

PRELUDE
BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST
WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

*Please stand as you are able.
Bold text is spoken or sung by everyone.

WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**
On our worst days, **God is good.** On our best days, **God is good.**
When life is consistent, **God is good.** And when life turns on its head,
God is good. Day and night, Monday through Sunday,
God is good. God is here. God is love.
Hold tight to that good news. **Let us worship God!**

***HYMN #39** “Great is Thy Faithfulness” (*St. 1, 2*)

CALL TO CONFESSION
There’s a moment in our scripture today when Jesus turns to Peter,
named “the rock” of the church, and says, “Get behind me, Satan!” I
don’t know about you, but that’s a pretty bad day for Peter. It’s a pretty
bad day when Jesus calls you Satan! Fortunately, this absurd moment
comforts me with the knowledge that even Peter made mistakes.
Peter, who was given the keys to Heaven. Peter, Jesus’ right-hand man,
made mistakes just like me. And still, Jesus chose him. Knowing that, let
us speak honestly with God. For even on our worst days, we belong to
God, and that will never change.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION
**Holy God, we often find ourselves moving through a world that does
not make sense. Like Peter, we want to yell out, “This should not
happen!” We want to control scenarios beyond our reach. We want to
hold your world in our hands. Forgive us for the moments when we lead
with declarations instead of curiosity. Forgive us for arguing when we
could listen. Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open
ourselves up to many. Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.
With hope in our hearts we pray.**

SILENT CONFESSION TO GOD
Slightly longer, Lenten Silence is held for personal confession.
Lord, hear our prayer, and change our lives until we illustrate the grace of
the God who makes all things new. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY
Friends, no matter how many times you have dug your heels in, no
matter how many fights you have wanted to pick with God, no matter
how many times you have disagreed, raged, or clung to what you know
instead of embracing holy change – we worship a God of grace. Nothing
can separate us from God’s love, not even a stubborn attitude or a tense

heart. So, believe the good news of the gospel: God’s love for us will
always be deeper than we can imagine. We are seen. We are loved. And
we are forgiven. Now follow Peter and go be the Church in the world.

***SONG OF ASSURANCE #647** “Give Thanks”
Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because we’re given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the
weak say “we are strong,” let the poor say, “we are rich because of
what the Lord has done for us.” Give thanks. Give thanks.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**
Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called
as members of a single body. The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Listening God, if we could attach ourselves to you, we would. We would
scribble your scripture onto our tender hearts. We would bind ourselves
to you, but instead, we wander. Instead of attaching ourselves to you,
we find ourselves swept up in the business of the day. Like a seesaw of
faithfulness, we move back and forth, up and down, constantly trying to
find you in the midst of it all. So, speak clearly to us now. Quiet the
distractions long enough for us to affix ourselves to your good news.
We are listening. We are hungry. We are hopeful. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures
forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from
trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south... Some were sick through their sinful
ways, and because of their iniquities endured affliction; they loathed any
kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. Then they cried to
the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress; he sent
out his word and healed them and delivered them from destruction.
Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to
humankind. And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices and tell of his
deeds with songs of joy.

RESPONSE
Give thanks to the One whose word is life.
Blessed be God forever.

ANTHEM Meditation on “There is a Fountain” Handbell Choir

DISCOVERY TIME The Rev. Dr. Laurie Brubaker Davis
(Sunday School students, 4K – 5th grade, are dismissed to their classes.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 16:21-23
From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and
chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.
And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, ‘God forbid it,
Lord! This must never happen to you.’ But he turned and said to Peter,
‘Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are
setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.’

RESPONSE
For your words that tell stories, your words that make us laugh and cry,
your words that make us think. **Thank you, God.**

LENTEN SERIES *Wandering Heart: Figuring out Faith with Peter*
“I’m Fixed Upon It” The Rev. Dr. Laurie Brubaker Davis

LONGER LENTEN TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION
*Please let the bell tone help in your meditation and reflection. This is an
ancient Christian monastic and Eastern meditation practice aid.*

***HYMN #684** “Faith Begins by Letting Go” (*St. 1, 3*)

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

JOYS AND CONCERNS
*In order to preserve confidentiality, the sharing of joys and concerns
portion of our service is limited to only those present in the sanctuary.*
We pray to the Lord...**Lord, hear our prayer.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**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.**

A TIME FOR GENEROSITY
People of God, let us offer our sacrifice of thanksgiving, telling of God’s
deeds with songs of joy.

OFFERTORY “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Handbell Choir

***DOXOLOGY #616** “Our God is an Awesome God”
Our God is an awesome God who reigns from heaven above,
With wisdom, power and love; our God is an awesome God! (Repeat)

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among humankind. Accept our offerings and help us be for the world an emblem of your steadfast love, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #817** “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” (St. 1 -3)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES WITH US.** *We carry the Christ Candle out of the sanctuary as a reminder that God’s love is with us, even as we go out in peace, guided by the Spirit to bring healing and hope to a broken, hurting and grieving world.*

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE #475** “Come Thou Fount” (St. 1)
Come thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of God’s unchanging love!

