

First Presbyterian Church

**Welcomes you for Worship
March 31, 2019**

**Rev. David Smith
Minister**



Our Vision

**By the grace of Jesus Christ,
We will strive to share the
Good News with the world,
To nurture our faith, and to
Go into the world sharing
Christ's love and mercy.**

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019

10:15 am

Assemble in God's Name

BIBLICAL AND INFORMAL GREETING

*Following brief announcements, the congregation is invited to prepare in silence for worship.
Please use this time to pray, to meditate, or to read the Scriptures for today.*



PRELUDE

“Kyrie (Second Couplet)”

F. Couperin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Cristie Thomas

Come as you are, broken and burdened.

Find healing in God's goodness.

Come as you are, gifted and beloved.

Find purpose in God's calling.

Come as you are, weary and wary.

Find comfort in God's embrace.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart.

Worship God with gladness.



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

***Gracious God, seeker of the lost: draw us, your children, back to your loving embrace.
Restore us to our inheritance as daughters and sons, and reconcile our hearts to you, that we
may become ambassadors of your love to all the world. Through Christ by the power of the
Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.***



*HYMN 223 (Blue Hymnal) “O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer”

STUTTGART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION



***O God, in you we live and move and have our being. Forgive us when we ignore your
presence and place our trust in things that fade away. By your grace, move us to be more
faithful disciples. By your forgiveness, empower us to share forgiveness with others.***

RESPONSE

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us (Kyrie)”

No. 574 (Blue Hymnal)



***Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.***

PERIOD OF SILENCE FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

As a parent welcomes home a wayward child, so God embraces all who return in true repentance.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE



May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

*RESPONSE

“What Does the Lord Require?”

No. 97 (White Hymnal)



*What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?
To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.
What does the Lord require of you? What does the Lord require of you?
To seek justice and love kindness and walk humbly with your God.*

Proclaim God's Word



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 32
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

OT 506

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Chancel Choir Members

ANTHEM

“Lord I Want to Be a Christian”

arr. J. Ramey



Chancel Choir

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart; Lord I want to be a Christian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus.
No turning back; no turning back.
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ!

NT 78



THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Brad Thomas



THE WORD PROCLAIMED

“Forgiveness”

The Rev. David Smith

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was
buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into
heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the
living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Give Thanks To God



*HYMN 87 (Blue Hymnal)

“The Glory of These Forty Days”

ERHALT UNS, HERR

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL



The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (*Traditional, page 16 of the hymnal. We use “debts” and “debtors.”*)

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Judy Peoples



OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS (*Visitors, we invite you to share your contact info on a Welcome Card.*)

OFFERTORY

“Ex More Docti Mystico (The fast, as taught by holy lore)”

G. Near



*DOXOLOGY

No. 592 (Blue Hymnal)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give you thanks and praise. O God, all that we have comes from you. Receive this offering and with it the offering of our lives, for we return to you only what you have so graciously given. Use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Go In God's Name



*HYMN 184 (Blue Hymnal)

“How Blest Are Those”

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

*DISMISSAL AND BLESSING



POSTLUDE

“Fugue on the Kyrie”

F. Couperin

* * * * *

**Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN! If you are visiting, we would welcome the opportunity to tell you more about our church family. We invite you to use one of the Welcome Cards you will find in the pew racks to share your information with us.

THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God by Linda And Gary O’Brien in celebration of the wedding of Lauren DeLuca and Daniel Manning.

DURING THE PEAK OF THE FLU SEASON WE HAVE ALTERED THE PASSING OF THE PEACE. Following the verbal passing of the peace, we will sing the response. Greet one another following the service but please be respectful of any who may wish to avoid close contact.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:

WORSHIP LEADER: Cristie Thomas

CHILDREN’S SERMON: Brad Thomas

JUNIOR CHURCH: Maria Berner

SOUND SYSTEM: John Lee

FLOWER DELIVERY: The Congregation

LIVESTREAM: Randy Urbaniak

SIP N CHAT: Wade, Lisa, Abby & Hannah Miller

USHERS:

SPECIAL THANKS TO CHANCEL CHOIR FOR SHARING THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS THIS MORNING!

THE SIP N CHAT HOSTING SIGN UP FOR THE FIRST SEVERAL MONTHS OF 2019 IS POSTED. The next open dates are **April 21 & 28 and May 5 & 12.** Simple snacks are fine.

