

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
MARCH 31, 2019 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

11:00 AM

RINGING OF THE BELL

OPENING VOLUNTARY

WONDROUS LOVE
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

ARR. TODD KENDALL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHORAL INTROIT

GOD IS ALWAYS NEAR
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

ARR. HELEN KEMP

God is always near, no need to doubt or search.
Only lift your voice in prayer and always, God is there.
With his all-seeing eye he watches from above.
All his children feel his presence, know his endless love.

With praise and thanks we come before thee,
dear God now hear the prayers we offer.
Help us live each day to praise thee with joyful songs of love.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
When I acknowledged my sins, the Lord forgave my guilt.
Therefore, if you would be faithful, offer prayers to the Lord.
Then in the time of distress, you will not be overcome.
In the shelter of the Lord we shall be preserved and delivered.
For steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.
So be glad in the Lord and rejoice! Shout for joy, all you who are upright in heart!

Helen Kemp
(1918-2015) was
an American
vocal teacher
known for her
innovative work
with young
singers. *God Is
Always Near* is
based on an
Indonesian
folksong.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, like a parent awaiting the return of a wandering child, you wait patiently for us to come to our senses and return to you. Forgive our obstinate and rebellious ways. Grant that we may once again be counted among the members of your household and partners in your service. Show us your mercy and make us your own once again, through Jesus Christ our Lord...

(Silence for personal prayer and reflection.)

KYRIE ELEISON #437

YOU ARE THE LORD, GIVER OF MERCY

"WAYFARING STRANGER"

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

* 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.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

(Please greet one another with signs of peace.)

A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

PSALM 32 *(To be sung by all.)*

PSALTER #446

HOW BLEST, THOSE WHOSE TRANSGRESSIONS (PSALM 32)

"MEIRIONYDD"

SECOND READING

LUKE 15:11-32

PEW BIBLE, NT, P. 72

SERMON

REV. WALT PETERS

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* HYMN #215

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

"WONDROUS LOVE"

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Lent is the 40-day season before Easter (not including Sundays). Originally, it was a time of preparing candidates for baptism. Over the centuries it has evolved into a time devoted to renewing our understanding of what it means to be a follower of Christ. We observe Lent in anticipation of the resurrection, and we celebrate Easter remembering the cost of the cross's life-giving victory. Lent began on March 6th with Ash Wednesday and will conclude on April 20th, the day before Easter Sunday.

The **Lenten worship banner** hanging in the front of the sanctuary depicts our journey with Jesus to the cross and toward the death that ultimately brings resurrection life. This week's panel, symbolizing the themes of God's patience and healing, was stitched by Jane Belt.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, CONCLUDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

THE PRODIGAL SON
THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

THE SACRED HARP

Afflictions 'tho they seem severe are oft' in mercy sent:
They stopped the prodigal's career and caused him to repent.

"Oh! I die with hunger here," he cries!
"Oh! I die with hunger here," he cries!
"And starve in a foreign land!
My father's house hath large supplies
and bounteous are his hands!"

Although he no relenting felt till he had spent his store,
his stubborn heart began to melt when famine pinched him sore.

"What have I gained by sin," he said, "But hunger, shame, and fear?"
"My father's house abounds with bread, while I am starving here."

"I'll go and tell him what I've done; fall down before his face.
Not worthy to be called his son, I'll ask a servant's place."

He saw his son returning back, he ran, he looked, he smiled,
and threw his arms around the neck of his rebellious child.

* AT THE PRESENTATION # 708 WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN (verse 1)
We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

"SCHUMANN"

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

* HYMN #774 THERE IS NOW A NEW CREATION

"STUTTGART"

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* SUNG BENEDICTION #306 BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS
(Please join hands as we sing together.)

"DENNIS"

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

FUGUE IN E MINOR
BRYAN LOHR, ORGAN

J. S. BACH
BWV 548

Many of us give our monetary **offering** weekly. Many of us give our offering monthly or even yearly. This morning, even if you are not putting your monetary offering in the plate today, please touch the inside of the plate when it goes by. This will help us remember that the gift we are offering is actually ourselves.

