrote an oratorio called *The Crucifixion* (1887) that contains one of the world's most commonly performed choral anthems, *God So Loved the World*. *The Crucifixion* was written for four-part choir and organ, but its popularity has resulted in an orchestrated version in recent years. The text of today's anthem comes straight from the King James version of John 3:16. Stainer, who was a professor of music at Oxford and organist at London's St. Paul's Cathedral, set standards of organ performance and choral training that are still influential today. Two of his choral anthems were performed at the coronation of King Edward VII in 1902.

Offertory Voluntary: Ich ruf' zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ by J. S. Bach (1685-1750). This short trio (1717) is found in J. S. Bach's collection titled *The Little Organ Book*, which was used for instruction in composing various treatments of hymn melodies. The pedal line consists of constant eighth notes, and the middle voice is an unbroken string of sixteenth notes; the florid melody is ornamented in typical Baroque fashion. Text: *I call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ, to hear my lamentation. Bestow thy grace upon me so that I do not despair, and give me the right faith to live for Thee, to be useful to my neighbor, and to keep thy word properly.*

Postlude: Pasticcio by Jean Langlais (1907-1991). A blind French organist, composer and teacher who was titular organist at Sainte-Clotilde in Paris for 43 years, Langlais followed in the footsteps of César Franck and Charles Tournemire. All three of their names are carved in stone to the left of the west entrance doors of the basilica. *Pasticcio* (1956) is a brisk march that imitates an Italian musical form known as a canzona. The piece was written as a wedding gift for Jacqueline Marchal and Guiseppe Englert; Jacqueline was the daughter of André Marchal, one of Langlais's first teachers.

