

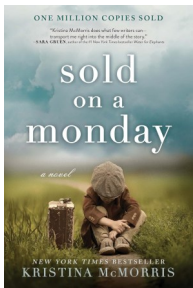
New Lenten Devotional for you to read online.

We hope that you are enjoying and reflecting upon the Lenten devotional that you received online which gives a good devotion for each day of Lent.

Title is:

“Grieving Change and Loss.”

Book Club will meet **Tuesday, April 15 at 12 noon**



following the WOW meeting. The book for this month is “**Sold on a Monday**” by Kristina McMorris. Inspired by an actual newspaper photograph that stunned the nation, Sold on a Monday has celebrated five months on the New York Times bestsellers list and continues to captivate fans.

What is Laughter Sunday, Holy Humor Sunday, Hilarity Sunday, God’s Laughter Sunday, Bright Sunday, or Holy Fools Sunday?

Come to church on the Sunday after Easter and find out. It will be great fun and full of joy and laughter! More information to follow in coming Sundays.

The RUMMAGE SALE will be Saturday, April 26. The shed is open to put in donations.

Sunday, April 6, 2025
5th Sunday in Lent



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

“An Act of Extravagant Love”

Jacob Todd, Organist and Choirmaster
1301 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City MD 21842
Phone: 410-289-9340

Office: ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com

Website: www.ocmdpresbyterian.org

Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: Sunday, April 6, 2025

5th Sunday in Lent

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds:

Lavish devotion contrasts critical stinginess. This passage gives permission, so to speak, to honor Jesus in extravagant ways, perhaps even by giving a massive donation to the poor. It warns against mistaking discipline for discipleship. It embraces affection as part of a devotion to Jesus that is nothing less than the costly, precious gift of one's whole self—down to every last strand of hair. <https://www.workingpreacher.org>

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship:

Deacon Beth Fisher

Spring has broken forth!

In all the land, new life is happening!

Feel the wonder and power of God's creative energy.

Feel the awe and joy of God's love for us.

Let us worship God with a full sense of joy and expectation.

Let us open our hearts, our spirits, our souls, to God's lavish love. Amen.

Choral Introit "Breathe on Me Breath of God"

*** Hymn: "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" # 371**

*** Passing the Peace** - *Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ*

Call to Confession

Current Prayer Concerns:

Virginia Miller, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, Margie Baugher-Cramer, William Steger, Christine Ruskin, and Sandy Akers.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Apr 13	Nancy Wright (Lisa Bayles)
Apr 20	Easter NO FELLOWSHIP
Apr 27	Vicky Cairns
May 4	Karen Eberle
May 11	Marty Cropper
May 18	Nancy Wright (Ann Hales)

*Pastor Debbie will now be taking all prayer requests..
Email her at djhj3675@gmail.com or
text her at 843-568-6480..*

There are large print March and April Upper Room daily devotionals located on glass topped table in the back of the sanctuary. Enrich your daily time with God and take one home! - Thanks Marty

Pastor Debbie's Info:

Email: djhj3675@gmail.com
Cell phone: (843) 568-6480

Always available by texting or calling.

Calendar, Birthdays, Flowers

Tues	Apr 8	Lenten Bible Study	4:30 PM
Wed	Apr 9	Hand Bell Practice	5:00 PM
Wed	Apr 9	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Fri	Apr 11	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays:

Hatty Ketterman (4/6), Bob Brenner (4/7)

No Flowers

Chancel vases open for dedications
04-13-25 2 vases open for dedications (2)

FPCOC Hosting New Castle Presbytery Meeting!

Save the date: **Saturday, May 17**, beginning at 10 AM the New Castle Presbytery will be meeting here in this church for one of their annual gatherings. You have the opportunity to come and see what a Presbytery meeting is like; what goes on; and meet some of the terrific folks who are not only leading this presbytery, but representing their churches. We are having a very special guest that day, who will preach during worship. The Rev. Tony Larson, Co-Moderator of the General Assembly, our national PCUSA governing body, will be with us as the theme centers on "Church Vitality." Both Co-Moderators visit presbyteries and churches in their time in office. Recently on an episode of GA Daily, Rev. Larson stated that he looks at vitality through the lens of Matthew 25, taking on dismantling structural racism and poverty. Larson said that "when the church is willing to take risks on those things and be seen in witness and in work and building relationships with the communities most affected, that witness will bring vitality back into congregational life." Our church will be providing lunch, so for that, a reservation is needed.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

Ever-Present God, you offer us restoration and wholeness, yet we resist you. We reduce the purpose of this life to the amount of stuff we can retain, and we disregard the damage done to our planet, our neighbors, and to ourselves in the process. We confess that we would rather remain as we are than risk the change that results from your presence in our lives. In this season of Lent, help us to realize just how much we depend on one another. Guide us to reorient our lives towards your goodness and your joy. And as you do, we ask that you renew us, restore us, and remain with us, as you always have. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Making a way through all the foolishness and mistakes of our lives, God leads us into new life, where we are restored to grace, to hope, and to peace.

