

March 10, 2024
First Presbyterian Church
4th Sunday in Lent
Gifts of Women Sunday

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. Maxwell Michaels

We Worship Together

***Call to Worship**

Diane Hines

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south.

Let them thank the Lord for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices, and tell of the Lord's deeds with songs of joy.

***Hymn 624 *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* TOULON**
(vs. 1,3,5)

Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated) Jean Page Watson

God offers us the gift of forgiveness and the opportunity to let go of our wounds. In faithful witness to God's grace and love, we confess our sins before God and each other.

Prayer of Confession

Jean Page Watson

Loving God, we confess that we criticize and pass judgment on others. We have sought to control the way they live their lives of service to you. Forgive us for our shortsightedness and sin. Help us to understand, appreciate, and love our siblings in Christ, who have diverse experiences and life challenges. Help us to recognize the variety of ways we can express our faithfulness and love to you.

Assurance of Pardon (based on Matthew 11:28-30) Jean Page Watson

As Jesus tells us, "For my yoke is easy and my burden is light, in me you will find rest for your souls." Siblings in Christ receive the good news of the gospel. In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

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.

Children's Message

Mary Jane Evans

We Receive God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading John 3:14-21

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Message "Look At What the Light Did Now" Rev. Maxwell Michaels

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

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.

Hymn 518 *Your Only Son

LAMB OF GOD

Announcements

Pastoral Prayers 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.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Interlude Instrumental

***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.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, from the overflowing of your love, we have been given abundance upon abundance. Receive, we pray, our offerings and bless them. May we be blessed by their work, as we see your reign among us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve

Hymn 623 *I've Got Peace Like a River

PEACE LIKE A RIVER

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response 202 *An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare* Green**
Chancel Choir

No end there is! We depart in peace. He loves beyond our uttermost: in every room in our Father's house Christ will be there, as Lord and Host. Amen.

***Postlude**

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

We welcome Beth Maier as our organist today.

The Church This Week (3/10/2024)

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
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thurs.	6:30 p.m.	Mission Outreach
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of March 10, 2024

Gerry & Bobby Rogers
Ina Coggeshall
Gray & Bea Sloop
Bennie and Benny Lou Moore
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

Mary Gulledge and Eve Nobles will have activities and a Bible story in the nursery during the Maundy Thursday service on 3/28/24.

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 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!

Montreat Youth Announcement:

To all the parents of youth from the 9th grade through recently graduated, the Montreat Commitment Form has been sent out to you! This includes the cost breakdown and information your teen needs for the trip. Please complete this form and return it to either Pastor Max or Elder Kelli Beck before the April 1st deadline. This will secure your child's spot in Montreat! Additional copies of the Montreat Commitment Form can be found in the Youth Newsletter box outside the Church Office. We are looking forward to Montreat this year!

Massanetta Springs Spaghetti Supper on March 20th!

Hey y'all! On March 20th, we will be holding a Spaghetti Supper to help fundraise for the Mission at Massanetta Springs Trip this Summer! This meal will be at 5:30 PM, and we will also take orders for the T-shirts that the Youth designed and Voted on! Each T-shirt will cost \$45, which will cover the cost of the T-shirt, and go into the Mission Fund to help send these kids to Massanetta Springs!

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be taken on Sunday, March 31st.



Our Vision

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

Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2024

Marietta Melton Burch
Cathy Chapman
Dan Tillman, III
Charlene Tillman

Class of 2025

Kelli Beck
Avery Dickson
Mary Jane Evans
Jean Page Watson

Class of 2026

Mary Anderson
Andrew McLeod
Kristen Miller
Richard Pierce

The Church Staff

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper
Mrs. Mary Gulledge, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO

Mission Partners

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

Sunday, March 10, 2024

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