

March 3, 2024  
First Presbyterian Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Wood

Welcome Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

\*Call to Worship Elder Mary Anderson

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

**The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.**

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

**The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.**

The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**They are more desirable than gold and sweeter than honey. Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn 213 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* (vs. 1,2,3) RATHBUN

**Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)**

Christ calls us to live lives in harmony with our God and our neighbors. Even our best efforts fall short. Yet our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Trusting that abundant mercy, let us confess our sin together.

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of righteousness, we confess that have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. We do not make adequate time to rest and remember your goodness, nor to revel in the delight of family and friends. We look the other way in the face of violence and oppression, misogyny and sexual assault, land grabs and unjust economic practices. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear these words from the Apostle Paul, "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength." The grace of Christ is sufficient for us. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

\*Holy Interruption *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

\*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.**

Anthem *Lead Me, Lord* Wesley  
Chancel Choir

*Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,*

*make thy way plain before my face.*

*For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,*

*that makest me dwell in safety.*

*Teach me, Lord, teach me truly how to live,*

*that I may come to know thee,*

*and in thy presence serve thee with gladness,*

*and sing songs of praise to thy glory.*

We Receive God's Word

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading** Exodus 20:1-17

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading** John 2:13-22

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

Message "Something Has to Change" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**Affirmation of Faith** *(Adapted from The Confession of 1967)*

**God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes our natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. God wills that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ, and all evil be banished from God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.**

**With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

\*Hymn 220 *Go To Dark Gethsemane* (vs. 1,4)

REDHEAD

**Announcements**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory Interlude** *What Wondrous Love Is This* Manz

**Offertory**

\*Doxology Hymn *All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night* TALLIS' CANON  
**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.**

Sacrament of Communion

**Invitation to Communion**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.**

**Words of Institution**

**Sharing of the Elements**

**Communion Music**

**Prayer After Communion**

We Go Out to Serve

\*Hymn 465 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response 568 *Amen* Haugen  
Chancel Choir

\*Postlude *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley* Wood

Please wait until the end of the benediction response by the choir before exiting.

\*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Mr. & Mrs. Benny Moore in the death of their grandson, Timothy Ward Jackson.

**The Church This Week (3/3/2024)**

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Youth
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	10:00 a.m.	Lenten Study
Tues.	6:00 p.m.	Women’s Community Bible Study
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	9:00 a.m.	Women’s Community Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	PW Bible Study
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.		Worship Team
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

**Prayer List as of March 3, 2024**

Gerry & Bobby Rogers  
 Ina Coggeshall  
 Gray & Bea Sloop  
 Bennie and Benny Lou Moore  
 Beth O’Neal  
 Bobbie Jones  
 Keller Smith  
 Dr. Sue Arledge and her husband, Bob  
 Shenell Malloy (Susan & Bill’s daughter-in-law)  
 Edward Tinsley  
 Kathie Cook  
 Penny Angle

**Lenten Book Study: *The Cost of Discipleship*** – Mondays at 10:00 a.m. in the Ladies Parlor.

Listed below are links to sign up to volunteer in the nursery, put flowers in the church, and monitor students at Pathfinders. Please prayerfully consider these opportunities. If you are interested, please just click on the proper link. If you need help in signing up, please contact Cathy Chapman.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AF22AB9-nursery#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AF22AB9-flowers1#/>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545AF22AB9-45315196-pathfinders#/>

The First Presbyterian Church has four scholarships available for young people:  
 The **William Manning Malloy Memorial Scholarship** is available to the most qualified high school senior living within a five mile radius of Cheraw;  
 The **Edwin Malloy Memorial Scholarship** is available to anyone seeking higher education opportunities living within a five mile radius of Cheraw;  
 The **D. W. Moore, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund** is available to students seeking a degree in the field of music;  
 The **McArn Scholarship Fund** is also available.  
 The deadline for returning scholarship applications is March 1, 2024. **Please make sure your letter of Reference is placed in a sealed envelope and attached to your application.**

The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

March 30- Breakfast with the Easter Bunny and Egg Hunt  
 Breakfast will start at 9:30am and go on until 10:00am. Egg Hunt will start at 10:00am.  
 All ages are invited to come have breakfast with the Easter Bunny. Bring your camera and make some memories!

**Session of First Presbyterian Church**

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Marietta Melton Burch	Kelli Beck	Mary Anderson
Cathy Chapman	Avery Dickson	Andrew McLeod
Dan Tillman, III	Mary Jane Evans	Kristen Miller
Charlene Tillman	Jean Page Watson	Richard Pierce

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO
Mrs. Mary Gullledge, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	

Mission Partners

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica  
 Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland



***Our Vision***  
***Rooted by God’s Grace,***  
***Growing in the Spirit,***  
***Reaching Out with Christ’s Love***

**Sunday, March 3, 2024**

First Presbyterian Church  
 300 Market Street  
 PO Box 552  
 Cheraw, SC 29520  
 (843) 537-7474  
 Email: info@firstprescheraw.org