

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Lord, the temptations of the world loom large before us. We are enticed, cajoled, and "sweet-talked" into moving from lives of service to lives of self-centeredness. We need your healing love. As you resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust in you, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our service to you through serving others.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Pensiero

Giovanni Maria Casini

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

When we are tempted to think of our immediate needs and turn our back on others, Jesus draws us back to reality.

All we truly need is you, O Christ.

When we think that wealth, power, status are the answers to life's dilemmas, God draws us back to reality.

All we truly need is you, O Lord.

When we want to really find out if God means what God says, we are tempted to create little tests of faithfulness, and God brings us back to reality.

All we truly need is you, O God.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymnal, No. 475

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO CONFESSION

Hymnal, No. 423

*Create in me a clean heart, O God;
create in me a clean heart, O God;
create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.*

We confess that we are often enticed to take the risk for the rewards, often financial, offered if you win. Just "a dollar and a dream" and we hear the glory stories of people receiving great monetary wealth; later, we discover how many lives have been destroyed by this grand prize. Forgive us when we hunger for the wealth and power the world dangles before us. Move us from greed to gratitude for your blessings. Heal our wounded spirits and lives, so that we may fully serve you. Prepare us for this journey of discipleship and healing. In Jesus' name, we pray. AMEN.

(Time of silent reflection)

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE Womb of Life and Source of Being
Mother, Brother, holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:
we would praise your name forever, One in three and three in one.
We would share your life, your passion,
share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Joan Cole

SCRIPTURE READING Page No. 56
Exodus 17:1-7
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM Give Me A Vessel

SCRIPTURE READING Page No. 864
John 4:5-42
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Called to Overcome Greed Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH In the Cross of Christ I Glory Hymnal, No. 213

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS
Response...Wellspring of mercy, **hear our prayer.**
The Lord's Prayer Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY My Song is Love Unknown Ralph Vaugh Williams

*DOXOLOGY We Are One in the Spirit Hymnal, No. 300
verse 4

*All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG Woman in the Night Hymnal, No. 161

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE
CHORAL BENEDICTION Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

*POSTLUDE Sonata No. 2, III. Allegro maetoso e vivace Felix Mendelssohn

*Please rise in body or spirit.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for March 22: 1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for March is **razors, shaving cream for men and women, combs and brushes**. For a more detailed list please check with Lisa in the office. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

Ushers for today's service are Mike & Karen Girdner.

The Norman Ministerial Fellowship is hosting its annual Lenten series. On Wednesday, March 18, First Christian Church will host the worship and lunch, which begins at noon. Guest Speaker Mike Bumgarner, of Norman Regional Hospital will give the sermon. A \$5 donation is suggested for the lunch.



The **wedding for Breanna Upton and Trey Neal** will be Saturday March 21st at 5pm. All are welcome to attend.

If you can **donate wrapped candy for our egg hunt**, please drop it off in the office by Sunday, April 5th.



There is **no Kids Club Wednesday, March 18th.**

SUNDAY**March 15**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:00 P.M. – Deacon's Meeting
- 5:30 P.M. – Stewardship Meeting

TUESDAY**March 17**

- 7:00 P.M. – Session Meeting

SATURDAY**March 21**

- 5:00 P.M. – Brianna Upton & Trey Neal Wedding

SUNDAY**March 22**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

KNOWN JOYS & CONCERNS

Those who seek healing

Lola Carroll
Sandy Clarke
Jan Cunningham
Laura Eckel
Doug Forsyth
Blair Lanning
Judd Lanning
Jayelle Martin
Emily Ryther
Gary Thraikill
Jona Thiessen
Janann Yeager
Melinda Clements
Pam Normile
Darrell Hinson (Karen Upton's father)
Paul Gallagher (Karen Upton's biological father)
Carole Jo Evans (Tracy Evans' mother)
Jim Leseney (Vince Leseney's father)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

Samuel McCann whose grandmother died December 11.

Joys

Julian Warren Beck, born December 26, son of Jenny and Warren Beck, proud grandparents are Susan and John Beck

Seminary Graduate

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

Birthdays

March 17 – Ann Fayles

March 22 – Marcus Williams

Mandy Jiran

Anniversaries

March 17 – Bruce & Trisha Bunce

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week:

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

We are thankful for:

- preservation of the distinct cultural practices, literature, music and natural resources in these countries.
- the faithful witness of Christians during times of persecution and for those who survived times of occupation.
- how these countries peacefully became independent after 1918 and 1991.
- new-found freedoms that the people here have experienced, that they might be used for the good of all.

We pray for:

- peaceful relations with Russia and among all the ethnic groups in these lands.
- the healing of old wounds remaining from 20th century struggles.
- just economic development that benefits all citizens in these countries, and for those who live and work abroad.

governmental leaders and all people, that they might together strive for justice, peace and the well-being of all.