

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Leading and Guiding God, you have opened the doors to us for true service. We are encouraged to become involved in ministries of peace and justice. The light of promise is reflected in your Spirit which rests in each one of us. Get us ready to serve you. Guide our lives, as we learn more of what you would have us do. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

A Lenten Idyll

Franklin D. Ashdown

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

What would God have us do?

What gifts do we have that can serve God?

Lord, guide our lives and our service.

Lord, call us to ministries of hope and promise.

Help us, O Lord, to look beyond words.

Help us, O Lord, to see ways of service.

Open our hearts and our spirits this day to receive your guidance.

Help us to be those people who will bring good news to those in darkness and doubt.

Come, let us worship God with thanksgiving for gifts of ministry.

Let us praise God with joyful hearts for opportunities to serve.

*SONG OF PRAISE We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding Hymnal, No. 191

*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.*

Change and challenge are always difficult. We are more inclined to turn our backs on opportunities of service than pitch in to affect the needed changes that will promote healing and wholeness. Forgive us when we give lip service to you and then slip into inaction. Give us courage to be willing disciples. Help us

to be people of promise and hope. In Jesus' Name, we offer this prayer. 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

Jessica Farris

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 121

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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ANTHEM

Lord of All Hopefulness

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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MESSAGE

Called to Servanthood

Tracy L. Evans

***SONG OF FAITH**

Hymnal, No.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig Johann Sebastian Bach

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymnal, No. 606

***DEDICATION PRAYER**

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG The Glory of These Forty Days Hymnal, No. 165

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE
CHORAL BENEDICTION Forgive Out Sins As We Forgive

*POSTLUDE Absolute H. Réty

*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 15: Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Roman 5:1-11; John 4:5-42.

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 Linda Eckel & Solange Bobga.

The Library Class, led by Samuel McCann, will resume its study of the Westminster Confession on March 29 at 9:30. Any are welcome to join

The Norman Ministerial Fellowship is hosting its annual Lenten series. On Wednesday, March 11, First Baptist Church will host the worship and lunch, which begins at noon. Guest Speaker Terry Wilson, of Everlasting Life Baptist Church will give the sermon. A \$5 donation is suggested for the lunch.

No garage sales, no raffles, no magazines to buy! Let's make this easy! You are invited to participate in our **Envelope Fundraiser for our Camp and Conference Fund.** Simply pick one or more envelopes off the bulletin board in the hall. The number of the envelope is the suggested donation. Fill the envelope (cash or check) , and place in the offering plate or bring to the office. Thank you!

SUNDAY

March 8

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

TUESDAY

March 10

- 6:00 P.M. – Mission & Evangelism Meeting

WEDNESDAY

March 11

- 3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
- 5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir
- 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

SUNDAY

March 15

- 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 9 – Brian Kelley

March 14 – Riley Benson

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week: **Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden**

We are **thankful** for:

- the spectacular beauty of the changing landscape of forests, lakes, mountains and glaciers
- churches that are advocating and implementing measures to redress climate change that is dramatic here and throughout the world
- those who have opened their doors and hearts to people migrating to these lands
- the support for justice, peace and interfaith work that comes from these countries.

We **pray** for:

- the poor and marginalized who struggle in these rich countries
- personal and investment practices that support environmental sustainability
- growing openness to becoming more multi-ethnic, multi-faith societies
- those who are affluent that they will contribute to making the world and their societies more just for all.

a Church that is prepared to be a voice in the struggle for indigenous people rights.