

Sunday, March 27, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Lent
10:30 AM



The Prodigal Son



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Rev. Dan McKenty - Pastor

"Flagrant, Shameless, Crazy Love"

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

Office: ocmdpresbyterian@gmail.com

Pastor: ministerocpresby@gmail.com

Website: www.ocmdpresbyterian.org

Hours: 9:00 – Noon, Tuesday-Friday

Liturgy for Sunday, March 20th, 2022

Third Sunday of Lent

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: *"Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Matthew 11: 28-30

Ringling of the Church Bell
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: A medley of scripture (responsive)

Deacon Peggy Webster

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Beloved, let us love one another.

We Love because God first loved us.

The Spirit and the Church say, "Come."

The people of the Word say, "Come."

Let everyone who is thirsty come.

Receive the gift of the water of life.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised. Amen.

Prelude

Choral Introit: "Lesson from Psalm 32"

* Hymn: "There is Power in the Blood" # 191

* Passing the Peace

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful and Eternal God, it is to you we come with hearts that are heavy. We have been proud when we should have been humble. We have been unforgiving when we should have been gracious. We have kept for ourselves when we should have shared with others. We have worshiped our possessions when we should have worshiped you. We have squandered your blessings upon us.

Current Prayer Concerns: Samantha Kilgore, Mark Abbott, Hannah Roberts, Janice Beckham, Jim Phillips, Lakelyn Draheim, Rose Mary McAleer, Phil Steil, Bill Outten, Amy Perron, Nancy Kaiser, Melissa Fields, Russ Shallcross, Carol Nelson, Joyce & Jack Vavrek, Jack Hood, Maggie Mazcho, Lynda, Martha Sekely, Terry Campanella, Bob Lebo, Tanya Ehlers, Andy Hales, and Lydia Frasca.

Those homebound or undergoing treatment: John Snyder, Debra Latture

Berlin Nursing Home: For all those who we were unable to visit or sing with during this time of virus.

Food Pantry & Samaritan Shelter



We have established an Amazon Wish List to help folks see and purchase items that are needed. Use the QR Code to go to the First Presbyterian Food Pantry Wish List. Call or email the office with any questions. Thank you for being part of this Kingdom work right here in our community.

Items needed in our Pantry this week:

Canned tuna
Canned chicken
Chef Boyardee canned pastas
Rice-a-Roni cups
Juices
SPAM
Vienna Sausages
Eggs
Dinty Moore Beef Stew
Chunky Soups



Fellowship Hostesses for March & April

March 27	Jackie Bates & Mabel Rogers
April 3	Carol Reese & Marty Cropper
April 10	Jan Owens & Peggy Webster
April 17	EASTER
April 24	Lisa Bayles & Beth Fisher

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Sun, Mar 27	Boy Scout Troop # 2173	4:00 PM
Tues, Mar 29	Mobile Showers	9:30 AM
Tues, Mar 29	<i>New Members Class!</i>	7:00 PM
Wed, Mar 30	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Wed, Mar 30	Girl Scouts # 812	6:00 PM
Fri, April 1	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: Betsy Kipila (3/29); Joyce Tucker (4/2)

Flowers: *Flowers in the Chancel Vases are:*

~ In thankfulness to God for supplying all the many volunteers who helped make our Grace Parker Breakfasts a success this season. We are blessed to have so many willing hands. God does love cheerful workers.

~ In praise of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and in honor of the Ukrainian people who have shown incredible bravery, faith, and hope in the midst of devastating circumstances.

~ A basket is dedicated to the Glory of God! On Friday, March 25th, Danny attained the age of 70 years!!! Pursuant to the provisions of the Maryland Constitution, he was required to retire after 16 years and 99 days serving as a Judge of the District Court of Maryland in Worcester County. Ironically, March 25th is Maryland Day. Also, Friday was the 71st anniversary of Irv and Juanita Mumford, Danny's parents, joining our Church. ~ *From Danny & Liz Mumford*

Easter Flowers

Help celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus this Easter, Sunday April 17th by dedicating flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones.