MEMBERS, WE INVITE YOU TO HELP DEFRAY THE COST OF PER CAPITA. Per Capita is a per member apportionment the church makes to the denomination to support expenses at the local, regional and national level. This year's per capita is \$30.56. Please consider a donation to help with this \$6700 line-item in the budget. Please mark your contribution "per capita".

THE 2019 FLOWER CALENDAR HAS BEEN POSTED. You can sign up to purchase flowers for a Sunday. The cost is \$15. Please email or call the office with the message you would like to appear in the bulletin for that Sunday. **The next available Sundays are May 26 and July 14.**

WELCOME AND PRAYER REQUESTS CARDS, AND DONATION ENVELOPES ARE IN THE PEW RACKS.

REDUCING EXPENSES & OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT! We are printing fewer bulletins and inviting those worshipping to share.

PARENTS, WE HAVE BAGS WITH COLORING AND DRAWING SUPPLIES FOR CHILDREN TO USE DURING WORSHIP. These are in the narthex (the entryway to the sanctuary) on one of the pews. Ushers can help you locate these. Included are a children's bulletin and a coloring page.

HAVE INPUT FOR OUR CHURCH LEADERS? *Open Line to Session* cards can be found on the table at the top of the main stairwell. Cards must be signed when providing input.

LENTEN PRACTICES HELP US GROW CLOSER TO GOD. HERE ARE A FEW OPTIONS:

- Pick up one of the daily devotional books – *In the Shadow of the Cross*.
- Walk the Biblical Stations of the Cross located in the church. The first station is by the Chapel. Walk through all of them at once or do a few at a time.
- Pittsburgh Theological Seminary offers an app with new devotions each day in Lent. You can find it in the app store on your mobile device by searching for "Pittsburgh Theological".
- As the weather warms, our garden is a wonderful setting for contemplation and prayer. It's a good place to offer thanksgiving for all the saints who made this space possible through their gifts. It is a blessing for our church and our community.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THE FOLLOWING HOLY WEEK DATES:

Sunday, April 14 – Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 18 – Holy Thursday Service at 7 pm in the Sanctuary with Communion

Saturday, April 20 – Bunny Breakfast at 9 am. Please invite family, friends, and neighbors

Pancake breakfast, activities and egg hunt for children through 5th grade.

Sunday, April 21 – Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service in the chapel at 7 am

Potluck Breakfast following

Easter Worship at 10:15 am

YOUTH GROUP MEETING DATES:
March 31st, April 14th and 28th (1-3PM) FOR 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE
April 7th and 28th (7-8:30PM) FOR HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE

SPECIAL EVENTS!!!

April 7th - 1-2:30PM - Confirmation Class

Our recent class of confirmands will meet in the fellowship hall for the next two lessons in our Big God, Big Questions books. If you cannot attend, please let Brad know as soon as possible.

April 20th - 9-10:30AM - Bunny Breakfast

Saturday morning before Easter, we will be hosting a family breakfast for children between Preschool and 5th grade. We will have crafts, activities, and an Egg Hunt for the kids. All are welcome and if there are any questions please either call the church office or contact Brad.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE AND OFFERINGS

Youth Group for 6th through 12th grade – Sundays 1 to 3pm

Fellowship, music, lessons and group games

High School & College Group – Normally biweekly, Sundays 7 to 8:30pm at FPC

Off weeks we will look at some off-campus locations

Signups for volunteers are located on the bulletin board by the Wooster Street entrance

ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH 31 – APRIL 7

Sunday

9:00 – Adult SunSch
 9:00 – Presby Praise
 9:15 – Children/ Youth
 Sunday School
 10:15 – Worship
 11:30 – Sip N Chat
 11:45 - Glorify!
 12:30 – Jim W. Praise Band
 1:00 – Youth Group

Monday – April 1

6:00 – Building &
 Administration
 7:00 - Deacons

Tuesday

10:00 – Evangelism &
 Discipleship
 12:00 – Endowments
 4:00 – Glorify! Combo

Wednesday

3:20 – Scholars on Fourth
 5:00 – Westminster Bells
 6:30 – Joyful Hearts
 7:15 – Chancel Choir

Thursday

5:30 – Girl Scouts
 7:00 – AA

Friday

Saturday

8:00 – Men’s Fellowship
 9:00 – AA
 10:00 – SDA Church School
 & Worship
 12:00 – SDA Fellowship
 6:00 – Spaghetti Fundraiser
 for Honduras Mission Trip

Next Sunday –

Transfiguration Sunday

Scriptures – Psalm 126
 John 12:1-8
 . Sermon – “Joy”