

**Third Sunday in Lent
March 7, 2010 – 8:30 and 10:30 AM**

GATHERING TOGETHER

Gathering Music Go My Children With My Blessing arr.
Wood

Welcome

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Chimes and Introit (10:30) House of Our God arr.
Parker

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Let all the faithful offer prayers to God! In times of distress, trouble shall not overtake us.

You are a hiding place for us, O God, You preserve us and show us your way, and help us to be a servant people.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous,

and shout for joy, all you upright in heart, for steadfast love surrounds those who trust in God.

Amen. Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn** The Servant Song (see
insert)

Lenten Prayer (Unison)

Lord, in this season of self-denial, our attention is often turned back to the very thing we have given up. We are acutely aware of our hungers and desires, and so we're acutely aware of our weaknesses, too. Lord, cover us now with your grace. In your word, you tell us that your ways are higher than our ways, and so we pray for you to cover us like a clear, nighttime sky, full of mystery and light. Cover us with the knowledge that we do not know all, but that you do. Cover us with the knowledge that light shines, even if we can't always see it. Cover us with the strength to wait through our temptations, the way a watchman waits for morning. Cover us with the desire to help our neighbors in need. Cover us with the hope of your deliverance, which is as sure as the sunrise.

Lenten Litany (Responsive)

The Lord calls out to us: "Come, all you who are thirsty!"

We come now to drink!

The Lord calls out to us: "All you who have no money, come and eat! Why labor in vain for that which does not satisfy."

We come now for the wine and bread of your grace and mercy. Feed us, Lord, at this supper with your truth and your Word.

The Lord calls out to us: "My ways are higher than your ways. My thoughts are like the canopy of sky overhead."

Cover us, Lord, with your grace. Your ways are far above ours. We repent and believe again.

Inspired by Isaiah 55

*** Gloria Patri** # 579

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen

Children's Message (10:30) Kelsey Cowen and Molly
Olsen

(Children up to 2 years old go to the nursery area; 3's and 4's can go to the preschool rooms in the lower level for church school. K's go to lower level next to the 3-4 classroom. Others may remain in worship and may begin to use their worship folders now.)

Call for the Offering, Deacon's Offering

Offertory Anthem (10:30) Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah arr.
Parker

***Doxology** (Presbyterian Hymnal
#592)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

ENCOUNTERING THE WORD

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 25:31-40 page 29

Meditation "Something Beautiful for God" The Rev. Karen
Hagy

Frank Conery
Ellis Bouchard
George Reese
Larry Cowen

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BEDFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4 Church Road, Bedford, New Hampshire

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table and Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer (traditional using "debts")

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.

Communion Meditation (10:30)

Love Ye The Lord – Handel
Janet Wittenberg, mezzo and Paul Loefstedt, oboe
Wondrous Love

Sharing of Bread and Cup (Intinction at 8:30)

Prayer of Praise

GOING FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***Closing Hymn** Go My Children with my Blessing (see
insert)

(10:30) vs. 2- women, vs. 3 choir, vs. 1 and 4 all

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude Wondrous Love arr. Raney

*Those who are able are invited to stand.

*“To bless is to put a bit of yourself
into something. It is to make holy,
to change something or someone
because of your presence.”*