

This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

*We invite you to stand as able.



~The Gathering~

PRELUDE

GREETING

Lord Jesus, Think on Me Tami Newsom, organ Carlson

Rev. Matt Nieman

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CALL TO WORSHIP

On our worst days,

God is good.

On our best days,

God is good.

When life is consistent,

God is good.

And when life turns on its head,

God is good.

Day and night, Monday through Sunday,

God is good. God is here. God is love.

Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

Text: American folk hymn, c. 1811, Music: Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835, Harm. Cantate Domino, 1980. The Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms, and Spiritual Songs © 1990 Westminster/John Knox Press. All Rights reserved. Used by permission.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.

Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!" We want to control scenarios beyond our reach.

We want to hold your world in our hands.

Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.

Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.

Forgive us for fixating on one truth,

when we could open ourselves up to many. Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.

With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Kyrie eleison #82

O Lamm Gottes

O Lamb of God most holy! Who on the cross did suffer, And patient still and lowly, Yourself to scorn did offer; Our sins by You were taken, Or hope had us forsaken: Have mercy on us, Jesus!

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*Gloria Patri #81, verse 4

St. Flavian

Abide with us, that so, this life Of suffering over-past, An Easter of unending joy We may attain at last!

*THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

~The Word~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Brian Davison

Listening God,

If we could attach ourselves to you, we would.

We would scribble your scripture onto our tender hearts.

We would weave your good news into the fiber of our being.

We would bind ourselves to you, but instead, we wander.

Instead of attaching ourselves to you,

we find ourselves swept up in the business of the day.

Like a seesaw of faithfulness, we move back and forth, up and down, constantly trying to find you in the midst of it all.

So speak clearly to us now.

Quiet the distractions long enough for us to affix ourselves to your good news. We are listening. We are hungry.

We are hopeful. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

[Pew Bible pg. 559]

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

Dr. Angela Batey, cantor

Mawby



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious, for his steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say this those he redeemed from the hand of the enemy, and gathered out of the lands from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. **(R)**

Some were foolish and took a rebellious way, and were plagued because of their wrongdoing.

Their soul abhorred all manner of flood and drew near to the gates of death.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. (R)

He sent forth his word and healed them, and saved them from destruction. Let them give thanks to the Lord for his goodness and the wonders he does for his children. Let them offer him sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of his acts with shouts of joy. **(R)**

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SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 16:21-23

Rev. Matt Nieman

The Gospel of the Lord.

[Pew Bible pg. 18]

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

"I'm Fixed Upon It"

Rev. Matt Nieman

~The Response~

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH -

I believe in a God of second chances, a God who sees through my stubbornness

and holds my fear with tenderness.

I believe that this God of second chances uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.

Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible.

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.

This change is holy and important work, although challenging.

When fear and scarcity plague me,

or when the impossible feels out of reach, I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.

Thanks be to God for a love like that

Amen.

ANTHEM

God So Loved The World Chancel Choir John Stainer

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; But that the world, through Him, might be saved.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Karm's Corner of the Field

Kirk Morris

GIFTS OF WOMEN SUNDAY

Beth White

LITANY OF GRATITUDE AND CELEBRATION

One: For the gifts of women throughout the ages,

All: we give thanks.

One: For the ways that they have shown up—from Shiphrah and Puah to Miriam and Hagar, from Deborah and Jael to Ruth and Rahab, to Vashti and Esther,

All: we celebrate you.

One: For their courage and strength, resistance and rest, wisdom and subversiveness,

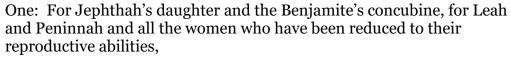
All: we celebrate you.

One: For Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah, we recognize your groundbreaking advocacy,

All: we give thanks for you.

One: For Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Elisabeth, her cousin; we see your brave faith,

All: we honor you.



All: we give thanks and honor, for you are so much more than that.

