

Sunday February 18, 2024
First Sunday In Lent
10:30 AM



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Dave Norton CRE

"Speaking and Listening"

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**Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Wednesday & Thursday**

Liturgy Sunday February 18, 2024

First Sunday In Lent

Reflection:

The Serenity Prayer

God, grant me:

the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.

(attributed to American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr)

Ringling of the Church Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship:

Elder Marty Cropper

To you, O Lord, we lift up our hearts.

God, in you we trust; do not let us be put to shame.

Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.

Lead us in your truth, and teach us,

for you are the God of salvation; for you we wait all day long.

**Good and upright is the Lord; instructing sinners in the way,
leading the humble in what is right.**

Prelude

Choral Introit "Jesus is Lord of All"

* Hymn: "The Solid Rock" # 404

* Passing the Peace

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Invitation to Confession

God takes broken promises and turns them into vows of faithfulness. God takes our biggest failings and shapes lives of service. God listens to our prayers of confession and changes them into songs of mercy. Let us come to the One who pours forgiveness into our lives, praying together the prayer of confession ...

Current Prayer Concerns:

Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Bob Lebo, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Marie McCallister, Betty Ignash, Tom Taylor, Lake Scott, Bryan Wayne-Records, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Margie Baugher Cramer, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, and Baby Owen.

Those homebound or undergoing treatment:

John Snyder and Marie McCallister (Marty Cropper's sister)

Berlin Nursing Home: For all those who we are unable to visit or sing with.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| Feb 25 | Barbara & Besty Kipila |
| Mar 3 | Nancy wright & Jonelle Jone |
| Mar 10 | Dawn Butler & Sue Latour |
| Mar 17 | Vicki Cairns & Jan Owens |
| Mar 24 | Marty Cropper & Carol Reese |
| Mar 31 | NO FELLOWSHIP EASTER |

Note on Numbered Tithing Envelopes:

Beginning with the calendar year 2024, the Session has decided that we will no longer use the numbered envelopes.

If you want to continue to use an envelope, please use the **Love Offering** envelope provided in each pew.

You may also give electronically, by using the **Online Giving** page on our website:

www.ocmdpresbyterian.com

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Tues Feb 20 | Mobile Showers | 9:30 AM |
| Wed Feb 21 | Hand Bells Practice | 5:00 PM |
| Wed Feb 21 | Choir Practice | 6:00 PM |
| Fri Feb 23 | Special Session Meeting | 1:00 PM |
| Fri Feb 23 | Narcotics Anonymous | 7:00 PM |

Birthdays *Lydia Frasca (2/18)*

Flowers: Flowers in the chancel vases are given:
~ In honor of our two sons and the celebration of their February Birthdays. Mark on the 4th and Randy on the 25th. Rich and Nancy Wright

Beginning **February 2024** there will be an increase in the cost of flowers, Please make note.

Chancel vases.....\$30.00
Basket of flowers....\$35.00
vase of 3 flowers....\$21.00

Chancel vases open for dedication
02-25-24 2 vases

NEXT BOOK CLUB, where we'll be discussing:

The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, and a Jew -- Three Women Search for Understanding

A groundbreaking book about Americans searching for faith and mutual respect, The Faith Club weaves the story of three women, their three religions, and their urgent quest to understand one another.

Join our next Book Club Discussion on **Tuesday, February 20** after the WOW Meeting - around 1PM.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Gracious God, temptations are all around us, so many lures that separate us from your grace. Forgive us when we wander from your path, or turn away willfully from you. Protect us, and preserve us, and keep us close, that we may rest sure in the knowledge that we belong to you, and follow faithfully in the ways of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Christ suffered for our sins, once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring us to God. Through the mercy of Christ, God remembers us, but not our faults or our sins.

We are at peace, our sins are forgiven; thanks be to God. Amen.

* Gloria Patri (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

The Lord is indeed good,
for God has blessed us richly.
Let us offer back a portion,
in gratitude and love.

* Doxology (unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem "O, How I Love Jesus"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing you, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22 [NRSV]

Elder Nancy Wright

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

2nd Scripture Reading: Mark 1:9-15 [NRSV]

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⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." ¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him ¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Time with Children & Youth

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Sermon: "Speaking and Listening"

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* Hymn: "Tell Me the Old, Old Story" # 424

Affirmation of Faith - Apostles' Creed (unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

* Hymn: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" # 435

Charge

Let us go now, as God's people.

May God open our eyes to the wonders of creation

Let us go now, as followers of Jesus.

May he open our ears to the cries of the broken,

Let us go now, as those filled with the Spirit.

May we follow the Spirit, embracing our sisters and brothers in love.

Benediction

Postlude and Response "Three-Fold Amen"

Congregation Financials as of January 31, 2024:

Year-to-date **giving/income** ((\$12,491.38 from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$14,694.86

Year-to-date **disbursements**: \$21,278.11