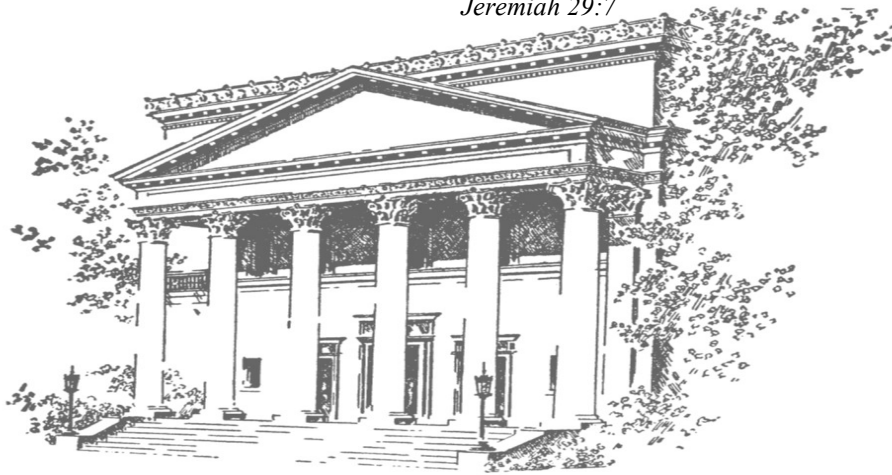


*Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you ...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf*

Jeremiah 29:7



First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487
304-343-8961
www.firstpresby.com

Pastors:
The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
The Rev. Marietta Macy

Ministers:
All members of the congregation

The Worship of Our Lord

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

10:30 AM

Welcome to First Presby! We are grateful you chose to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign in via the Friendship Pads located at the end of the pews. We use this information for contact tracing and to keep in touch about church events. We hope you will take a moment to read the electronic newsletter "First Presby Press" and the weekly Green Sheet. Please share news and notes with your friends and neighbors. Thank you!

REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

The following scriptures are provided for silent Meditation during the Prelude.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?
Daniel Schutte,
"Here I am, Lord"*

* indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN #488 I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry (Vss. 1 & 4)

WATERLIFE

PRELUDE Were You There

John Rasley

INTROIT What Wondrous Love is This

American folk hymn

WELCOME Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sam Keller

One: God makes a way out of no way.

All: God sees our tears and turns them into joy.

One: God makes the impossible possible and sees the desperate needs of all people.

All: Come close, healing Lord, and receive our worship.

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Macy

One: Christ is nearer to us than we can imagine. Jesus power is not just for a distant past and a far-off future. Jesus is here for us here and now.

All: Because there is forgiveness with God, let us call upon the Lord.

God of resurrection,
 We know the power of death.
 We have seen its works,
 We have felt its sting.
 We have been to the valley of despair,
 And felt like there was no chance for life.
 We question your power to resurrect.
 We doubt your power to redeem our pain,
 And fashion something beautiful in this world.
 Forgive us.
 We cry from the depths -
 However faint our call may be,
 We pray you hear our voice.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

KYRIE ELEISON

"Lord, Have Mercy upon Us"

MERBECKE



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Thus says the Lord, You shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live.

All: We believe the good news! Thanks be to God.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #581 Glory Be to the Father

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.*

*SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Macy

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON Jeremiah 31:31-34 (OT p. 735) & Psalm 51:1-12 (OT p. 520)

Sam Keller

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

The Old Rugged Cross
 Tom Marchio, tenor

George Bennard

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 12:20-33 (NT p. 106)

Pastor Myers

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Myers

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Pastor Myers & Sam Keller

Samuel Rhodes Pauley

Sara Rhodes Pauley and Matthew Daniel Pauley (Parents)

SONG OF JOY

One: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

All: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

One: Keep me,

All: Keep me,

One: Hide me,

All: Hide me. Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

*(Children in grades 1-5 are dismissed to Children's Church in Room E-117 or
they may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.)*

SERMON

"Matters of the Heart"

Pastor Myers

*HYMN #692

Spirit, Open My Heart

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

Forrest Palmer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

SUNG RESPONSE TO PRAYER #39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.*

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

*Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

My Jesus I Love Thee

Diane Bish

(Please bring your offering forward during the offertory.)

*Offering Response #607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all people here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

*HYMN #69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE I AM

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Myers

*POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Lanie Smith

Our worship continues in our service to others.

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.
May the gift of worship we offer today honor God and serve as a blessing to you.
Worship is broadcast at 11AM on WCHS-580AM
Worship is also available on our YouTube channel.

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
The Rev. Marietta Macy
Sam Keller
Forrest Palmer

THE MUSIC TODAY

Randall Peters, guest organist
Tom Marchio, tenor
The Sanctuary Choir

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: Beth Copenhaver
Donna Dean

Audio & Video: Byron Goodew & David Cottrell
Custodial Services: David Feibelman

WORSHIP NOTES

Please remember that we worship every Sunday Sabbath Day, and that is available via YouTube and the radio broadcast. Thank you for connecting for worship with First Presby.

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

William Myers, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff
Marietta Macy, Associate Pastor of Christian Education
Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Jenny Pitchford, Financial Services Manager
Diana Vorhees, Office Administrator

Anne Moses, Director of the Preschool
Erin Stone, Preschool Office Administrator
Bernard Wooten, Preschool Custodian
Steven Barrett, Facilities Manager