The Musical Offering comes from *The Sacred Harp*, a seminal collection of hymn tunes, texts, and anthems first published in Hamilton, GA in 1844. The text is attributed to John Newton, author of *Amazing Grace*, while the tune is typical of the brash and rollicking style of shape note singing.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.
Please join in reading or singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

This Morning's Worship Leaders

Preacher.....	Rev. Walt Peters
Liturgist.....	Ann Kellermeyer
Director of Music Ministries.....	Bryan Lohr
Musicians.....	The Sanctuary Choir
Sound Technician	Joe Aurigemma
Ushers.....	Charlene Lelinski and Barbara Leasure

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME VISITORS: We are glad you found your way to First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland. For more information about opportunities to worship, learn and serve with us, we encourage you to visit the table outside the church office. You can also learn more about us at www.fpc-cumberland.org and www.facebook.com/First.Pres.Cumberland. Childcare is provided in the nursery. An usher will be glad to direct you there.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: While we do provide a nursery for young children, we also welcome you to bring your child with you to worship. We have "worship bags" in the back of the sanctuary that include materials for drawing and coloring, as well as Bible stories and Bible word-find games. After the Time for Young Disciples, children may go to the nursery for a Bible lesson or remain in the sanctuary. Our "Young Children in Worship" pew card contains information about why young children should be encouraged to come to worship and how parents and others can engage them more fully in worship.

THE PRAY-GROUND is a special space in the sanctuary for our youngest children and their families. All families are welcome to come and sit in the right front pews with their children seated on the rug. This front row seat will allow God's youngest children to participate in the service in a place where they can see and hear best. There will be activities provided so that their little hands are kept busy while participating in worship. "Jesus said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it'" (Mark 10:14-15).

FRIENDSHIP PADS: Please locate and sign the red pad in your pew, tear off the sheet and place it in the collection plate during the offering. This important practice allows us to be mindful of new folks and long-time members as well, and is a good way to learn (or remember) the names of those with whom you are seated. **If you are visitor, please fill out the "Welcome to First Presbyterian Church" card in the pew rack and put it in the offering plate when it comes by during the service.**

PERSONAL LISTENING DEVICES: (amplifiers) are available in the back of the church for use during worship. Please see an usher for assistance.

WORSHIP BROADCASTS ON YOUTUBE: To view worship services live or to view taped worship services, go to www.youtube.com (First Presbyterian Church of Cumberland Live Stream) or go to our website <http://www.fpc-cumberland.org/> and click on "click here to view our worship service" located at the bottom of the home page.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS: Please contact Michael Levitas or the church office if you would like to sponsor flowers for a special occasion like a birthday or anniversary or in memory or honor of someone. You may specify live or silk flowers. Silk flower money will be directed to the Special Ministries Fund.

ACS REALM & E-GIVING: During the first week of April, you will be receiving an email invite to set up an account within ACS Realm as well as e-blasts with additional resources and support on how to use Realm and E-giving. Please contact the church office if you have any additional questions or if you would like assistance with creating your account.

SIMEON'S WELL MUSICAL: Join Emmanuel Parish for an extra-special event-an original musical written by Lynn Getty showcasing the history of Emmanuel and Cumberland **today at 3:00PM.**

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

RULING ELDERS: AGNES YOUNT & GARY HENDRICKSON

ANNUAL GIVING YEAR-TO-DATE:	as of March 24, 2019
Total 2019 Pledges Promised	\$217,442.00
Pre-paid pledges	\$ 8,592.00
2018 Pledge Balance Promised	\$205,850.00
Pledge Balance Received Year-to-Date	\$ 47,940.00
Pledge Balance Promised Year-to-Date	\$ 48,196.00
Over/(Under)	\$ (256.00)

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

March 25, 2018
89

March 24, 2019
59

FAITH FORMATION

RULING ELDERS: LAURA FISCUS & JOSH GILHART

LENTEN STUDY MINI SERIES: As we continue our Lenten journey toward Easter and the Cross, First Presbyterian Church and Emmanuel Episcopal Church of Cumberland, in conjunction with the Cumberland Choral Society, will be offering an opportunity to join together for a two-part mini-series focusing on the Form of the Mass and the Schubert Mass in A Flat. Emmanuel Episcopal Church will host the first of these gatherings on Thursday, April 4th, with First Presbyterian Church concluding the study the following Thursday, April 11th. Each study will begin with supper at 6:00 PM followed by a presentation at 6:45 PM. As we prepare ourselves for the coming of Easter, please consider making time to join us for this exciting study.