POSTLUDE
This “Wandering Heart” Lenten series theme and prayers are by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING’S WORSHIP SERVICE

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Laurie Brubaker Davis
Lector	David Carroll
Piano/Organ	Lisa Carroll
Handbell Choir	Kathy Phillips (Director), Jan Clouse, Stephanie Garbisch, Jade Hubbell, Bob JohaneK, Kristy JohaneK, Josette Kaiser, Kristina Kaiser, Nici Luchterhand, Tracy Olson, Beth Walsh
Choir Directors	Greg Reiersen (Adult) Morgan Schmidlkofer (Children)
Audio/Visual Team	Lead Tech: Greg Walsh Assistants: Dominic Kaiser, Aaron Schmidlkofer, Beth Walsh, Sean Walsh
Deacons	Sue Ferguson, Kathy Kramer, Janet Singer
Greeters	Jeremy, Nici, Braxton, Jade & Mason Luchterhand
Nursery	Therese Brooks

IN OUR PRAYERS: Dale Fehrenbach, Joy Thomas, Ruth Luber, Laura Nelke and Terry Bernick; and the family and friends of Theone Neumann. Please give names for the prayer list to the church office. Names will be kept on the prayer list for two months.

OUTREACH TO THE HOMEBOUND, RECOVERING AND ON OUR HEARTS:
Each week we list one of our members or friends and encourage you to send a card or note. This week we are thinking of: **Nancy Johnson, 1810 N. Hume, Apt. 2, Marshfield, WI 54449.** Please reach out to anyone you think needs a little encouragement with a friendly chat. Lift a spirit with a phone call, email, FB message, etc.

OLIVE WOOD HEARTS: 8,000 olive wood hearts were made by Bethlehem area olive wood artisans to represent 8,000 children killed in the Holy Land since Oct. 7, nearly 7,800 of them living in Gaza. This is the human cost of war and the choice not to end war. What do 8,000 children look like? Each of these handcrafted 8,000 hearts represents a child’s life. Each of these 8,000 hearts represents a call to prayer and a call to action.

FORUM FOR ALL TODAY AT 10:45AM: "Pulling Back the Tarp: How does the FPC Rummage Sale happen?" Learn about a new sorting and organizing process to be implemented this year and the volunteer opportunities it will bring. We will review what items we can and cannot accept and show how we list special items for sale online. Our annual rummage sale is a monumental undertaking, and we have opportunities for anyone interested in helping. If you would like to learn more or have helped in past years, we invite you to join us in the Parlor or on Zoom. And **Save the Date: FPC Rummage Sale June 6-8.** Donations will be accepted starting May 29.

CONTEMPLATIVE SPIRITUAL PRACTICES (ONLINE): Thurs., Mar. 14 (Poetry Divina), and Thurs., Mar. 21 (Journaling & Haiku), 7:00- 7:45PM. Bring a journal or paper and a pen(s), etc. Join us for a time of rest and connection with the heart of God. We'll begin by greeting one another, spend 20 minutes in our spiritual practice, and close with an opportunity to share our wonderings and our experiences. People of all abilities are welcome. Email Kristinamkaiser@gmail.com to get the Zoom link sent to you.

FORUM FOR ALL SUNDAY MARCH 17 IN THE PARLOR: Dr. David Vance presents: “Grafted into the Vine: the Passover and Jesus” a discussion about the history of Passover in the Jewish tradition and how this can enrich the Christian faith today. Expect to learn about the rich symbolism that is incorporated in this most important festival feast. Paul says, in Romans 11 that we are grafted into the vine of Judaism. That means we share the rich heritage of God’s chosen people. Come and learn some of what that means.

MOVIE NIGHT AT FPC, MARCH 17 AT 6:30PM! Join us for our first Lenten Movie Night. We will be watching *Jesus Christ Superstar* in the Parlor. Bring your favorite movie snack/beverage as we watch this great movie with others! Get in touch with Jan Clouse or Clay Bernick if you have questions.

FPC UPDATED HEALTH PROTOCOL: Due to a recent increase in respiratory illnesses, including covid, RSV and influenza, The Wisconsin Council of Churches is strongly recommending masking for large gatherings. FPC has made masks available for anyone who would like to wear them.



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
4th Sunday in Lent
March 10, 2024

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS! We would be delighted if you would fill out our quick and easy green VISITOR CARD in the center pocket of your pew. Please place it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor after worship.

WELCOME TO FAMILIES with children and infants for worship. The staffed nursery is available for infants through three years old. Worship Bags, on a stand at the entrance to the sanctuary, are available to enhance kids’ worship experience.

SECOND SUNDAY BREADS TODAY: Everyone is invited to join us immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall for treats and coffee and a bit of table fellowship! Coffee will be served by the Deacons.

We’re just over half-way there! **Take home a LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET or set of PRAYER CARDS** in the Narthex for you to enrich the second half of your 40-day plus Sundays Lenten journey towards Easter.

SECOND WEDNESDAY LENTEN SUPPER THIS WEDNESDAY: March 13, 5:00 – 5:45 PM. Enjoy a light buffet supper starting at 5:00 PM, Prayers & short service at our tables will occur 5:30 – 5:45 PM. Stay longer if you like for relaxed fellowship time. Sign-ups to help with each of these suppers are in the Narthex. This Wednesday features a light Italian menu: Minestrone soup, bread sticks, and Cannoli for dessert: All three, homemade.



HEARING & VISUAL ASSISTANCE Ask an Usher for help: Switch hearing aid to T-Coil Loop Listeners. Magnifiers are available.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: First Presbyterian Church, Marshfield, Wisconsin seeks to welcome all to join us on our journey of faith, denying no one, based upon their particular human condition, participation in the life of the church. We want to be a safe place, a sanctuary where people are accepted, included, and cared for as they are. We will be agents of God's transforming power, aligning ourselves with the Holy Spirit as we pray, worship, learn, share fellowship and serve together. By attending to the love of Jesus Christ in our midst, we discover a deepening faith that makes a difference in our lives. As a community based on God's love, we strive to be of service to our neighbors and to the world.