**First Presbyterian Church**

300 Market Street, Warren, PA 16365-2360

Following Christ So All May Thrive

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00AM-2:00PM

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**March 1, 2020**

**FIRST SUNDAY**

**IN**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**

First Sunday in Lent

**March 1, 2020 10:00 AM**

*Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.*

**We GATHER in God’s GRACE**

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE  *Prelude in E minor* J. S. Bach

INTROIT *Laudate Dominum* Jacques Berthier

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) (verses from Psalm 32)

L: The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven, whose sin is covered over, is truly happy!

**P: The one the Lord doesn’t consider guilty— in whose spirit there is no dishonesty— that one is truly happy!**

L: You, Lord, are my secret hideout! You protect me from trouble.

**P: You surround me with songs of rescue!**

\*HYMN *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* #166

CALL TO CONFESSION: (based on Romans 6)

Do we continue to live in ways that are against God’s ways just so God can continue to be gracious and forgiving toward us? No! Once we become aware of how we are hurting God we continually ask God to renew us in Christ’s resurrection life! In this power, we are free from sin and bound to God! Knowing that we need this renewal, let us pray together:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Forgive us, O God, if we think we are immune to temptations to abandon your ways! Forgive us, O Lord, if we believe we are living fully aligned with your will! Forgive us if we are deceived by the illusion that we have no need of you! Enable us to see our failings in the light of your love for us and grant us grace to amend our ways! Hear us as we ask for your mercy in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

TIME FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

WORDS ASSURING US OF GOD’S GRACE (Responsive) (based on Romans 6)

L: Hear the Good News: just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of God, we too can walk in newness of life!

**P: The person we used to be is no more! Sin and death hold no power over us!**

L: By grace, we are dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus!

**P: We rejoice in the new life that is ours in Christ! Thanks be to God!**

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S GRACE**

\*RESPONSE *We Are Forgiven* #447

\*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

**P: And also with you!**

*Please welcome your neighbors, sharing the peace of Christ with them.*

**WE RECEIVE GOD’S WORD**

A MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison):

**In your mercy and love, O God, open our hearts and minds as your Word is heard that we may receive its truth today! By your Spirit, enable us to understand and appreciate who you are for us and how you work in our lives! Strengthen us in faith we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 (Common English Bible)

The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it. The Lord God commanded the human, “Eat your fill from all of the garden’s trees; but don’t eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!” The snake was the most intelligentof all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say that you shouldn’t eat from any tree in the garden?” The woman said to the snake, “We may eat the fruit of the garden’s treesbut not the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, ‘Don’t eat from it, and don’t touch it, or you will die.’ The snake said to the woman, “You won’t die! God knows that on the day you eat from it, you will see clearly and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” The woman saw that the tree was beautiful with delicious food and that the tree would provide wisdom, so she took some of its fruit and ate it, and also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then they both saw clearly and knew that they were naked. So they sewed fig leaves together and made garments for themselves.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM *Psalm 32*

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night you hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Refrain: You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Then I acknowledge my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, “I confess my transgressions to the Lord”— and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Refrain: You forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; Surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.

You are my hiding place, they will not reach him.

And surround me with songs of deliverance.

Refrain: You forgave the guilt of my sin.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 4:1-11 (Common English Bible)

Then the Spirit led Jesus up into the wilderness so that the devil might tempt him. After Jesus had fasted for forty days and forty nights, he was starving. The tempter came to him and said, “Since you are God’s Son, command these stones to become bread.” Jesus replied, “It’s written, *People won’t live only by bread, but by every word spoken by God.”* After that the devil brought him into the holy city and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, “Since you are God’s Son, throw yourself down; for it is written, *I will command my angels concerning you, and they will take you up in their hands so that you won’t hit your foot on a stone.*” Jesus replied, “Again it’s written, *Don’t test the Lord your God.”* Then the devil brought him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. He said, “I’ll give you all these if you bow down and worship me.” Jesus responded, “Go away, Satan, because it’s written, *You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.”*The devil left him, and angels came and took care of him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

