

# First Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 10:00 AM

#### **GATHERING**

Handbell Chimes – The ringing of the chimes invites you to a time of Rest... Renewal... Hope

Prelude "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" + arr. Peter Leibensperger, Alleluia Bells with

Tanya McKenzie, flute

**Opening Sentences:** Romans 4:25

One: Christ died for our trespasses but was raised for our justification

ALL: Thanks be to God.

\*Hymn #341 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine"

\*Invitation to Experience God's Grace: Romans 4:21

One: Trusting in God's promise of salvation, let us confess our sin and repent.

# \*Laying Down Our Burdens

ALL: God of compassion, look upon us in mercy, for we have not walked in the way of Jesus, your Son. We have not laid down our lives for the Gospel, but have sought to advance and defend ourselves. Our faith in you has wavered; we have trusted more in our own strength and understanding. In loving kindness, forgive us. Strengthen our faith by your Spirit, that we would be courageous enough to embrace the way of the cross. Enable us to trust that this way of life, proclaimed and lived by Jesus, displays your glory most faithfully and profits us best both now, and in ages to come.

## \*Silent Prayer

# **Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: Hear the good news:

God deems as righteous all who trust that Jesus has been raised from the dead for our

salvation.

ALL: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

# \*Sharing the Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Moore Bells: "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus" arr. John T. Bartsch, Jr.

## Children's Message:

Sacrament of Holy Baptism~ Leo Grabowski Kelm

Presentation

**Affirmation of Faith** (The Apostles' Creed)

One: Do you believe in God the Father almighty?

ALL: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

ALL: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified died and was buried; he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge and living and the dead.

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

ALL: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water Baptism and Welcome

# Celebrating the Life of the Church

#### THE WORD

## **Prayer for Illumination**

ALL: Speak to us, O Lord our God, and let the fire of your Spirit burn brightly in our hearts. Open our minds to receive the wisdom of the law, the hope of the prophets, and the life of the Gospel: Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen.

### Scripture Reading: Mark 8:31-38

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** "Leave the World Behind" Rev. Nikki Passante

#### **GIVE THANKS**

## **Prayers of the People**

## The 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.

# Practicing Abundant Generosity

https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/now

Offertory: Chancel Choir: "Take My Life and Let It Be" arr. Brian L. Hanson, with Alexandra Cutler-Fetkewicz, violin.

- \* Doxology Hymn #592 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"
- \* Prayer of Dedication

#### LEAVE TO SERVE

\*Hymn #472 "O Sing to the Lord"

Charge and Benediction Choral Amen, Chancel Choir

Sending Music Postlude on Aberystwyth - Ashley Grote Lucas Brown, organ

Please use the Postlude time and music to reflect on today's worship experience and how it will support you in the week to come. Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with Permission Under OneLicense #740987-A. All Rights Reserved.

#### **WORSHIP NOTES**

# "Take My Life and Let It Be"

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

#### + I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Although there is no record of this spiritual in early collections, it is traditionally attributed to the African-American spiritual tradition. "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" is simultaneously several different things: it is a song of lament, a song of personal invitation, and a statement of assurance that Jesus walks alongside those who suffer. Knowing that Jesus, who had already passed through the fiery trials and came out triumphant on the other side, was walking beside them, gave them courage to go on. Scan the QR code to donate directly to Essence of Harmony.



**WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!** It is good to have you here in person or online. Please be in touch if you have news to share or would like more information or to talk to a pastor. Staff contact information is below. Read full announcements in our weekly <u>email</u> <u>newsletter</u>, available on the church website. Subscribe on the <u>Contact Us</u> tab.

THE FLOWERS in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Eva Carter, given by Ginny Ritchie. If you would like to place a live flower arrangement in the sanctuary, please contact Diane Thorne at <a href="https://dt.dt.com/dt.com

**NURSERY** care is available during worship (9:30 - 11:15) for those with young children. The nursery is located in the Preschool (level 1R) in the Red Balloon Room near the Preschool office.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Parents, please register your preK-5th graders for Children's Church using the QR Code. PreK-Kindergarten must be signed out from the Sunday School room. First-fifth graders will reunite with their families in the Bean Parlor after worship.



#### **NEWS AND EVENTS**

Goodbye Paper and Plastic at FPC! As Lent begins, we will no longer use single- use paper or plastic at our after worship fellowship and other church activities. We have plenty of plates, cups, bowls and utensils in the kitchen, Bean Parlor and Hospitality Suite. Efforts will be made to use environmentally-friendly napkins. If you are planning to serve food and have questions or want to help support this effort, please contact Rita Brown at rbrown6115@verizon.net. This is another step we are taking to help preserve God's Creation.

