

**March 19, 2023**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude** *Präludium in C, BWV 553* J.S. Bach

**Welcome and Announcements** Dr. Dan Sansbury

**We Worship Together**

**\*Call to Worship** Fred Harris  
The Good News of the Gospel is that God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – creates, redeems, sustains, rules and transforms all things and all people. **This one living God is Incarnate in Jesus Christ, who came to live in the world, die for the world and be raised again to new life.**  
The Gospel of Jesus Christ announces the nearness of God's kingdom. **The Gospel brings good news to all who are impoverished, sight to all who are blind, freedom to all who are oppressed and proclaims the Lord's favor to everyone.**  
Christ calls the Church into being and gives the Church all that is necessary for its mission in the world.  
**Christ alone rules, calls, reaches and uses the Church as He wills.**  
(from the opening paragraphs of the Book of Ord, PCUSA)

**\*Hymn** 33 *Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show* LLANFAIR

**Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)**

Friends, by God's gracious love at work in us, we are not the people that we used to be. Still, we are not fully the Christ-like people that God intends us yet to be. Let us confess our need for God's continuing transformation of our lives, our church and our community. Let us pray together.

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

**Gracious and Almighty God, you have come in the person of Jesus Christ, Immanuel, God with us. And yet, we admit that sometimes we draw away from you and from one another. We make bad choices and take wrong turns. We get lost without you and we cannot on our own find our way home. Come to us again today, we ask. Reassure us of your forgiving love. Remind us again of the story of how you ran to welcome the prodigal son home. Help us to know that we are forgiven, loved, redeemed and called to new life in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, as the Scripture says, *"If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us everything else? Christ Jesus died for us and was raised for us. Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 8.31-39). Accept this good news of the gospel!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

**The peace of Christ be with you.**

And also with you.

**\*Holy Interruption** *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

**Giving of our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory Anthem** by Chancel Choir *You are Worthy of My Praise* Ruis  
Dan Tillman, guitar; Susan Malloy, tambourine

**\*Praise of God**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world  
without end. Amen, Amen**

**Message to the Children**

**Prayers of Intercession and 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.**

**\*Hymn** 735 *I Need Thee Every Hour*

NEED

**We Receive God's Word**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture:** John 4.1-30

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Message** "It Happened at the Well"

Dr. Sansbury

**We Go Out to Serve**

**\*Hymn** 716 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

BEACH SPRING

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response** *God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

Chancel Choir

**\*Postlude** *Trumpet Tune II*

McCabe

\*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk.

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God by Kelli and Cam Beck.

**The Church This Week (3/19/2023)**

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	3:00 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 9 at 10:00 am. Children are to meet on the Session House steps.

**Nursery Volunteers for March:**

3/19 - Marietta Melton

3/26 - Vacant

If you would like to volunteer to help in the nursery during worship, please sign up at the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545afaf22ab9-nursery#/>



**Prayer List as of March 19, 2023**

Gerry & Bobby Rogers  
 Ina Coggeshall  
 Atha Lou Gibson  
 Gray & Bea Sloop  
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore  
 Penny Angle  
 Beth O’Neal  
 Marion Murphy  
 Bobbie Jones  
 Phelps Brooks  
 Jim Conn  
 Barbara Dickson  
 Kathie Cook  
 Chase, Rebecca (Cook) and baby Laikyn Denham  
 Susie Ingram

Dr. Sansbury resumes his Lenten series of messages, “It Happened . . .” from the Gospel of John today. Read John 9-11 in preparation for next Sunday’s worship service.

“THANK YOU!” to everyone who made our March 15 fellowship supper such a special occasion!

Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has begun its work on behalf of the congregation. Members are Kristen Miller, Cathy Chapman, Katelyn Evans, Christie McLeod, John Long and Calvin Phillips. The congregation is encouraged to pray for our PNC throughout the pastoral search process.

Elders are reminded of their next stated meeting next Tuesday, March 28, at 6:00 p.m. Please be sure to have all committee and team reports to Carolyn West by this Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**The Church Staff**

Dr. Dan Sansbury, Interim Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Paige Coates, MMO
Mrs. Mary Gullede, Mrs. Debra Jewart, Nursery	Mrs. Debra Jewart, MMO

**Session of First Presbyterian Church**

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Gina Goddard	Marietta Melton Burch	Kelli Beck
John Joyce	Cathy Chapman	Avery Dickson
Christie McLeod	David Nagel	Mary Jane Evans
Calvin Phillips	Dan Tillman, III	Jean Page Watson
Charlene Tillman	Jennifer Tillman	

**Mission Partners**

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica  
 Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland

***Our Vision***

*Rooted by God’s Grace,  
 Growing in the Spirit,  
 Reaching Out with Christ’s Love*

**Sunday, March 19, 2023**

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