THE WORD EXPLORED: What’s In Your Mouth? Rev. Rebecca Taylor

\*HYMN *When We Are Tested* #783

**WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYERS (traditional)

**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.**

OFFERING

Offertory *Call to Lent* Adapted by J. Jerome Williams

\*RESPONSE #606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below;***

***Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;***

***Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*WORDS AFFIRMING OUR FAITH (Unison) (from *A Declaration of Faith*)

**We declare that the universe of matter, energy, and life is God's good creation in all its parts. Even though evil has emerged within God’s creation, we may work and play in it and explore it with wonder and joy.**

**Evil is whatever works against the loving purpose of God for human beings and all creation. Natural forces may have evil effects. Sinful human choices produce evil results. Evil may become institutionalized in our social structures. The power of evil to hurt and destroy, to cut off the possibilities of full human life, calls into question the power and goodness of God. Whether we understand evil personally or impersonally, we cannot explain how it originated in a world made good. But we can affirm that evil is God's enemy as well as ours.** *(continued)*

**In Christ, God shared our agony over evil and broke the back of its power by bearing the worst it could do. God works continually to overcome evil. In the end it will be utterly defeated. Therefore we have courage to endure evil, to learn from it, and combat it.**

\*HYMN *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle* #225

\*BENEDICTION *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*  Jaroslav J. Vajda

POSTLUDE *Fugue in E minor* J. S. Bach

L = Leader **P = People**

\*indicates that one is invited to stand in body or spirit

\* THE LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE NEXT WEEK\*\*\*

**Exodus 24:12–18** 2 Peter 1:16–21

Psalm 2 *or* Psalm 99 **Matthew 17:1–8**

Questions for Reflection

Why does Jesus instruct the disciples to keep quiet about what they had seen “until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead” (Matt. 17:9)?

Household Prayer: Morning

God, as this new day dawns, may your Spirit guide my feet and reveal you to me in new ways as I walk through your world today. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy One, thank you for the gift of this day. Whatever has happened, whatever I’ve done and left undone, help me hear the voice of Jesus tonight, telling me to go to sleep as I am and not be afraid. Amen.

\*\*Taken from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2*. © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



**OUR STAFF**

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Courtney Robillard, Childcare Curtis Tyler, Childcare

Lori VanOrd, Childcare Terri Shaw, Childcare

**\*\*\* OUR WORSHIP SERVICE \*\*\***

IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH, and are interested in uniting with this congregation, please speak to Rev. Rebecca or one of our Elders. We would love to have you as a member of our church family. Visitors are encouraged to fill out the pink visitor card found in the pew rack.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS, BULLETINS, Children’s Activity bulletins, and hearing assist radios are available from the ushers.

THE PRAYER REQUEST FORM is located on the lecterns at the back of the sanctuary. Please fill in your concerns prior to worship.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Alan H. Buerkle, given by Lynn and Bob Sears.

WE WELCOME AND THANK Jen Rossey, today’s liturgist and Bob Sears for providing the children’s sermon.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE is an ancient tradition of acknowledging the unique fellowship we have in Christ Jesus. Please take this opportunity to share the peace of Christ by whatever means you and the one you are greeting are most comfortable; a handshake, a hug, or a simple verbal greeting.

A MOMENT WITH OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES — From babes in arms to elementary school age children, we welcome the children forward to the chancel at this time. Parents should feel welcome to accompany younger children. After sharing and a closing prayer, children age 5 and younger may go downstairs for childcare or return to their seats with their parents.

