



Power Under Control

March 12, 2023

The Art of Living Lightly: What
Jesus Really Wants Us to
Give Up for Lent

3rd Sunday of Lent

Prelude "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" by Joel Raney

Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

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Celebration of Community

- For visitors and members, we have QR codes that will take you directly to our visitor information, online bulletin, upcoming events/news and giving page. Just open your camera and scan the QR code, no app necessary. There are also paper visitor forms if you would like to fill those in and drop them off in the baskets.

- Woman of J.O.Y Award was established to recognize a woman who has shown distinguished service to SGPC. Recipient of this award is announced at the Women's Luncheon. The nominations are due March 15. Please go to saxegotha.org/news for the nomination form.

- Easter Lily Sale through March 22 - Purchase online or with the envelopes - in the Sanctuary in the pews/on tables in the Light House.

- Kids Summer Camp Registration is now open - go to saxegotha.org/summer!

- "Let's Glow" Glow in the Dark Indoor Easter Egg Hunt. Saturday, March 25 in the Gym from 9-11 am. Family fun for all ages - bring a dry/canned good to donate to Mission Lexington. Volunteer by clicking on the QR code. We are collecting donations of candy for treat bags and breakfast/snack foods.

We Gather to Worship

Introit "There Is a Balm in Gilead" arr. by Garth Olson

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano) and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

* Call to Worship

One: Called by Christ,

ALL: we gather as one.

One: Blessed by God's wisdom,

ALL: we gather to learn.

One: Amazed by God's love,

ALL: we gather to worship.

One: Come, let us worship God!

* *Opening Hymn #N/A "Again We Keep this Solemn Fast" (vs. 1-5) [Sung to the hymn, "Jesus Shall Reign"-#375-CH] arr. by Garth Olson*

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano) and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

Prayer of Confession

When we set up barriers that prevent others
from knowing the truth of your love
forgive us and break down those walls.

When we set up barriers in our own minds and lives
that keep us from knowing the truth of your love,
break down our walls with your grace.

When we are confused by the world's wisdom,
break through our muddled minds
and shine the clarity of your teachings.

Draw us ever closer to you, to one another,
and to the beauty of your wisdom and your love.
Amen.

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Assurance

Be thankful in this good news:

Christ has forgiven us.

Christ is forgiving us.

Christ will forgive us.

In the name of Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

* Affirmation of Faith

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as man involves the church in the common life of [people]. His service... commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of [hu]mankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of people in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on man's inhumanity to man and the awful consequences of its own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of... society and of God's victory over all wrong.

The Confession of 1967 9.32

* *Gloria Patri #813 "Glory Be to the Father"*

Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

Children's Message

* Passing of the Peace

Having come together to lead lives worthy of our calling, let us share our unity in Christ as we exchange signs of peace with one another.

One: Peace be with you,

ALL: and also with you.

* *Hymn #390 "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" (vs. 1-4) [CH]*

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano) and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

Invitation to the Offering

Invite the ushers to please come forward.

Give Online: SaxeGotha.org

Text: 803-302-3499

Mail: 5503 Sunset Blvd, Lexington, SC 29072

Offertory

8:30 "Behold the Lamb"...Getty and Townend, arr. Larry Shackley | Cathy McGill (piano)

11:00 "Take Up Your Cross, The Savior Said" by Howard Helvey | Sanctuary Choir and Cathy McGill (piano)

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* *Doxology #815 "Praise God From Who All Blessings Flow"*

Garth Olson, Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano), Ruth Brannen (pipe organ) and CONGREGATION

Offertory Blessing and Prayer

Pocket Anthem "Behold the Lamb" by Getty and Townend, arr. Larry Shackley

Cathy McGill (piano)

We Hear God's Word

Bumper Video

Title: Power Under Control

Core

Jesus demonstrates his strength not by applying force but by practicing gentleness.

Call

This week, pray for this process. Pray for our leaders who will be asked to invest a lot of time and effort in this work!

Compel

I hope people will feel a mixture of excitement, hope, and understandable trepidation as we undergo spiritual rehab for the sake of greater missional effectiveness.

Title: Power Under Control

As a reminder, our theme verses during Lent are Matthew 11:28-30. Here they are in King James Version. This is how many of us have memorized them:

28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Our text for this morning is

Matthew 12:15-21 ESV

15 Jesus, aware of this*, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all 16 and ordered them not to make him known. 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah:

18 "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen,
my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased.

I will put my Spirit upon him,
and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.

19 He will not quarrel or cry aloud,
nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets;

20 a bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not quench,

until he brings justice to victory;
21 and in his name the Gentiles will hope."

We Respond to God's Word**Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer***** Closing Hymn #428 "In Christ There Is No East or West" (vs. 1-4) [CH]**

Worship Vocal Team or Sanctuary Choir, Cathy McGill (piano) and Ruthie Brannen (pipe organ)

*** Invitation and Benediction****Postlude "Lobe den Herrn" by Hans Andre Stamm**

Ruthie Brannen (organ)

*** Congregation is asked to stand if able.**

Children's Message

Special Announcement:

Abigail (Abigail) Jean Sturgis, daughter of John and Elizabeth Sturgis, will receive the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, March 12, 2023 in the AWE Service. Abigail has a big brother, Graham.