

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**HYMN 468**

*In My Life*

**GATHERING PRAYER**

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet where the last may be first, and the humble and the mighty trade places. Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity; let us greet strangers as angels you have sent! Send your Spirit now so that we may find a place at your table and welcome others with radical hospitality. In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray. Amen.

(by Rev. Christopher Rey)

**OPENING MUSIC**

**SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we find it hard to recognize in ourselves the trappings our society so admires- power, wealth, and access that sometimes forget mutual love. We fail to see our allegiance to other gods- rushing for places of honor, scorning the humble and lowly, supporting systems that thrive on apathy and greed. Forgive us when we are fearful that there is not enough. Remind us that you are enough. Teach us your generosity. Teach us your world-changing humility. Teach us your expansive love. Transform us and heal our lives. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

(Silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

**RESPONSE**

**HYMN 441 v. 2** *Hear the Good News of Salvation*  
All the sins I have committed, to my Savior now I bring. I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing: Jesus Christ, how much I love you! Jesus Christ, you save from sin! How I love you! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.

**CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION**

**\*HYMN 306**

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Luke 14: 7 - 14

**SERMON**

Laura Roberson Hadas

**ANTHEM**

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*  
Arr. Anna Laura Page  
Starmount Handbell Choir

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary. Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(adapted from the Confession of 1967)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful, fragile disciples. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of life and society, and God's victory over all that is wrong. With an urgency born of this hope, we apply ourselves to our present tasks, ever striving for a better world. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

**\*HYMN 439 v. 1 – 3 & 6** *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer*

**BENEDICTION**

\*Please stand in body or spirit

**Announcements**

**Thank you for joining us for worship this Sunday!** We hope you will find it to be an uplifting and meaningful experience. If you are a **guest or visitor**, we invite you to stop by our information desk in the Narthex (entry space). We have a gift for you as well as some information about our wonderful community of faith. If you feel comfortable sharing your contact information, we invite you to also fill out a visitor card.

**Families with young children** are invited to stop by the children's corner in the Narthex. Here you can check in your children for nursery care and staff can direct you to our downstairs classrooms. There are also worship/activity bags available.

**"Meeting Jesus at the Table" Lent Book Study** – There's still time to join us for one of our remaining book studies using the book "Meeting Jesus at the Table". Remaining classes are on Sun., 3/26 at 11:30 am or Wed., 3/22, 3/29 & 4/5 at 8:30 am.

**39th Annual Bach's Lunch** will be held **March 20 – 24** at 12:15 pm in the Sanctuary. Here is a list of our performers:

**Monday, March 20, 2023**

Dmitri Shteinberg, piano

**Tuesday, March 21, 2023**

Maria Serkin, French horn & Allison Gagnon, piano

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**

Clara O'Brien, mezzo soprano & James Douglass, piano

**Thursday, March 23, 2023**

Peter Zlotnick, percussion; Stephanie Ezerman, violin & Andy Hudson, clarinet

**Friday, March 24, 2023**

Susan Bates, organ



Please consider donating to this year's Bach's Lunch by using this QR code to the right:

Join us on **Palm Sunday, April 2**, for finger foods and light refreshments following worship! We will have crafts for kids, "Holy Week at Home" resources, and fellowship for all ages!

**Holy Week & Easter Schedule –**

- Maundy Thursday, April 6 – Communion Service at 5:30 pm
- Good Friday, April 7 – Stations of the Cross will begin with a prayer service at Noon
- Easter Sunday, April 9 – Sunrise Service at 6:45 am
- Easter Sunday, April 9 – Worship Service at 10:00 am

**Easter Lilies** – This Easter, honor or remember someone special by purchasing an Easter Lily for \$15.00 per plant. Order forms can be found on the Gathering Space desk or in your weekly email. All forms and donations must be in by **Sunday, March 26**, and all lilies will be in the Sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, April 9**.

**Summer Stars** registration is now open! Registration information can be found on the welcome desk in the Narthex.

**Sentimental Journey** – Save the date of **Sunday, May 21** to honor and celebrate our Starmount members that are 80 years of age and older. More info to follow in the coming weeks.

Save the date for Starmount's intergenerational (14 yrs. old and up) **Mission Trip** to Eastern Kentucky, **July 9- 15**. More information will be coming in the next few weeks.

**Pine Straw** – If you're interested in purchasing pine straw with proceeds benefitting future mission trips, please contact Neil Huffman at [mnhuff@earthlink.net](mailto:mnhuff@earthlink.net).



**Starmount Presbyterian Church was certified as an Earth Care Congregation** by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Presbyterian Hunger Program through February 2024. The Earth Care Congregation certification is designed to recognize churches that make the commitment to take seriously God's charge to "till and keep" the garden.

### **Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff**

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Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee, Pastor

Rev. Scott Lawson, Parish Associate

Jada Poteat, Interim Director of Music

Michael Parker, Pianist/Organist

Cindy Lee, Director of Children's Ministries

Laura Roberson Hadas, Director of Youth & Refugee Ministries



**Welcome to Sunday Worship**  
**March 19, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.**