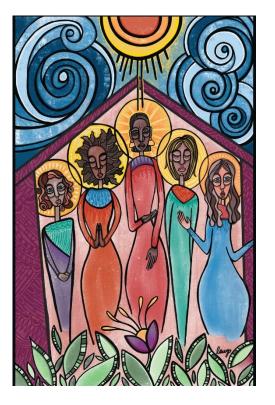
One: For Mary Magdalene, Martha, Mary, Joanna, Susanna, Rhoda, Dorcas, Tabitha, and the countless unnamed women of the sacred texts,

All: we center you from the margins and celebrate you.

One: For mothers, aunts, wives, daughters, sisters; for all the women—in every walk of life, throughout all space and time,

All: we give thanks. We celebrate you. We honor you.

All: Hallelujah! Amen.



CALL FOR THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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.

~The Sending~

*Song

The Way

Rathbun

(see music on next page)

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*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*Congregational Response #84 In the Cross of Christ I Glory Rathbun

In the cross of Christ I glory, Towering o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.

*Postlude

Lord, Keep Us Faithful to Your Work

Lind

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READER: Brian Davison ~ USHERS: Thom Haig & Kirk Morris

The FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in the sanctuary today is given by: Frank Dorman & family in loving memory of Cathy Dorman.





Please use one of the methods below to record your attendance with us today:

Scan this QR code and click on the generated google doc link, or

- Go to https://tinvurl.com/record-FPC-attendance, or
- Email the office at office@fpctn.org, or
- Sign the pew attendance pad.

Our 2024 Lenten Series is "Wandering Heart - Figuring out Faith with Peter" from

Sanctified Art. The worship series focuses on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of



Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out – just like us. A digital version of the accompanying devotional booklet is available at: https://online.flippingbook.com/view/1072485778/. If you would prefer a hard copy, please contact the office and we can print one for you.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT



Beseeching^{*}

by Hannah Garrity Inspired by Matthew 16:21-23

"God forbid it! Says Peter to Jesus.

In this image, Peter beseeches Jesus to avoid the cross, to not let the prophecies become reality.

<u>I'm fixed upon it:</u>

Fermata
THE FOURTH SUNDAY
IN LENT

In music, the fermata symbol represents a prolonged note or a pause. After learning Jesus would suffer and die, Peter rebukes Christ saying, "this must never happen to you". Jesus rebukes Peter right back, knowing he cannot yield on his journey of nonviolence and love. The fermata represents how Peter is fixed on how he wants things to go, but Jesus calls him to stop and get behind him. The symbol also looks like an empty tomb, which is foreshadowed in this story.

Open Hands

We are born with the ability to wrap our fingers around another, to hold tight to what we know.

Maybe that's where the instinct comes from—this clinging, this sinking, this holding on.

Maybe that's why Peter cries, "Never!" when Jesus must leave.

From the very beginning we've known how to hold tight.

So I pray: open up my hands. Uncurl my fingers one by one.

Loosen the grip that I hold unvielding.

Remind me that birds must fly and children must grow and leaves must fall.

And even though we are born with the ability to hold tight,

we can learn how to love with open hands.

~written by: rev. sarah speed | sanctifiedart.org



Sunday, April 07 Dr. Linda Stutzenberger, harp

Sunday, May 05 UT Contemporary Acappella Ensembles



FOODIES will meet on Saturday, March 16th for their first dinner of 2024. Contact Pat Hickman with questions.

SPECIAL THANKS to Gale Montgomery,

Feb. coordinator Gayle Williams, Margo Gregory, and Kelly Schueler for volunteering to feed the hungry last month. If you would like to volunteer to prepare/serve a meal to the homeless at Volunteer Ministry Center downtown on Tuesday, March 19th, contact March coordinator, Linda Scothorn, or sign up in the narthex.





ATTENTION GOLFERS!

