

First Reformed Church of Cary

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

Katie Murchison Ross, Guest Speaker

Prelude

Congregational Concerns

Votum

Choral Introit

"Praise You"

Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing!

For the Lord is a gracious God,

whose mercy is everlasting;

and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.

***Hymn of Praise #8**

"Bless, O My Soul the Living God"

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we have failed to believe in your providence in our lives. We sit in the ashes of our hopes, but you call us to trust in your continuing work. We judge our neighbors, but you pour out grace upon us and upon them, too. We become stuck in our routines and fail to offer grace and hospitality to all your children, but you call us to seek love and justice in your world. We try to box you in with boundaries we can manage, but you continue to burst forth to bring newness into the world.

Have mercy on us, God of forgiveness, and open our eyes to your presence among us. Shape our hearts so that we may see others in a different way, not as enemies or strangers, but sisters and brothers of the same family, kin to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn #314

"Christ, of All My Hope is Ground!"

Reception of Gifts & Offerings

Congregational Song of Praise

"This is the day (repeat) that the Lord has made (that the Lord has made) I will rejoice (I will rejoice) and be glad in it (and be glad in it) Oh, this is the day that the Lord has made. I will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made."

*Doxology

*Offertory Prayer

The Word of God

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

Meditation

"An Unexpected Anointing"

Our Response to God

*Confession of Faith

The Apostle's Creed

(Page 12 Hymnal)

We are and will continue to be a community that loves and worships God in the Reformed tradition for the purpose of being known as a congregation that actively cares for those in need around us.

Congregational Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn #338

"He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought"

*Benediction

"Three-Fold Amen"

*Postlude

*Those that are able please stand

WELCOME

Katie Murchison Ross is a third-year M.Div. student at Duke Divinity School and a candidate for ordination in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Originally from Maryland, Katie studied at St. Olaf College in Minnesota, and then spent time teaching English and adult literacy in East Africa, Washington D.C., and Western NC, before feeling called to seminary. Katie lives with her husband in Durham and plans to serve a one-year chaplain residency at Duke Hospital next year and following that to seek a job as a pastor in the area.

THANK YOU

Our thanks to Carol Myers for leading our Music Worship this morning.