EASTER EGG BLESSING MILESTONE: Join us on Saturday, April 20th, at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall for our Easter Egg Blessing. This is a Milestones Ministry Moment for young children, grandchildren, and any interested families and friends! We will start the morning with a breakfast potluck. We will provide drinks, plates, silverware, and ask that you bring a breakfast food to share. Activities will include a devotional, egg coloring, egg hunting, a blessing of the eggs, and the making of gifts for our home-bound friends.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

RULING ELDERS: DAVID STICKLER & CATHY LEVITAS

Holy Week Services

*Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14th at 11:00AM at First Presbyterian Church

*Maundy Thursday, April 18th at 7:00PM at First Presbyterian Church

*Good Friday, April 19th at 7:00PM at First Presbyterian Church

*Egg Hunt/Blessing Milestone, April 20th at 10:00AM at First Presbyterian Church (Fellowship Hall)

*Easter Sunday, April 21st = Sunrise service at First Presbyterian Church at 7:00AM and a traditional service in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian at 11:00AM

The Great Dakota Giveaway!

Soup & Chili Rodeo, Live and Silent Auction

Sunday, April 28th at 12:30 PM

Help us raise funds to send inspired volunteers to serve at a
summer learning camp for children in South Dakota

Yes, I will come to support our volunteers and enjoy this fellowship and food event.
(All the food you can eat for only \$5 per person!)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number attending: _____

I can donate the following items: _____

I can donate the following service to be auctioned (babysitting, car wash, consulting, teaching): _____

If you have any questions or if you would like to make a donation,
Robin Bissell at rbissell444@gmail.com.

please contact

**Collecting Books Now Until
Sunday, May 12th**

Donations accepted HERE!



Please bring your new or gently used reading books for ages 4 to 15 years old!

They will be given away to Native American children of the Yankton Sioux Tribe in southeastern South Dakota this summer.

For questions or to arrange a pick up please contact Robin Bissell at rbissell444@gmail.com.

EASTER FLOWERS 2019

If you would like to purchase flowers for the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, please indicate your selection and total below. Please let us know whether you wish to take your flowers home, or if you wish them to be given to one of our in-home or nursing care members. **Orders are due by Sunday, April 7th.**

	Price Each	Quantity	Total
Lily	\$6.00	_____	\$ _____
Tulips	\$6.00	_____	\$ _____
Hyacinths	\$6.00	_____	\$ _____
Chrysanthemums	\$6.00	_____	\$ _____
		Total	_____ \$ _____

My floral gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Given to the Glory of God by: _____

Please indicate: I would like to take my flowers home _____ I would like to donate the flowers _____

Easter Music 2019

You can also celebrate Easter by contributing to the Special Music Fund. This fund is separate from the budget and is used to pay guest musicians who provide special music during worship on holidays and throughout the year. (*Note: Special Music money may be given any time of the year.*)

Special Music Contribution _____ \$ _____

My Special Music gift is in honor/memory of: _____

Given to the Glory of God by: _____

Checks for music should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church. This form must be returned to the church no later than **Sunday, April 14th** if you want your dedication listed in the bulletin.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

MONDAY, APRIL (1)

9:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
1:30 PM AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

TUESDAY, APRIL (2)

9:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:30 PM MISSION MEETING IN THE PARLOR
7:00 PM BUILDING & GROUNDS MEETING IN THE CHAPEL

WEDNESDAY, APRIL (3)

9:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
5:15 PM WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING IN THE PARLOR
6:15 PM JOYBELLS REHEARSAL IN THE LIBRARY
7:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE HERITAGE ROOM
7:30 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE CHOIR ROOM

THURSDAY, APRIL (4)

9:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN
6:00 PM LENTEN STUDY MINI-SERIES (EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH)

FRIDAY, APRIL (5)

9:00 AM CHURCH OFFICE OPEN

SATURDAY, APRIL (6)

12:00 PM SOUTH DAKOTA INTERVIEWS
6:00 PM N.A. GROUP MEETING IN THE HERITAGE ROOM

SUNDAY, APRIL (7)

9:45AM AN ILLUSTRATED COMPASSION: LEARNING TO LOVE LIKE GOD (2-5 YEAR OLDS)
9:45 AM FEASTING ON THE WORD - EARLY ELEMENTARY (K-2ND GRADE)
9:45 AM PERSONALIZED BIBLE STORIES (ADULTS)
11:00AM SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we worship God and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ by loving our neighbors and promoting peacemaking, justice and care of the earth.

VISION STATEMENT

We strive to be a community grounded in the good news of God's love in Christ where all of God's children are:

- Welcomed and cherished
- Called to worship, learn and grow together in faith, and
- Sent to share God's love and justice with a broken and hurting world.

Adopted by the Session on September 17, 2015