# First Presbyterian Church

Cleveland, GA

February 4, 2024



"Growing together by sharing Christ's love"

# First Presbyterian Church 5th Sunday After Epiphany February 4, 2024

# We Gather to Worship God

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God, full of compassion, I commit and commend myself to you, in whom I am, and live. Be the goal of my pilgrimage, and my rest by the way. Let my soul take refuge from the crowding turmoil of worldly thought beneath the shadow of your wings. Let my heart, this sea of restless waves, find peace in you, O God. Amen.

PRELUDE TO WORSHIP

"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" arr. Johnie Dean

#### GREETING

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 147:1-4, 7-8, 10-11

Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God! How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem

The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the exiles of Israel.

The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

The Lord counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music upon the harp to our God, who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the mountains. God is not impressed by the might of a horse, and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner, but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord, in those who wait upon God's steadfast love.

## \*GATHERING PRAYER

\*HYMN: "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" GtG #35

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God you are everlasting, the creator of all that is. Your understanding is beyond measure. We confess to you that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. In your compassion, forgive us, for we place our hope in your steadfast love.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Praise the Lord!
Our God heals the brokenhearted and binds up our wounds.
God takes pleasure in those who place their trust in God's grace.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

#### \*SONG OF RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

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.

# We Hear the Word of God in Scripture and Song

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Roy Ficklin

**ANTHEM** Amazing Grace/Pachelbel's Canon

arr. Jean Anne Shafferman

GOSPEL Mark 1:29-39

**SERMON** "Everyone is Searching"

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE "By Faith" FPC Songbook #5

# We Respond to the Word of God

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostle's Creed (Traditional) 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.

# **OFFERING**

**HYMN FOR MEDITATION** 

"O How He Loves You and Me" arr. Faye Lopez

## \*SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

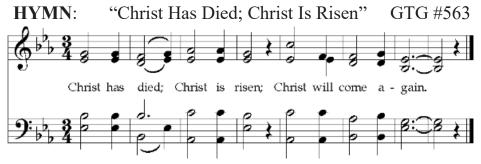
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you God of the universe...

For all these things we praise you, joining our voices to the whole company of heaven, who sing together:

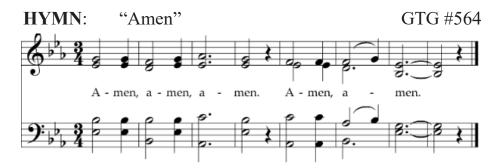
**HYMN**: "Holy, Holy," GtG #562

Praise to you for the gift of this holy meal... With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



O God of resurrection and new life...

Now and forever. Amen.



The Lord's 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.

Words of Institution

Breaking of the Bread Communion of the People Prayer After Communion \*HYMN: "Go to the World!" GtG #295

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDITION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Make Me a Servant" Kelly Willard

Make me a servant
Humble and meek
Lord let me lift up
Those who are weak
And may the prayer
Of my heart always be
Make me a servant
Make me a servant

Make me a servant today

**POSTLUDE** 

"The Church's One Foundation"

arr. Carol Tornquist

## **Devotion for Discernment**

Scripture: Acts 17:16-33

**Focus Text:** "Indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being" (vv.27-28)

**Listening to God:** Know that right at this moment, I am very close to you. The air that you are breathing is a gift from me. The ability to turn a page or read a sentence comes to you right now from my loving hands. It grieves me when you act as though I am far away. You give me great joy when you recognize our intimacy and live like a son or daughter of God. I desire your good as a mother desires good for her infant. Trust me and don't be afraid!

My Prayer:

# Announcements & Upcoming Events

**PW CT Meeting** will meet Wednesday, <u>February 7</u>, at 2:00.

**Friendship Nursing Home:** If you would like to visit the residents of Friendship Nursing Home and possibly sing an "Old Standard Hymn" or two, please meet at the church on Thursday, <u>February 8</u>, at 10:15 to carpool or meet our group at the Nursing Home at 10:30. Your visit is important to the residents. Hope to see you then!

