

Lent
Misunderstood
Civics
Scripture
Spirituality **Jesus**
Abundance
Reconciliation

Worship

Port Williams United Baptist

Church

March 24, 2019

The Worship of God

Opening Meditation

*“You keep using that word,
I do not think it means what you think it means”*

The Princess Bride

* **Welcoming Each Other**

Rev. Dr. Don Flowers

Announcements

Prelude

Dr. Christianne Rushton

Invocation

* **Hymn of Praise** “O Christ the Word Incarnate” **499**

* **Litany:**

The season of Lent can be barren and lonely,

**But God goes with us
through the wild wilderness.**

Our lives are lived

in seasons of transitions and transformations.

Lent is a time to ponder

God's providence and persistence.

Together, we seek fruitfulness,

for it has been promised to us;

The barrenness of Lent

will give way to the fruitfulness of Easter.

In this season of penitence and pondering,

let us gather before God.

We come, as a family,

to wait for the Lord with strength and courage.

Come, let us worship God!

Scripture

Isaiah 55:1-9

John Churchill

Litany of Confession

God of abundance, you have promised to provide us with more than mere survival; in seeking to satisfy our deepest hungers, we shall find an even more profound sustenance than human imagination could envision.

In your holy love, you have given us so much: talents and treasure in unlimited supply. But often, we spend these on superficial needs. We throw away our plenty on little hungers and petty desires. We seek the fleeting delight of novelty, of prettiness, and of veneer. We follow the urges to momentary importance; to the notice of a fickle society more interested in noise and sparkle than in mundane sturdiness. We chase after happiness while neglecting joy; we chase after romance while neglecting love; we skim the surface while fearing the depths.

God of grace, we are hungry. God of mercy, quench our thirst.

Forgive us, we pray, for our fearfulness, as we rely more upon our own human illusions of control and satisfaction, even though we know that these illusions separate us from you. Forgive us for not trusting in your grace, in your abundance, in the covenant promises that you have renewed with every generation. In Christ, may we learn to love you more than we love ourselves. Amen.

moment of silence

Assurance of Pardon

Come, all you who are thirsty. If you take the first step, if you are willing to plunge once again into the waters and to emerge into new life, you will receive a love beyond all you can envision.

We turn our hearts to God, and by grace our hungers are satisfied, our thirsts are sated; through Christ we are made whole; by the Spirit we are led forth as God's people. Amen.

Ministry of Music "O Come and Mourn" Sanctuary Choir

* **Children's Hymn** "Seek ye first" **356 vs. 1**

Children's Moment

* **Children's Hymn** "Seek ye first" **356 vs. 2**

* **Hymn of Preparation** "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus" **357**

Missions Moment **Easter Offering** Connie Veinotte

Scripture **Luke 13:1-9** John Churchill

Prayers of the People of God Don Flowers

Response “What wondrous love is this”

147 vs. 1

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

Sermon **Misunderstood-Scripture** *Don Flowers*

- * **Hymn of Response** “Forth in Your Name, O Christ” **416**

The Offering

- * **Offertory** “Give thanks” **522**

Give thanks, my soul, for labours, that strength and days
employ; but know the Maker’s purpose brings toil as well as
joy. Show forth, O God, your purpose; direct our will and hand
to share your love and bounty with all in every land. AMEN.

- * **Benediction**

- * **Choral Benediction** “We shall go out” **586**

*We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We’ll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we’ll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we’ll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.*

Postlude and Quiet Reflection