

February 11, 2024
6th Sunday after Epiphany

WELCOME

PRELUDES

A New Song
Siciliano

Dennis Eliot
Domenico Scarlatti,
arr. by Lani Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #192

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

Shine, Jesus, Shine

(refrain)

Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father's glory. Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire. Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy. Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

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RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 50)

One: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

All: God, the Mighty One, shines forth.

One: God calls to the heavens above and to the earth, saying:

All: "Gather to me my faithful ones."

One: The heavens declare God's righteousness.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord.

OPENING SONG #13 *The Mighty God with Power Speaks

Kingsfold

(verse 1)

The Mighty God with power speaks, and all the world obeys; from dawn until the setting sun, God's wonder earth displays. The perfect beauty all around from Zion's height shines forth; and stars across the firmament so brightly beam their worth.

(verse 2)

God comes not with a silent form, but riding on the winds; before God's face, the raging storm its blast of thunder sends. All hail the Judge, in bold array, whose promise is to bless; who sees our sins, yet also feels our thirst for righteousness.

(verse 3)

The heavens declare your justice, Lord, as endless as the sky; against the taunts of disbelief, our God will testify. Receive my heartfelt gift of thanks, as honor to your might; refresh my faith with each new day; protect me through the night.

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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Believe the good news. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin together:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, when we encounter beauty and love and wonder in the world, so often we seek to control it, to contain it. Forgive us for all the ways we seek to render things under our power, for the times we put ourselves first. We are selfish, God. We push aside your command to love in order to seek comfort. We fail to give generously because we fear there will not be enough to go around. Heavenly parent, we take this opportunity to acknowledge our lies and denials, laying bare our hearts and minds before you now.

(Moment of Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***SONG OF RESPONSE #414**

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Psalm 46

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

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***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (based on John 5)**

One: "Stand up, take your mat and walk." Jesus says to the crippled man he has healed. We, too, are healed; transformed by Christ's redemption, let us get up and walk and talk and serve together. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God who creates us and calls to us, by the power of your Holy Spirit, enable us to hear your Word, and embolden us to respond faithfully as we seek to follow Jesus Christ. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Psalm 67*

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
² that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.
³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. ⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. ⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. ⁶ The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.
⁷ May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

*Please stand as you are able.

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Prayer

Sager & Foster

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *Mark 6:7-13*

⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff: no bread, no bag, no money in their belts, ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

SERMON

"Sending"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

WITNESS

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

New England

Colin Curtis

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***SENDING SONG #526**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
(verse 1)

Linstead

***Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and
heard. Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word
around: loaves abound!***

(verse 2)

***Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone, teaching
people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. Jesus lives
again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

(verse 3)

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us
love to tell, bread to share: God everywhere! Jesus lives again; earth
can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

Amen

Traditional

POSTLUDE

Praising the Almighty

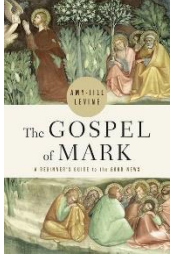
Edward Broughton

**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Six Session Bible Study

The Gospel of Mark **A Beginner's Guide to the Good News** **By Amy-Jill Levine**



During worship for the first two months of the New Year, we will be looking at passages from the Gospel of Mark; widely regarded as the oldest of the four gospels. Through her book and accompanying video lessons, Jewish scholar, Amy Jill-Levine, brings the Good News of the gospel message alive as participants will come to see Jesus as divine and human, powerful and weak, approachable yet mysterious. The book features an in-depth study of select passages and illuminates the Gospel in its historical context and as a source for the other gospels.

You are invited to attend either weekly 90-minute session based on your own availability. Books are available in the Narthex.

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Feb. 15, 22, 29

Mondays, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 4

CWS Blankets+



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
BLANKETS+

During February, Valley will be participating in Church World Service's Blankets+ Program. Contributions to Blankets+ means that CWS will be ready to help families here and around the world recover from disasters and displacement and build viable, sustainable lives and communities.

By contributing, we can help show our caring and help "blanket the world with love". Please consider a generous gift to Blankets+. Envelopes will be available during February. Please make checks out to VPC with a Blankets+ notation. Thank you for your continued support as we try to reach out to others.

