



Claude Monet, *Waterlilies*

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 12, 2023

10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ps. 95:1, 6; John 4:23

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

O come, let us worship and bow down;

Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

The hour is coming and is now here.

In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, as we gather for worship today, we are tired, weary, and seeking solace. Refresh us with your Holy Spirit, the living water, so we may hear your word and pledge ourselves to serve you. This we pray through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*HYMN 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Stephanie Dube

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Joel 2:12-13

In this season, God calls us back home. We are invited to open our hearts and return to the way of love. For God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Trusting in this grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again.

Silence is kept for personal reflection and prayer.

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 577)

The choir will sing once through, with the congregation joining on the second time.

The Greek phrase “Kyrie Eleison” means “Lord, have mercy.”

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains two phrases of the response: "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." and "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." The second staff continues with "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." and "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." The second phrase in the second staff includes a triplet of eighth notes over the final "e - le - i - son."

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rom. 5:8-10

This is the good news of God’s grace: Though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Once we were lost and dead—now Christ has become our life and salvation. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 435)

IN BABILONE

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.

There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,

And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John 4:41-42

Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures and by the power of your Spirit, may we hear for ourselves the good news, and believe, because of your Word, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the World. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Exodus 17:1-7

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

John 4:5-42

The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

“The Other Good Samaritan”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from a Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

God Is Our Refuge

Allen Pote

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 223)

HAMBURG

*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. You may take communion by taking a small piece of bread and dipping it in the cup.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, as you fed your people in the wilderness with unexpected food and water to drink, so you feed us at this table with a simple loaf and cup. Here you transform us, by the working of your wondrous love. Now send us out to be Christ's body in your broken and beautiful world to bear your good news of hope and joy for all. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Debbie Hutchinson*

Communion Servers: *Tom & Susan Furlong*

The Life of the Church

The Online Church Directory Help Desk is open today in the Library before and after worship. Members of the Outreach & Evangelism Committee will be on hand to help you update your directory profile, load the app on your device, or answer any questions you might have about using the Instant Church Directory app.

Our Lenten Book Study continues on Wednesday evenings. We are exploring *Meeting Jesus at the Table* by Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr. Classes meet at 6 p.m. in the Parlor. For March 15, read chapter 4. Join us for a simple supper at 5:15 in Fellowship Hall.

Primetimers, our fellowship group for older adults, will meet Friday, March 17 at 11:30 at Briarpatch. Please contact the church office to let us know if you are planning to attend.

A Lenten Food Drive gives us an opportunity to make sure our neighbors served by the Help Office have the food they need. During the Sundays of Lent, there will be a different item you will be encouraged to bring to church each Sunday. Next week, March 19, bring cereal. There will be a table at the front of the sanctuary where you can place your contribution.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.

Sunday, March 19, bring:





First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.



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Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission
Stephanie Dube, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
Dennis Jewett, Director of Music
Tyler Simpson, Organist
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Gabriel Lovelace, Staff Accountant
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider