

**Sermon** "Transforming Leadership" Rev. Dr. Dana Sutton

**Affirmation of Faith** *from The Confession of Belhar, 1986*

Leader: We believe that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;

**People: that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;**

L: that God calls the church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

**P: that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;**

L: that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;

**P: that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

\* **Hymn** "Hear the Good News of Salvation" No. 441

**Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer**

**The Offering of God's People**

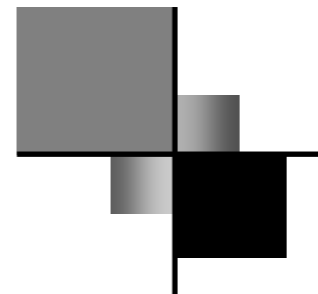
\* **Offertory Response** "Doxology" No. 606

\* **Offertory Prayer**

\* **Closing Hymn** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" No. 415

\* **Benediction**

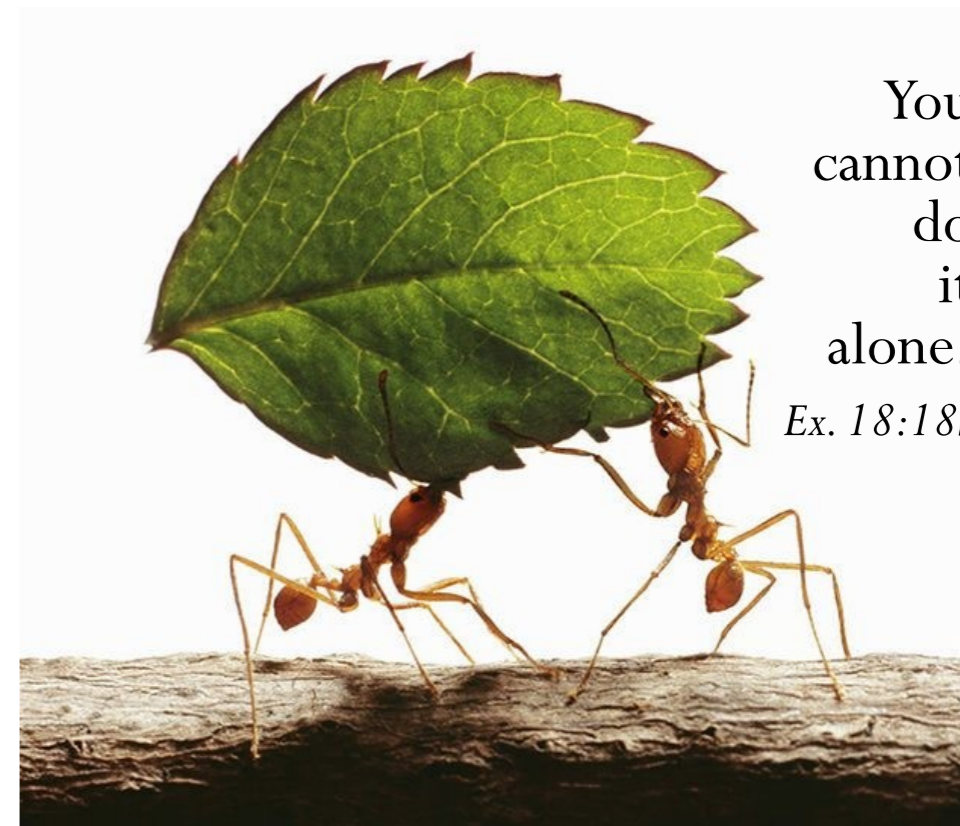
\* **Benediction Response**



# Highlawn

Presbyterian Church

MARCH 24, 2019  
3RD SUNDAY IN LENT



You  
cannot  
do  
it  
alone.

*Ex. 18:18b*



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## Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude** "Ah, Holy Jesus" *in the style of Serge Rachmaninoff* Johann Cruger  
Arr. Craig Courtney

**Opening Words** *Adapted from "Blessing for Waiting" by Jan Richardson*

Leader: Who wait for the night to end

**All: Bless them.**

L: Who wait for the night to begin

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait in the hospital room; who wait in the cell; who wait in prayer

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait for news; who wait for the phone call; who wait for a word; who wait for a job, a house, a child

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait for one who will come home; who wait for one who will not come home

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait with fear; who wait with joy; who wait with peace; who wait with rage; who wait for the end; who wait for the beginning; who wait alone; who wait together

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait without knowing what they wait for or why

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait when they should not wait; who wait when they should be in motion; who wait when they need to rise; who wait when they need to set out

**A: Bless them.**

L: Who wait for the end of waiting; who wait for the fullness of time; who wait emptied and open and ready; who wait for You.

**A: O bless.**

**\*Hymn** "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days"

No.166

## Call to Confession

L: Sisters and brothers, our help is in the name of the eternal God

**P: Who is making the heavens and the earth.**

L: In confessing our sins, let us seek help and forgiveness.

## Prayer of Confession *from A New Zealand Prayer Book*

L: We repent the wrongs we have done (*silence*)

L: We have wounded your love.

**P: O God, heal us.**

L: We stumble in the darkness.

**P: Light of the world transfigure us.**

L: We forget that we are your home.

**P: Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

L: Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us. Living flame, burn into us; cleansing wind, blow through us; fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise in deed and in truth. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

God's mercy is in the very air that we breathe; take a deep breath and know that the Spirit's presence has filled you with forgiveness.

## Passing of the Peace

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body in Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Children's Message

**Anthem**

"Precious Jesus"

Jay Althouse

**Scripture**

Exodus 18:5-27