

SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020 11:00 AM

CHIMING of the HOLY TRINITY

PRELUDE "God of Grace and God of Glory" improvisation by Paul Manz
transcribed by Martha Lynn Thompson
Jubilant Ringers

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord" Felix Mendelssohn

✦CALL to WORSHIP

Liturgist: As God set Abraham and Sarah on a journey,
People: God calls us to follow in trust.
Liturgist: As Jesus invited Nicodemus to be born again,
People: Christ invites us to be a new creation.
All: We rejoice that Jesus calls us out of the darkness into his marvelous light!

✦HYMN 554 Let All Things Now Living ASH GROVE

CALL to CONFESSION

PRAYER of CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born anew into the life of Jesus. Help us to trust that you have included us by grace in the family of faith.
(continue in silent prayer)

ASSURANCE of PARDON

Liturgist: Friends, God is for us and not against us.
People: God sent the Son into the world, so that the world might be saved through him.
Liturgist: By the power of the Holy Spirit, we have faith to believe the good news:
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

✦RESPONSE to GOD'S FORGIVENESS *Glory Be to the Father* (Hymn 579)

**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.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 42: 1-7

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

ANTHEM "Agnus Dei" Mark Hayes
(from Requiem)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam
Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, grant them eternal peace.

GOSPEL READING Mark 8: 31-38

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

SERMON The Surprising Way to Life Rev. Edgar McCall

✦HYMN 391 Take My Life HENDON

✦AFFIRMATION of FAITH The Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, Page 14 Traditional)

PRAYERS of THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER (Hymnal, Page 16)

PRESENTATION of TITHES, OFFERINGS and GIFTS

OFFERTORY "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" arr. Kevin Sadowski

✦RESPONSE Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Hymnal, Page 592)
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

✦PRAYER of DEDICATION

✦HYMN 372 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

✦CHARGE and BLESSING

✦RESPONSE God Be with You Till We Meet Again (Hymnal, Page 540, Stanza 1)
**God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, up hold you;
With a Shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE "Toccata on 'In the Cross of Christ I Glory'" David Cherwien

Congregational responses are printed in bold.

✦All who are able, please stand

+++++

SERVING THIS MONTH:

Greeters: Kim & Lena Wallace

Usher: Holly Furr

Chancel: Casey Ballard

Liturgist: Phil Neely

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May you feel God's presence, may the message be a blessing in your life,
and may the grace of God go with you and strengthen you for the week ahead.

Please come again soon!

A SPECIAL INVITATION! You are encouraged to become a member of our congregation, if you have no permanent church home. The Session receives new members upon their profession of faith in Jesus Christ, upon their reaffirmation of faith in Jesus Christ, or by transfer of their membership from another congregation. If you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian, please speak to the pastor following the worship service, indicate this on the Friendship Register, or call the church office.

WE INVITE EVERYONE TO ATTEND one of our Sunday School classes: 9th-12th grade;
Adult: Friendship Class; Spirit/Passage Class. Come join us as we explore God's Word together!