Mission

Sarah Circle – Tuesday, February 13, 2024

This year's Bible study is:

Sacred Encounter: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ In the Gospel of Luke.

Study books are \$10.00. Large print is \$11.00.

**Meeting: VPC Library, The 2nd Tuesday of the month
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., September through May**

All women interested are welcome to join.
To purchase a study book, please contact Glenna Pool at 419-789-9446.

Valentine's Take-out Community Meal



Community Meal

Tuesday, February 13

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

This month, we will, again, be engaging in our community meal program: preparing dinners to be available for pick-up or delivery. These meals are our gift to the community: to anyone who is in need of an evening of not cooking or the love that goes into making the food.

The menu for the February 13th meal is: Chicken fettuccine alfredo, roasted vegetables, bread, and red-velvet cupcakes.

If you are interested in helping, we will be cooking meals from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; assembling from 3-4 p.m.; and distributing / delivering from 4-5:30 p.m. In addition, if you would like to bake red-velvet cupcakes (your recipe of choice) at home, please drop off by 10 a.m. on February 13th.

To sign up to volunteer or for the meal, see church website or February Valley Voice.

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 14



Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent with a public acknowledgement that we all sin and fall short of the glory of God. In awareness of these failings, we repent and return to our loving Creator who offers us saving grace.

Ashes are an ancient symbol of repentance, sorrow, and sacrifice. Traditionally, the ashes used on this day are made from the palm branches of the previous year; together, the ashes and palms frame the season of Lent.

The imposition of ashes will be available in the church Narthex on Ash Wednesday from 8:30-9:30 a.m. and, again, from noon-1:00 p.m.

C•O•N•N•E•C•T

Community Game Night for all ages!

Saturday, February 24

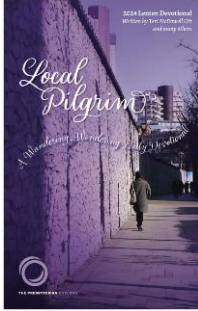
Bringing the outdoors in! Come play corn hole, giant Jenga, and Connect 4, as well as, all sorts of typical board games, or you're welcome to bring your own!

Pizza and salad at 5:30 p.m.! Games will begin at 6:00 p.m.!

We'll have snacks throughout the evening.

Drop in or let us know you're coming by using the link on the church website or in the February Valley Voice.

Local Pilgrim - Lenten Daily Devotional Booklets (Available in the Narthex)



This daily Lent devotional from the *Presbyterian Outlook* invites you to explore and observe new and familiar places in your community. What will God reveal to you when you pause, ponder, and reflect?

In the *Local Pilgrim*, *Outlook* Editor/Publisher, Teri McDowell Ott, and other writers explore what God might reveal to us if we intentionally explore our communities. Who do we see? What do we hear? God reveals God's self when we look.

Lent is the perfect season for a pilgrimage such as this, leading to meaningful contemplation and sacred discoveries. As you make your way through this devotional, you might find yourself inspired to go somewhere new; or somewhere familiar to pause, ponder, and pray. What will God unveil? Join us on your local pilgrimage to new and familiar places in your community.

Each daily reflection, beginning with Ash Wednesday and culminating on Easter Sunday, will combine personal reflection, Scripture, and prayer. May God bless you and keep you on your Lenten journey.

Local Pilgrim Lenten Photo Journal Project

We want to know: what is God revealing to you during this season of Lent? Where have you been led to go, and what have you seen there?

Each Sunday in worship during the season of Lent, we will be sharing some of your *Local Pilgrim* photos during the time for offering. Please email your pictures (with permission from any individual that might be in the photograph) to johnawahl@yahoo.com; so that they can be compiled and shared with one another.

Together, let us explore and share what God is up to in our neighborhood!

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, March 8, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)
Saturday, March 9, 2024 (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:



Fresh meat, fruit, eggs, milk, bread, spaghetti sauce, pasta, SpaghettiOs, ravioli, macaroni & cheese, or anything you would like to donate.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

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Heidi Cregar, Director
Phone: (440) 708-2572
Email: hovcp@netlink.net

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Dusty Timmons

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeters: Holly & Dale Cooper