The 2024 FPC golf season will begin at Avalon Golf Course on April 3rd. Tee times will start at 4:30 p.m. each Wednesday throughout the year. The cost is \$35/person and includes 9-hole greens fee and cart. This enjoyable group meets at the club grill afterwards for good food, fun and fellowship. If you are interested in playing, please contact Wayne Walls for more information.



Come support our church-sponsored

Boy Scout Troop #444

at their annual

Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser!

Saturday, March 23 between 5pm and 8pm Fellowship Hall



Admission Ticket is \$10/person and includes:

Spaghetti (meat, vegetarian or gluten-free), Bread, Salad, Drink, and Dessert
Join them for Dine In or Carry Out!
You can pay at the door or call the church office to purchase tickets in advance.



So we have enough food and seating for the Palm Sunday Brunch, kindly RSVP at:

http://tinyurl.com/FPC-PalmSundayBrunch, use the QR code, or email the church office.



PALM SUNDAY, March 24

One worship service at 10am with Chidren's Palm Processional followed by a Congregational Brunch in Fellowship Hall

MAUNDY THURSDAY, March 28

Worship Service at 7pm in the Sanctuary

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29

Prayer Vigil in the Sanctuary or at home Sign up at:

https://tinyurl.com/fpcgoodfridayprayer vigil

EASTER SERVICES, March 31

9am Casual and 11am Traditional worship services with Children's Easter Egg Hunt at 10am

EASTER EGG HUNT-SUNDAY, MARCH 31 AT 10AM:

All are invited to join us for a joyful Easter egg hunt for the children following the 9:00 casual service on Sunday, March 31st. Donations of a dozen filled plastic eggs (treats, prizes, and candy without nuts kindly requested) will be graciously accepted in a container in the Narthex in advance of the event.

Families with participating children are encouraged to RSVP at

https://signup.com/go/akNWnJx or let Mason Warren know at

masonwarrem@fpctn.org by March 24th

so we have plenty of eggs and bags for everyone.



Prayers for our Church Family:

Pat Dail, Denise Damelio, Wayne Davis, Billie Fain, Chuck Foriska, Frank Guess, Paul Hanson, Bron Lewis, Jimmy and Beth Loyless, Irma McGuffey, Jim Meador, Maria Medina, Tami Newsom, Bill Nelson, Jim Rich, Dee Robinson, Steve Tinder, Helen Weaver



Bereaved:

The family of FPC member, Kathryn Robinson The family of John Duffy, brother of Mary Lutz.

This Week at FPC

Sun, Mar 10	9:00 a.m. Casual and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Services		
	6:00	p.m.	Youth Group/Parlor
Mon, Mar 11	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	4:30	p.m.	Stephen Ministry/Room A
	7:00	p.m.	Christian Education Committee/Zoom
Tues, Mar 12	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #1/Room A
	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #2/Library
	12:00	p.m.	Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary
	6:00	p.m.	Personnel Committee/Library
	7:00	p.m.	Boy Scouts #444/FH, Narthex, Room A
Wed, Mar 13	10:00	a.m.	PW Circle #3/Library
	12:00	p.m.	Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary
	7:30	p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal/Room A
Thurs, Mar 14	8:00	a.m.	Men's Bible Study/Narthex
	6:30	p.m.	Cub Scouts/Fellowship Hall
	7:00	p.m.	Thursday Night Bible Study/Zoom
Fri, Mar 15	10:00	a.m.	Chair Yoga/Narthex
	7:00	p.m.	Gentle Yoga Class/Narthex
Sat, Mar 16	6:00	p.m.	FOODIES





FARRAGUT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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http://tinyurl.com/FPCe-giving

"To praise God, welcome all, serve others, grow in faith, be disciples of Jesus Christ and share the Good News."

Worship Notes: Wandering Heart Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman – Background painting and photography by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity Liturgy Outline and select music by "A Sanctified Art LLC – sanctifiedart.org." Music license: CCLI License #21072191. Used with permission.