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Edgar McCall - Pastor

Marsha Roberts - Director of Music and Organist

Susan Lott - Administrative Assistant

Philip W. Neely - Treasurer

SESSION

Holly C. Furr, Clerk

Class of 2020

Jennifer L. Bryan

David A. Ghent

Class of 2021

Jon C. Lochner

Philip W. Neely

Diana A. Threatt

Class of 2022

Shirnetha R. Belk

Robert S. Howey

Linda G. Hutchinson

MINISTRY COMMITTEE LEADERS

Worship – Suzanne Harper

Mission & Outreach - Jennifer L. Bryan, Shirnetha R. Belk

Fellowship - Jon & Diane Lochner

Congregational Care - David A. Ghent, Linda G. Hutchinson

Columbarium & Memorial Garden - Jane R. Mahaffey

SUPPORT COMMITTEES

Pastoral & Staff Relations- Robert S. Howey

Property Management - Philip W. Neely

Stewardship and Operational Support – Diana A. Threatt

Finance - Robert K. Folks

First Presbyterian Church

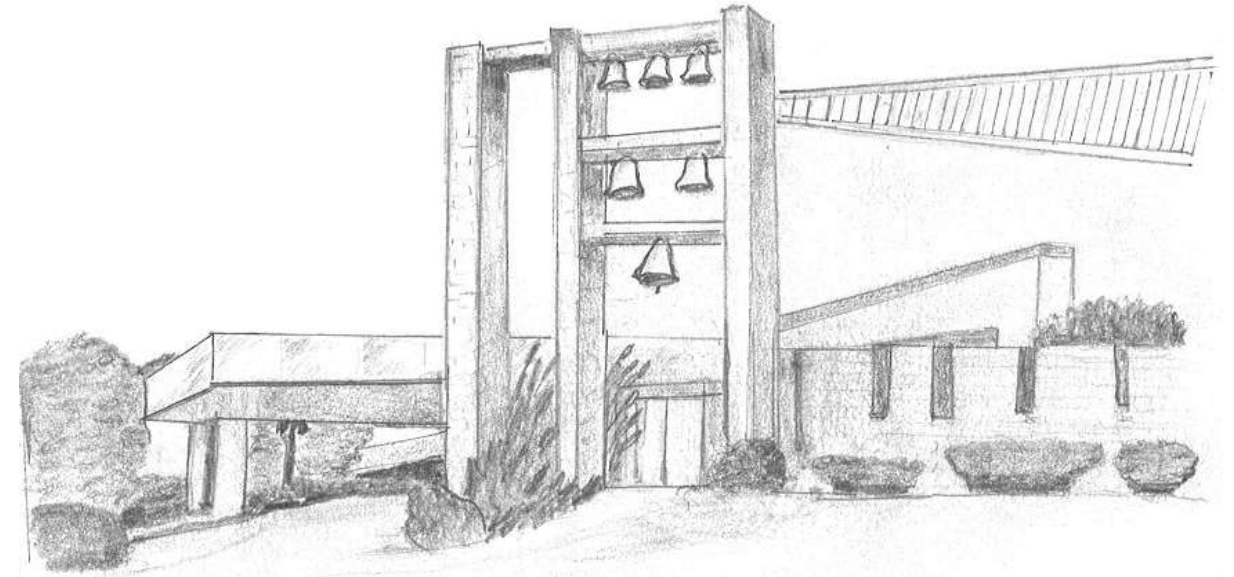
700 North Main Street/PO Box 990

Lancaster, South Carolina 29721

www.fpc-lancaster.org

803-283-3329

A Place to Belong. A Place to Serve.



"Now you are the Body of Christ, and individually members of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

OUR VISION AND MISSION

We, the members of First Presbyterian Church, are disciples of the risen Christ and members of his universal Body, who are empowered by God's Spirit to WORSHIP God with joy and thanksgiving; PROCLAIM the Gospel through word and deed; TEACH the message of God's love in Christ; SHARE God's love for all people by reaching out in hospitality, ministry and mission; WORK together in harmonious unity as a loving and caring people; and to SERVE one another and others beyond our fellowship in the name of Jesus Christ.

OUR VALUES

The values we cherish to enable us to accomplish our vision and mission are the fruit of God's Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23)



FAMILIES TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

David & Janet Houk
Jimbo & Anne Howey

PASTORAL NEEDS: The Session desires to be informed when members and friends of the church are in need of pastoral care and support. During office hours, please call the church 283-3329, to ensure the elder under whose care the person or family is assigned may be notified.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN'S PRAYER MINISTRY

Stop by the Prayer Ministry Table before worship and give your prayer request to our prayer ministry representatives. The names will be provided to Rev. McCall to be raised to God in congregational prayer. Cards are available to express our love and concern to those requested for prayer. Sign these cards and help to further our church's ministry of sympathy, witness and service to others in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES

Today: Diane Lochner/Sandy Gregory

Next Week: Jane Mahaffey

Unless a prayer request is renewed or the health condition is acute, names will stay on the prayer list for one month.

Please pray for our members: James & Martha Jo Mahaffey; Angie Elsberry; Linda Helms; Peggy Bell John McCulloch; Sandy Gregory; Adele Williams.

