

***Affirmation of Faith** (responsive)

A Declaration of Faith

We do not fully comprehend who God is or how God works.
God's reality far exceeds all our words can say.
The Lord's requirements are not always what we think is best.
The Lord's care for us is not always what we want.
God comes to us on God's own terms
and is able to do far more than we ask or think.

**Jesus' involvement in the human condition is God's involvement.
His compassion for all kinds of people is God's compassion.
His demand for justice, truth, and faithfulness is God's demand.
His willingness to suffer rejection is God's willingness.
Jesus' love for the very people who reject him is God's love.**

***Hymn 610**

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

***The Charge** (responsive)

Billy Graham

Only God can give us a selfless love for others,
as the Holy Spirit changes us from within.

Will others see Christ's love in your life today?

***Sung Benediction 166 (verses 1 and 3)** "Lord, Who throughout These 40 Days"

**Lord, who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
And through these days of penitence, and through this Passiontide,
yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.**

***Blessing**

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

A hearing loop is active; set hearing aid to "T-coil."

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MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION.

**MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
February 25, 2018, 9:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

Billy Graham (1918-2018)

*"Only God can give us a selfless love for others,
as the Holy Spirit changes us from within...
Will others see Christ's love in your life today?"*

Chimes of the Trinity

Ritual of Fellowship

Voluntary

Variants on *Dominus Regit Me*
(The Lord's My Shepherd)

John Dykes
arr. Carter

***Call to Worship**

from Psalm 22:23-31

You who fear the LORD, praise him!

**All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!**

The poor shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD.

May your hearts live forever!

**Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord,
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying: he has done it.**

***Hymn 41**

"O Worship the King"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we claim to follow Jesus,
but have not often taken his path of sacrificial love.
We profess to be disciples,
but we are not always willing to bear the cost of discipleship.
We affirm the virtue of self-denial,
but we indulge our selfish desires and seek earthly gain.
Forgive us, we pray. Free us for sincere repentance
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 578 "O Lord, Have Mercy"
O Lord, have mercy; O Lord, have mercy;
O Lord, have mercy, have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy; O Christ, have mercy;
O Christ, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Assurance of Pardon

Response 603 "Lamb of God"
Cantor: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy, have mercy on us.
Congregation: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy, have mercy on us.
All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Grant us, O grant us your peace.

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading Mark 8:31-37

Hymn 543 "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me"

Old Testament Reading Genesis 17:1-9
Piano voluntary (Unlisted in printed bulletins) "Just As I Am"
New Testament Reading Romans 4:13-25

Sermon "Who Gives Life to the Dead and Calls into Existence the Things That Do Not Exist" Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" Carl Glaser
arr. Carter

*Doxology 607

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore, amen.

*Prayer of Dedication