Easter Lilies	\$11.00
Tulips	\$10.00
Hyacinths	\$10.00

The prices have increased slightly and hopefully this will not deter you from helping to beautify our sanctuary this Easter morning. Contact Marty Cropper with any questions at Benzgrammyinoc@yahoo.com.

Have mercy on us, O God, we are your prodigal children. Throw open your arms and enfold us in your love. Wipe the penitent tears from our eyes. Forgive our transgressions and welcome us home to your kingdom. In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

Through the power of the blood of Jesus

we are made pure. Through our Lord's grace we are saved. Thanks be to God.

* 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

As prodigal people who God welcomes home, let us rejoice with our Father by the sharing of our gifts.

* 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

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.

Choral Anthem: "Wayfaring Stranger"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Holy God, our hearts yearn for your Word of assurance, your Word of joy, your Word of hope, your Word of love. Fill our hearts today with your holy scripture that we may live according to your Word, that we may share your Word with others. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12 [NRSV]

Jackie Bates

5:9 The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

5:10 While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. 5:11 On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. 5:12 The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 15 1-3, 11(b) - 32 [NRSV]

Rev. Dan McKenty

15:1 Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. 15:2 And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

15:3 So he told them this parable: 15:11b "There was a man who had two sons. 15:12 The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. 15:13 A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. 15:14 When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. 15:15 So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday—April 10

10:30 AM—Traditional Lord's Day Service. We will have a procession of the palms, led by our choir.

Maundy Thursday—April 14

6PM—Agape Feast (pot luck) with Communion & Tenebrae Service—FPOC Fellowship Hall.

Good Friday—April 15

12 Noon—Crosswalk—Begins at Son'Spot on Worcester Street; will proceed north on the boardwalk, with intermittent stops for reflections and hymns. Concludes at Atlantic United Methodist on 4th street, with refreshments.

6PM—FPOC Good Friday Taizé Service. Scripture readings, Taizé hymns, and reflections from witnesses to the arrest, trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

Easter—Resurrection Sunday—April 17

6AM—Community Sunrise Service—Boardwalk & N. Division Street. Ministers and musicians from area churches participating. Chairs and bleachers available—bring a blanket!

9AM—Brunch at FPOC prior to our Lord's Day

The Prodigal Son

The truant says "I will arise
 And to my father go,
 And tell him I have shocked the skies,
 And caused him deepest woe --
 I'll ask him not to call me son,
 But as his servants make me one."

A parent's love who, who can tell?
 'Tis like the ocean deep;
 A constant and a flowing well:
 It cannot pause nor sleep,
 'Tis like a faithful star above --
 A parent's never-dying love.

Fit pattern his who came to earth
 From the supernal home,
 To ransom those of mortal birth --
 Who, fitful, foolish, roam,
 Pursuing empty bubbles thin
 Which dance along the tide of sin.

~ Edward Octavus Flagg



15:16 He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. 15:17 But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! 15:18 I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 15:19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." 15:20 So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. 15:21 Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 15:22 But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe--the best one--and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 15:23 And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; 15:24 for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

25 "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. 26 He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. 27 He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' 28 Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. 29 But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. 30 But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' 31 Then the father[e] said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. 32 But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Time with Children & Youth
 Rev. Dan McKenty

Sermon: "Flagrant, Shameless, Crazy Love"

Rev. Dan McKenty

*** Hymn "Whiter Than Snow" # 436**

*** 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)

In peace let us pray to the Lord saying,
Lord have mercy.

For the church throughout the world,
that all Christians may embody the reconciling
love of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the nations of the world and its leaders,
that all may dwell in peace
and that justice may be tempered by mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the planet Earth, God's gift to humankind,
that all may share wisely its resources
and conserve its riches for our children's children,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For our enemies,
that we may regard them with the reconciling love
made manifest in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For those who are sick or in trouble,
for the defenseless, the weak, and the poor,
that they may be restored to wholeness of life and livelihood,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. And we pray for

For the lost,
for those who have abandoned God, friends, or family,
and for those who have never known such love,
that they may come to know the joy of love's embrace,
let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Loving God, hear the prayers of your people
for the sake of our world,
and our Savior Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray to you saying,
**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.**

***Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" # 26**

Charge

Benediction

Postlude and Response "Two-Fold Amen"