



Figs, Detail from Tomb of Usarhet, Thebes, Egypt

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Third Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 20, 2022

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

Is. 55, Ps. 63

Everyone who thirsts:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

All who are hungry for righteousness:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

All who need the help of God:

Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.

*OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, that we may become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

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

Isa. 55:6-7

The Scriptures call us to turn from sinful ways and return to God, who offers mercy and pardon. Trusting in that mercy, let us call upon God who is near.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, though you lovingly tend us, we have not put forth the good fruits of your Spirit. Our consumption poisons the earth. Our violence threatens our neighbors. Our greed exploits the poor. We must seem a waste of time, but don't give up on us yet, O God. In your power to abundantly pardon, forgive us for the sake of Christ, and imbue us with love, peace, goodness, and faithfulness.

Silence is kept.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isa. 55:3; 1 Cor. 10:3, 13

God's love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God.

Through the waters of baptism, we have died with Christ and are raised with him. With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ.

*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 649)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We seek you in your word, O God, as though we are searching for water in a dry and weary land. By the power of your Holy Spirit, may this word be to us as a rich feast, satisfying the soul. Then with our mouths, we will praise you; and with our lives, we will bless you, our Host and our Hope. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-9 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 13:1-9 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

“Grace, Judgment, and Manure”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Second Helvetic Confession, 1561

What is repentance? By repentance we understand the recovery of a right mind in our sinful humanity awakened by the Word of the Gospel and the Holy Spirit, and received by true faith, by which we acknowledge our innate corruption and all our sins accused by the Word of God; and grieve for them from our hearts, and not only bewail and frankly confess them before God with a feeling of shame, but also with indignation abominate them; and now zealously consider the amendment of our ways and constantly strive for innocence and virtue in which conscientiously to exercise ourselves all the rest of our lives. True repentance is conversion to God, a sincere turning to God and all good, and earnest turning away from all evil. This repentance is a sheer gift from God.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

There is a Balm in Gilead
Shelby Ratliff, Soloist

William L. Dawson

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, gracious God, for giving us bread for the journey of these forty days. As we travel on through the wilderness help us to share your grace with others and draw us ever closer to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *John Lashbrook*

Communion Servers: *Kim Lashbrook & Brad Smith*

The Life of the Church

An Intergenerational Fellowship Event celebrating Mister Rogers Day will be held tonight from 5:00-7:00 in Fellowship Hall. Plan to put on your cardigan and join us for supper and activities for neighbors of all ages that will help us think about our calling to be peacemakers in the world.

Extended Table is a fellowship event is for anyone who would like to eat lunch together, “extending” the table where we have gathered in worship, where there is room for everyone. We will eat at Briarpatch following worship today. Join us!

The Pastor’s Lenten Book Study continues on Wednesday nights at 6:00pm in the Gardenside Parlor, running through April 6. We are discussing the book *I’m Proud of You: My Friendship with Fred Rogers* by Tim Madigan.

The FPC Educational Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to undergraduate students who are active in the life of our church and have financial need. Applications are now open. Complete information is available at bit.ly/FPCScholarshipFund.

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



**“Taking care is one way
to show your love.
Another way is letting
people take good care of
you when you need it.”**

Fred Rogers

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 | MISTER ROGERS DAY





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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Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Staci Estes Horn, Financial Secretary
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Kate Bowley, Nursery Care Provider