**\*\*\* ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS \*\*\***

**HAPPINESS HOUR HOSTS** – Volunteers are needed to host upcoming Happiness Hour events. Directions are posted in the kitchen. Hosts can be an individual, a couple of friends or family members, or a team effort. Please sign up in the Third Avenue hallway.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** – The Adult Sunday School Class meets at 9:00 AM in the Craft Room. All are welcome! The group is currently studying Exodus through Deuteronomy focusing on the six primary parts which culminated in the development and organization of the Jewish doctrine, which is the foundation of our Christian faith.

**DINNER WITH FRIENDS** –Volunteers are needed to host upcoming Dinner with Friends. A sign-up sheet is on the Third Avenue hallway.

**APRIL 19, 2020** is open for the Chancel Flowers. Anyone interested in placing flowers that Sunday is asked to contact Jen Rossey.

**2020 Lenten Services**

**“Symbols of the Season” Holden Evening Services at 7:00 P.M.**

 Date Location Preacher Symbol

Tuesday, March 3rd First Lutheran Rev. Matthew Scott Lamb

Tuesday, March 10th First Presbyterian Rev. Jeff Ewing Dove

Tuesday, March 17th St. Joseph RCC Rev. Larry Scofield Chalice

Tuesday, March 24th Trinity Memorial Rev. Rebecca Taylor Crown of Thorns

Episcopal

Tuesday, March 31st St. Paul Lutheran Father Richard Tomasone Fish

**Meat at the Movies!**

(A series for meaty conversation during Lent)

Week 1

March 1, 2020: “The King’s Speech” (R\*, 119 min., 2011)

Library Colin Firth, Geoffrey Rush

\*this rating has been disputed

Week 2

March 8, 2020: “The Way” (PG-13, 121 min., 2010)

Lashers’ Residence Martin Sheen, Emilio Estevez

Week 3

March 15, 2020: “My Sister’s Keeper” (PG-13, 109 min., 2009)

Lashers’ Residence Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin

Week 4

March 22, 2020: “Shadowlands” (PG, 133 min., 1993)

Lashers’ Residence Anthony Hopkins, Debra Winger

Week 5

March 29, 2020: “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” (PG, 109 min., 2019)

Tom Hanks, Matthew Rhys

**\*\*\* CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK \*\*\***

Sunday 3/1  **Non-Perishable Food Collection**

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School – Craft Room

9:30 AM Properties Committee

10:00 AM Morning Worship – Sanctuary

11:15 AM Happiness Hour

11:20 AM Mission Committee-Craft Room

5:00 PM Lenten Movies-Library: “The King’s Speech”

Monday 3/2

6:00 PM Troop Committee Meeting

6:30 PM Troop 8 – Scout Room

Tuesday 3/3

12:00 PM AA – Calvin Corner

Bulletin QR Code



7:00 PM AA (Women’s Group) – Calvin Corner

7:00 PM Holden Service-First Lutheran Church

Wednesday 3/4

9:30 AM Cuppa Coffee – Library

6:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

6:15 PM The Healing Journey – Conference Room

7:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Rehearsal Room

Thursday 3/5

4:30 PM Sharing Place Meal

6:30 PM NA-Calvin Corner

Friday 3/6

6:00 PM AA (Men’s Group)- Calvin Corner

Saturday 3/7

10:00 AM Presbytery Meeting- Erie

Sunday 3/8

8:30 AM Finance Committee-Library

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School-Craft Room

9:30 AM Properties Committee

10:00 AM Morning Worship – Sanctuary

11:15 AM Happiness Hour

5:00 PM Lenten Movies-Lashers’ Residence: “The Way”

**\*\*\* JOYS AND CONCERNS \*\*\***

Ushers will distribute postcards at the beginning of the service; if you would like to write a word of encouragement to any of the people mentioned, or others on your mind, please raise your hand and indicate how many cards you would like. Fill them out and drop them in the offering plate and the office staff will ensure they are mailed during the week.