**Souper Bowl of Caring:** Mark your calendar for <u>February 11</u>. We will gather for our annual soup and sandwich lunch after worship. Donations will benefit the White County Food Pantry. There is a sign-up sheet in the upper narthex if you would like to contribute a dish for lunch.

**Ash Wednesday:** Join us on <u>February</u> 14 for a pancake supper at 5:00 and Ash Wednesday Service at 6:00.

**In-House Food Pantry:** Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our in-house food pantry. Thank you. Thank you!



If you'd like to provide flowers for Sunday service, please sign up in the upper narthex or contact the church office with the preferred date and the occasion you're commemorating.

# The Week at a Glance

Monday, Feb 5th Office Closed

**Tuesday, Feb 6th** 9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours 8:00 - 12:00 TGP

Wednesday, Feb 7th 9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours 8:00 - 12:00 TGP 12:30 Bible Study 2:00 PW CT Meeting 6:30 Choir Rehearsal **Thursday, Feb 8th** 9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours 8:00 - 12:00 TGP

Friday, Feb 9th 9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

Sunday, Feb 11th 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Coffee & Conversation 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 Souper Bowl of Caring



This year Ash Wednesday falls on Feb. 14, 46 days before Easter Sunday. It is the first day of Lent, a period of contemplation, confession, and repentance. A brief service will be held at FPC at 6 p.m.

The "imposition of ashes" usually occurs during the service. The pastor invites members of the congregation to come to the front of the church, where

she uses ash and oil to draw a small cross on their foreheads. From the time of the Old Testament, putting ashes on one's head has signified mourning and penitence.

The observation of Lent originated in the Roman Catholic Church and has since been adopted by Protestant churches as well. The 40 days of Lent correspond to the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness following his baptism (Sundays are not considered part of the Lenten period). Traditionally, those observing Lent would fast for one or more days a week. In recent years, instead of giving up food, some Christians choose to give up another activity as a sign of penitence, such as playing video games or posting on social media.

Pastor: Rev. Burnetta Armour

Director of Music:

Accompanist:

Organist

Usher:

Greeters:

David Arvold

James Geiger

Rachel Ficklin

Mary Ann Clyburn

Charles Massingale

Hugh Walters
Collin Armour
Roy Ficklin
Hugh Walters

Liturgist: Roy Ficklin
Elder of the Month February: Hugh Walters
Deacon of the Month February: Bob Thomason

# Members' Special Needs, at Home, or Hospitalized

Beth Everling Bruce Morgan Tony Clark Jeanette Wiley

# Family and Friends

Erma Axelson, cousin to Penny Murdoch Phillip Richardson, Lindalee Walter's brother Brenda Miller, sister to Linda Watkins Rusty Whitt, friend of Hugh Walters Brad Gray, cousin of James Armour Maximus, son of friend of James Armour Rick Clack, Lindalee Walters' BIL Diane & Mark Grainger

# In the Military

| Zack Ciriello          | Ciriello and Murdoch family |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Greyson Ekdahl-McBride |                             |
| Charlsie Maddox        | •                           |
| Tyler Lovell           | Royds family                |

## THE SESSION

## Reverend Burnetta Armour, Moderator

Bruce Morgan, Clerk of Session Jim Hiers, Clerk of Session, Emeritus

**CLASS OF 2024** 

Phil Baughman Worship

Jim Crawford Membership **CLASS OF 2025** 

Bruce Morgan Administration & Finance

> Hugh Walters Building & Grounds

Elaine Wiegert Missions and Discipleship **CLASS OF 2026** 

Judy Massingale Membership

Nancy Webber Communications

# THE DIACONATE

Rita Morgan, Moderator Judy Massingale, Session Liaison

CLASS OF 2024

Viveca Cooper Debbie Wessely **CLASS OF 2025** 

Rita Morgan Adele Page **CLASS OF 2026** 

Kim Ciriello Bob Thomason



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