Friends of the church: Freda Snipes; Libby Woodruff; Wanda Taylor; Debbie Spaugh; Jim Thompson; Steve Hegler; TJ Wilmore; Michelle Tarantino; Dale Sherrin; Lori Steele; Amaryllis Boger; Sue Stewart; Anne Cauthen; Kristy Horton; Brandon Adams; families of Charles Hicks, Don Rutledge & Jerrnia Horne.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES: March 08, 2020 – March 14, 2020

Sunday	9:45 am	Christian Education
	11:00 am	Worship/Second Sunday in Lent
Monday	7:00 am	Men's Prayer Breakfast
	11:00 am	Bible Study Group
Tuesday	10:00 am	Bulletin Deadline
Wednesday	6:00 pm	<i>Jubilant Ringers</i>
	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir
	7:00 pm	Finance Committee Meeting

BIRTHDAYS: 13 Julia Bryan

ANNIVERSARIES: 10 Britt & Cathy Parker

ATTENDANCE: March 01 11am - 53 Sunday School - 25 Prayer Breakfast - 24

OUR GIVING REPORT

	<u>03/01/20</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
Amount Budgeted	\$ 3,934.00	\$ 35,406.00
Amount Received	4,296.33	38,071.66
	\$ <u>362.33</u>	\$ <u>2,665.66</u>

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

Living God's Word, Sharing God's Love

VISITORS and GUESTS. **Worship is essential to your walk with Christ** and we are glad you are with us today. We welcome you as our guest. Please fill out the *Friendship Pad* found on the pew seat. *In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives.* **Join us again as we worship God.**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is a congregation dedicated to **Living God's Word and Sharing God's Love.** With a variety of opportunities for Christian education, worship, spiritual growth, Christian fellowship and outreach ministry, we hope you will find your church home here. Experience the community of faith at FPC. **Our hearts, our minds and our doors are open.**

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT. Lent is a period of preparation and repentance. We have a journey ahead of us during this season. The Lenten Journey is about spiritual transformation. We are spiritual beings who are created to seek and to be sought by God and through this journey we need prayer, spiritual reading and worship. Approach the services of worship and devotion in new ways; **expect to see, hear and experience something from God each day.**

The **MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST** Please plan to attend tomorrow **Monday, March 9th** beginning just before **7:00am** in the Fellowship Hall. *See you there!*
You all must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour. Luke 12:40

The **BIBLE STUDY GROUP** meets **tomorrow**, beginning at **11:00am** in the Georgie Beckham Memorial Library. In lieu of studying a parable, the group will have a study focusing on Lent and Holy Week. Come and learn more of this crucial time in Jesus' journey. All are welcome!

ST. PATRICK'S LUNCH. Within our church family, we give care and we receive care. We build community by loving each other through life's ups and downs. We pray for each other, break bread together, offer support and enjoy fellowship. **Stay for lunch as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, next Sunday, March 15th to appreciate our fellowship and dine on a great Irish meal of corned beef and cabbage.** During our luncheon we will accept a love offering in support of the Lancaster Promise Neighborhood. **PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD** is a partnership committed to the Clinton Elementary attendance zone to empower, strengthen, engage and educate families through restoring community pride and ensuring educational success for every child from birth to college.

The **PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY** is available for your prayer requests. Please ask the person's permission before adding the request. Email requests are preferred. To place a request email David Ghent at daghent933@gmail.com. If you do not email call David at 803-804-9802.

Our **FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON** is **Wednesday, March 25th** at Noon. The cost is \$4/person. Please **sign up** outside the church office. We extend a special thank you to **Suzanne Harper and all the dedicated and talented ladies** that make this wonderfully delicious meal that nourishes us and strengthens our fellowship. **Thanks!**

MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR. During the season of Lent, as we prepare for our Lord's death and resurrection, I will be preaching on 'biblical characters who did not understand Jesus' message and how that applies to us today.' When we misunderstand our Lord's teaching, or fail to trust, we are certainly not alone! - Edgar