**Lenten small groups** are forming now. This year we will study <u>Meeting God in Paul</u>, by Rowan Williams. Sign-up in the Bean Parlor or use this online form: <a href="https://forms.gle/yr5yqk4VsiQgyBsEA">https://forms.gle/yr5yqk4VsiQgyBsEA</a>



Did You Personalize Your Hymnals Yet? *Glory to God*, the newest Presbyterian hymnal, is a remarkably thoughtful collection of spirituals and hymns created with an eye towards both diversity and tradition. In it, you will find all of the old standards like "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" and you will also find new standards like "Lift Every Voice and Sing". The Session is asking that each family purchase two hymnals at \$25 a piece. You may also include a short memorial or dedication that will be affixed to the inside cover of your hymnals.

Please use the QR code to purchase and personalize your hymnals today!

Volunteers Needed for Prison Ministry: Those who participate in our ministry with the women of the Camden County Jail will tell you that the ministry is very rewarding and sorely needed. The ladies we see every other Friday greet us enthusiastically and are sincerely seeking to follow God. Our hope is that we can be a vehicle to reflect God's forgiveness and love and offer them an alternative path. We feel very safe and secure entering the jail. Every time we go in the officers have to turn inmates away because we are only able to meet with 10 ladies at a time. If we had more volunteers, we could go in every Friday and see more inmates. The time investment is minimal once you go through the approval process. If you are interested in volunteering or finding out more information, please email Judy Blank (jmblank451@verizon.net).

THE PORCH BIBLE STUDY will meet at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, Feb. 27 in the Bean Parlor. We are returning to our study on Colossians & Philemon. We will be discussing the supremacy of Christ and serving Christ. All are welcome to our study and prayer time. For information, see Deb Nussbaum or Jill Mascena at church or email Deb at <a href="debraussbaum1987@gmail.com">debraussbaum1987@gmail.com</a>. The Porchers' March meeting will be at 2pm in the Bean Parlor on Thursday, March 21st.

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY: Need a ride to and from worship? To request transportation to worship, call the church at 856-429-1960. When you hear the auto attendant message, press 103 and you will go directly to the deacon voice mailbox. Leave a message and a deacon will call you back regarding your request. Transportation requests must be received no later than the Tuesday prior to the Sunday when the ride is needed. Make sure to leave your phone number and a convenient time to call. Please take note: if you call later than Tuesday at 4:00 PM, there may not be a deacon or church member available to drive you. We look forward to seeing you in worship! Questions? Call the church office, or Joan Fiorella at 856-889-9185.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** Women of all ages are invited to participate in the PW sponsored Slow and Steady walk around the Crows Woods complex. Those interested in walking the half mile paved track should meet on Tuesday, Feb. 27th, at 10AM. at the pavilion parking lot.

Calling all 3rd and 4th graders come join us for exciting lessons on Communion. Meeting times are four Sundays in March, 10 am in room 201. You will meet some biblical people, treasure hunts around the church, and participate in a Seder meal in the Bell Tower! Call, let us know if you are attending: Barb Sewall, 856-795-7853, home Joyce Stout, 609-605-3653, mobile

CHECK YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE: You can have your blood pressure taken in the Bean Parlor following morning worship. Screenings will occur monthly. If any medical professionals are interested in supporting this ministry, please email Linda O'Neill at ElonMail@yahoo.com or Bonnie Manskopf at BonnieManskopf@yahoo.com.

**Social Connection,** a fun evening for special adults, will meet Monday, March 4, and Monday, March 25. If you would like to help or donate prizes for Bingo, please see Joyce Stout (billandjoyce1@aol.com) or Deb Nussbaum (debranussbaum1987@gmail.com). We meet in the Hospitality Center from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thank you to all who have supported this wonderful ministry.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE 02/18/24: 156 in person and 23 online.

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

 Pledge Giving:
 132,967
 Budget: 460,000

 Non-pledge giving:
 15,110
 Budget: 160,000

 Per Capita:
 2,688
 Budget: 11,000

 Loose:
 1,555
 Budget: 11,000

Note: The Session adopted a 2024 budget with a projected shortfall of approximately \$140,000. The shortfall will be covered by remaining Covid relief funds, small grants, and withdrawals from investment reserves.

**2024 PER CAPITA NOW DUE** – Thank you to the following members who have already paid their per capita. You can pay your \$38.75 per confirmed member online at <a href="https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/PERCAPITAtext">https://onrealm.org/FirstPresbyteri11244/give/PERCAPITAtext</a> or by check Thank you!

