that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted;

that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.

*Hymn 318

"In Christ There Is No East or West"

*The Charge (responsive)

Micah 6:8

God has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God?

*Sung Benediction 726 (verse 5)

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*Blessing

*The congregation is invited to stand.

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



MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 18, 2018, 9:00 A.M.

Morning Meditation

Christoph Friedrich Blumhardt

"It is not at all a question of being better than you were before. The new life means that forces for life can now be seen within you, that something of God and of heaven, something holy, can grow in you."

Chimes of the Trinity and Ritual of Fellowship

Voluntary "An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare" (GTG 202)/ English folk "A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar" (GTG 201) Lowry, 1869

*Call to Worship

from John 12:21-23

They came to Philip, and said to him,

"Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

Philip went and told Andrew; then they went and told Jesus.

And he answered them,

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."

*Hymn 307

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you do not break your covenant with us to be our God, but we often violate our covenant to be your people.

You have put your holy law of love within us and have written it on our hearts. We know you.

And we know we can do better than we do.
In your astounding mercy, forgive our iniquity, we pray, and remember our sin no more.

Hear now our silent prayers of penitence.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 437

"You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy"

You are the Lord, giver of mercy! You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

Assurance of Pardon

Response 604

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace; grant us peace.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Hymn 692

"Spirit, Open My Heart"

First Gospel Reading

John 12:17-23

Hymn 726 (verses 1, 2 and 5)

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

Second Gospel Reading

John 12:24-33

Sermon

"The World Has Gone After Him"

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People and 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

"What Wondrous Love Is This" Walker's *Southern Harmony* (1835) 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

*Affirmation of Faith (responsive)

Belhar Confession

We believe in the triune God, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;

that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ;

that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;