**Joys:**

The Caring Connection that gathers monthly at Warren Apartments

For the wonderful people all over the world who are knitting, crocheting and sewing bird nests, pouches for joeys, hammock bags for wallabies, bat wraps and other assorted items for the affected wildlife in Australia

Joy for the marriage of Amelia O’Carroll and Michael Schumann

**Concerns:**

Prayers for Rev. Rebecca who will be having knee surgery on 3/2/2020

Prayers for the family and friends of Katie Rodgers who died on 2/26/2020

Prayers for Dorothy Collins, currently at the Rouse Home

Prayers for Kathleen Mahaffy, who has a severe case of bursitis in her arm

Prayers for Randy Rossey who is recovering from shoulder surgery

Prayers for Rex Rossey, Randy Rossey and Suzanne Hunt’s brother, who is in hospice care

Prayers for Mary Schorman

Prayers of healing for Wanda Monts

Courage, Strength and Faith to Larfay Austin Jr during his incarceration

Prayers for Sherry Walter who is at Warren Manor

Prayers for Carinne Palm, Vickie Eggleston’s sister, who will be undergoing radiation treatments

Prayers for Coleen Christy, recently hospitalized

Prayers for Trevor, 16 years old, facing a 9-month recovery from successful shoulder surgery

Prayers for Susan Wenzel, who has health concerns

Prayers for Ross Bryan, who is recovering from back surgery

Prayers for Norm Perschke, who is at the Warren Manor

Prayers for Sherran Jones

Prayers for Lynda Slocum’s grandson, Brayden

Prayers for Lois Buerkle, Lynn Sears’ sister, as she undergoes treatments for cancer

Prayers for Andy Yurick

Prayers for Carol Swanson

Prayers for Tristan Dolan

Prayers for Louise Crozier and family

Prayers for Kass Judson *(continued)*

Prayers for Katie Roth Spiegel, age 39, who is undergoing treatment for cancer

Prayers for Wally Post

Prayers for Ron & June Carlson Prayers for Calvin Leonard, residing at the Rouse Home

Prayers for Lisa Huey Hochberg

Prayers for Emma and Leila

Prayers for Pat Fankhouser

Prayers for Seth

Prayers for Andy Slocum

Prayers for Margaret Taylor, Rebecca’s mother, under Hospice care.

Prayers for those affected by the Coronavirus.

Prayers for the world situation in the Middle East.

Those whose lives and property have been affected in the earthquake in Puerto Rico.

Courage, strength, and faith to all those affected by violent crimes.

Those serving in our military, people struggling with addiction, and those in jail

Those facing famine and hunger in remote and desolate places.

Let the Light of the Lord shine on all peoples in all nations

**\*\*\* PRESBYTERY JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS \*\*\***

We pray for the churches and ministerial staff that constitute the Lake Erie Presbytery. This week we pray for Erie, Belle Valley and Elmwood Avenue, Rev. Dave Edmunds, Temporary Supply Pastor, and Marsha MacKinnon, Presbytery Webmaster.

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| This Week’s Servers: | | Next Week’s Servers | |
| Liturgist | Jen Rossey | **Liturgist** | Cindy Knapp |
| Children’s Sermon | Bob Sears | **Children’s Sermon** | Gloria Lasher |
| Secure Offering | Joanna Elletson | **Secure Offering** | Joanna Elletson |
| Secure Offering | Carrie Salapek | **Secure Offering** | Carrie Salapek |
| Ushers | Ray Pring  Jim Holding  Cindy Knapp  Dick Swanson | **Ushers** | Paul Blasco  Kay Dolan  Beverly Callahan, Martha Leathers |
| Happiness Hour | Vickie Eggleston  Carrie Salapek  Ann Higgins | **Happiness Hour** | Open |
| Flower Delivery | Carrie Duckett | **Flower Delivery** | Richard Swanson |
| Sharing Place | Calvary Baptist | **Sharing Place** | First Methodist |
| Sharing Place Team | Calvary Baptist | **Sharing Place Team** | First Methodist |