Do we notice what God has done for us, what God is doing in us? This is good news for everyone. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

* **Gloria Patri:** (unison) #622

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* **Doxology:** (unison) #625

Prayer of Dedication

Choral Anthem: "Like Those Who Dreamed"

Minute for Mission-Presbyterian Disaster Assistance-One Great Hour of Sharing

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

Holy God, just as you spoke at the dawn of creation, continue to speak to us now as we prepare to encounter your Word. Be with us in our listening, in our speaking, in our understanding, and in our responding. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: 1st Scripture reading:
Isaiah 43: 16-21 (p. 719 in pew Bible)
Jackie Bates

2nd Scripture Reading: John 12: 1-8
(p. 1065 in pew Bible)
Pastor Debbie Johnson

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: "An Act of Extravagant Love"
Pastor Debbie Johnson

* Hymn: "A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar (P8 P 9)

* The Nicene Creed (Unison)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from

201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

noint-ing. A proph-et - wom - an broke a jar, the
mis - sion. A faith-ful wom - an left a tomb, with
bid - den, the Spir-it's breath, the Spir-it's fire, on
chain-ing. The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls, from

11

sneers of scorn de - fy - ing. With rare per - fume she
res - ur - rec - tion gos - pel. She saw; she heard; she
free and slave de - scend-ing, can tum - ble our di -
wom - en, men, and child - ren, the friends we need, to

14

filled the room, pre - par - ing Christ for dy - ing.
preached the Word, a - pos - tle to a - pos - tles.
vid - ing walls, our shame and sad - ness mend-ing.
serve and lead. Re - joice, and make them wel - come!

201 A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

1 A proph - et - wom - an broke a jar, by
 2 A faith - ful wom - an left a tomb by
 3 Though wom - an - wis - dom, wom - an - truth, for
 4 The Spir - it knows; the Spir - it calls, by

Love's di-vine ap - point - ing. With rare per - fume she
 Love's di-vine com - mis - sion. She saw; she heard; she
 cen - tu - ries were hid - den, un - sung, un - writ - ten,
 Love's di-vine or - dain - ing, the friends we need, to

filled the room, pre - sid - ing and a -
 preached the Word, a - ris - ing from sub -
 and un - heard, de - rid - ed and for -
 serve and lead, their powers and gifts un -

God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for there is nothing else in life that can compare with the surpassing value of knowing you.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The body of Christ broken for you.

The blood of Christ poured out for you.

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

* Hymn: "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee"
79

Charge:
Benediction
Response "Sanctuary" (Unison) (Sing twice)

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,
I'll be a liv - ing sanc-tu - ar - y for you.

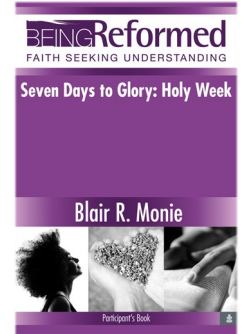
Postlude

Liturgy credit: Rev. Molly Spangler for The Presbyterian Outlook;
Ministry Matters; Lectionary Liturgies;
Music license: CCLI-#1650329.

There is a sign up sheet to help provide food for the **MAUNDAY THURSDAY MEAL** on the glass topped table in the back of the sanctuary. We will eat our meal at 6pm; Worship at 6:45 in the sanctuary
If any questions, please see Marty Cropper

Lenten Bible Study

Our Lenten Bible study continues each **Tuesday at 4:30** during Lent and ending on April 22. The study is "Seven Days to Glory: Holy Week" and looks at the last week of Jesus' life and the importance of those events.



We will be collecting **household items** for the **Samaritan House** on the 3rd Sunday of April, which will be **April 20**. Please mark your calendars and begin shopping for this important ministry. Items can be brought that day.

Help celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus this Easter by adorning our sanctuary with lilies, tulips or hyacinths dedicated to your loved one(s).

Forms are located on the glass topped table in the back of the sanctuary and will need to be completed by April 13th.

Easter Lilies	\$14.00 each
Tulips	\$10.00 each
Hyacinths	\$10.00 each

Forms and payment may be placed in the offering plate

Marty Cropper