Sally Ashton Ed Balderstone Kristina Bean Charles Bergdoll

Mary Ann Blessing Terry and Linda Carpenter

Heather Chamberlin Drew Dark Kathryn Dark Margot Dark

Frank and Dottie Giordano Judy Grantham and Quintin Lerch

James and Marjorie Groeling

Edward and Linda Hess

Wally and Janice Holl

Shirley Hough

Marianne Hutchinson

Bob and Janet Lehman Marvin and Laura Lindsay

Matthew Moeller Linda O'Neill

S. Stephen and Jill Platt Warren and Isabel Pross

John Richardson Larry Rugen
Theo Rugen Martin Schroeter

Sally and Warren Seddon David and Barbara Sewall

Alan and Amy Stedman David Stedman

Patrick Stedman Diane Thorne

Barbara Tourtellotte Elizabeth Tourtellotte
Scott Tourtellotte William Tourtellotte

William Townsend Bev Trotter
Paul Urian Ann Weller
Stephen and Kelly West Elaine Winder

William and Robin Wright

Prayer List (2/22/24)

Please pray for these individuals and situations throughout the week. If you would like to add a personal prayer request, please contact one of the pastors. In making requests on behalf of others, please obtain the permission of the person needing prayer. The requestor will have their name printed as the originator of the request. Pastors will revisit these requests every 30 days.

- Pray for the people, government, and country of **Ukraine** as war continues.
- Pray for Gaza and the people of Israel and Palestine as war continues.
- Pray for strength and healing for **Claire**, specifically for wisdom and skill for her health care providers **(2/20-J. Grantham)**
- Pray for Isabel Pross who continues to receive chemotherapy (2/20-W. Pross).
- Continue to Keep Randi in your prayers as she waits patiently for a diagnosis (2/20- C. Carty)
- Please pray for the Reinicker family, in particular Andy's mother Charlotte, who suffered a heart
  attack while in Connecticut. Praise the Lord her procedure went smoothly and pray for Charlotte's
  recovery. Prayers for Andy's Aunt Betty, diagnosed with terminal cancer, and Uncle Peter, who
  suffered a stroke. Also, prayers for Andy's sister Michael who was hospitalized for a severe migraine
  and other symptoms. (2/19-pastors)
- Please pray for William and his mother Nancy (2/18-pastors)
- Pray that God will oversee all of **Philip's affairs** with mercy and grace! **(2/15-pastors)**
- Prayers for the family of **Donald Gibbs, Jr.** as they mourn the death of their son, brother, uncle, nephew **(2/15-D. Haynor)**.
- Prayers for **Bruce** as he experiences treatment for pancreatic cancer and that Christ would hold him and his family in his loving arms (2/13-C. Carty).
- Pray for Peggy Shannon that she would have complete recovery from a fall, and be with her and her
  physicians as they manage all health issues. Pray for Sam and Julie and Maggie that they would all
  feel God's love (2/8-pastors)
- Please pray for Lillie as she receives treatment for leukemia. Pray for her complete healing (2/7-pastors)
- Prayers for **Jochen and Deb Bettag** to feel strength and courage from the Lord. Jochen's diagnosis is a very rare form of cancer (2/5-C. Carty)
- Continue to pray for **Patrick** and his family **(2/5-pastors)**
- Continue to keep **Branson** in your prayers as he studies abroad this semester (2/5-M. Wilson)
- Please keep a dear friend, Dorothy, in your prayers as she navigates several cancer diagnoses (1/31-C. Carty)
- Continue to pray for Mark as he recovers from gallbladder surgery (1/30-S. Oswald)

- Please pray for **Patricia**, **Hannah**, **Selena**, **Rasheen**, **and Emani** who are incarcerated. Pray for the ladies who are being released from jail (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for the lives and families of Tamara and Kristy, and that each will get to go home to their families (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for the restoration of June's life (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray that Afi and her girls would be reunited (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for Christina's peace of mind and her parents' health (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for Enza, her children, and her husband (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for **Krystle's health and safety**, and that of her family; pray also for her prosperity following her impending release **(1/26-G. Ladies)**
- Pray that the **truth comes to light in Morgan's case**, that there will be justice for her two daughters, and pray for her sister's release from addiction (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for Malea- specifically her relationships with significant others (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for Julia, and her daughter Nava. Pray also for Julia's mother Sophia. May the Lord care and deliver this family (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Pray for Chanel's release and that she would be reunited with her husband (1/26-G. Ladies)
- Please pray for Jessica Devietro who is living with cancer (1/22-L. Sommers)

#### CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Marvin Lindsay, Ph.D., Senior Pastor and Head of Staff- <a href="mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org">mlindsay@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
The Rev. Nikki Perrine Passante, Associate Pastor - <a href="maistantem">npassante@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
Peter Leibensperger, Minister of Music - <a href="maistantem">pleibensperger@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
Lucas Brown, Principal Organist - <a href="maistantem">lbrown@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
Nancy Ruth Wainwright, Director of Children's Choirs - <a href="maistantem">nancyruthw@comcast.net</a>
Marisa McGovern, Preschool Director - <a href="maistantem">preschool@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
Kris Bean, Business Manager - <a href="maistantem">kbean@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
Travis Bogetti, Building Manager - <a href="maistantem">tbogetti@haddonfieldpres.org</a>
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