

March 10, 2024
4th Sunday in Lent

WELCOME

PRELUDES

*This Sabbath Hour
I Hear Thy Welcome Voice*

James Southbridge
Gerald Peterson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #705

You Are Holy

You Are Holy

I will sing to and worship the King who is worthy. I will love and adore him; I will bow down before him. I will sing to and worship the King who is worthy. I will love and adore him; I will bow down before him. You're my Prince of Peace, and I will live my life for you.

By Marc Imboden and Tammi Rhoton / ©1994 Imboden Music & Martha Jo Music (admin. Music Services) / CCL #11043756

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 107)

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

All: 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.

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

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

***OPENING SONG #612**

We Praise You, O God
(verse 1)

Kremser

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

(verse 2)

We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers; through trial and tempest our guide you have been. When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us, and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

(verse 3)

With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us. To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confession of sin is an act of trust in the goodness of God. In confession, we draw near to our maker, knowing that nothing can be hidden from God. As we are honest with God and with one another about those places in our lives that stand in need of God's healing, we are opened to the mercies of God.

*Please stand as you are able.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, giver of all that is good, we rejoice that you are the source of all that is. The breath of life is a gift from your generous hand. The food we eat is grown in the world you sustain. The community that supports us is called into being by your saving activity. Everything we have is a gift from you. Why, then, do we complain as though the manna, raining down from heaven for us even now, is not enough? Why do we worry that your well of living water will someday run dry? Our sin causes us to live as though we do not trust your goodness. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us again to put our trust in your promises that never fail. Remind us that we are always in your loving care. Fill us with grace, so that our lives might show forth the fullness of your love for all people...

(Time of Silence)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PARDON (from Hebrews 10)

One: "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: 'I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds, I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.'" Believe the promise of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

*SONG OF RESPONSE #695

Change My Heart, O God *Change My Heart*
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart,
O God; may I be like you. You are the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true. Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

By Eddie Espinosa / ©1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (admin. in North America Music Services) / Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-722956

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: Lord, teach us to love and serve you faithfully and reconcile us to you and one another as members of one living body. People of God, may the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And, also, with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word and minister to us with your Holy Spirit so that, in this Lenten season, we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 107:1-9, 17-22

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.
² Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, those he redeemed from trouble ³ and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. ⁴ Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an

*Please stand as you are able.

inhabited town; ⁵ hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. ⁶ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; ⁷ he led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town. ⁸ Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. ⁹ For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

¹⁷ Some were sick through their sinful ways and because of their iniquities endured affliction; ¹⁸ they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. ¹⁹ Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress; ²⁰ he sent out his word and healed them and delivered them from destruction. ²¹ Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. ²² And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Only God

McDonald

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 12:1-12

Then he began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the winepress, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went away. ² When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. ³ But they seized him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ⁴ And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. ⁵ Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. ⁶ He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ⁷ But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ ⁸ So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. ⁹ What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. ¹⁰ Have you not read this scripture: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; ¹¹ this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?’” ¹² When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

SERMON

“Rejecting”

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

UNISON ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE (from John 10)

All: God abounds in love and mercy and welcomes our return, for in Christ, God came to us that we might have abundant life. Amen.

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

Called to Tend the Vineyard

From Heart Songs / ©2016 Christie Dilisio / All Rights Reserved, CDHA05

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*SENDING SONG #710

We Lift Our Voices

Offering

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering.

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*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

Go With Us Lord

Cathay

POSTLUDE

Epilogue

Steven Scott

*Please stand as you are able.

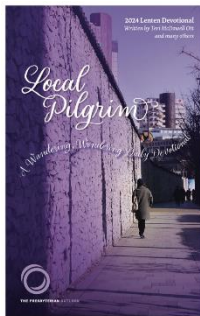
ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers

The flowers today are given by Marilyn & Dave Rodenhausen in honor of family birthdays.

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!

Sarah Circle – Tuesday, March 12, 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.

Vital Congregations Initiative

Your Vital Congregations team will, again, be travelling to Montreat, North Carolina, March 13-15. We will be engaging with the other 13 congregations in our cohort and led by faculty from the Black Mountain School of Theology, helping us to better use community organizing principles to discern our connections with one another and the wider community.

The Vital Congregations Initiative is a two-year program, funded by a grant from the Lily Endowment, to help churches around the country deepen relationships within and widen connections beyond the walls of the church. This will be our fourth visit to Montreat; please keep in prayer the four members traveling this month: Lynn Fagerholm, Tanya Fouts, Beth Krause, Pastor John.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

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



Breakfast foods such as eggs, sausage, bacon, milk, orange juice, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, bread, english muffins, or anything you would like to donate.

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

Lost Coat

A dark green Land's End winter coat disappeared from the coat rack near Fellowship Hall on Sunday, Feb. 18. If you know where it has gone, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday, March 24

Celebration of the Triumphal Entry with special music at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Worship with Communion and Tenebrae at 7 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29

Outdoor Stations of the Cross, Chagrin Falls Triangle Park at noon

Easter Sunday, March 31

Resurrection Day Worship with musical fanfare at 10:30 a.m.

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, April 12, 2024 (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, April 13, 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.

Fellowship Time

If you would like to contribute to our weekly fellowship time, we're looking for the following:

Baked goods
Cheese (any kind, but pre-cut)

These items can be dropped off anytime.

Just mark it for Fellowship, and put them in the refrigerator or the freezer.

If you would like to set up or clean up, there will be a sign up in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall or email Brenda.lee.wahl@gmail.com.

VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

www.valleypresbychurch.org

VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345

17560 Chillicothe Road
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone: (440) 543-1071
Email: valleypc@netlink.net

Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor
Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405
Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net

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

Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan
Liturgist: Marilyn Rodenhausen

Organist: John Kautzman
Greeters: Dusty Timmons