

# First Presbyterian Church

Cleveland, GA

March 3, 2024



“Growing together by sharing Christ’s love”

**First Presbyterian Church  
3rd Sunday in Lent  
March 3, 2024**

**We Gather to Worship God**

**PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, that we might become instruments of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**PRELUDE TO WORSHIP**      “Thy Word”      arr. Mark Hayes

**GREETING**

The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
**reviving the soul;**  
the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
**rejoicing the heart;**  
the commandment of the Lord is clear,  
**enlightening the eyes;**  
the fear of the Lord is pure,  
**enduring forever;**  
the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.  
**They are more desirable than gold,  
and sweeter than honey.  
In keeping them is great reward.**

## **\*GATHERING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN:** “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

GtG #20

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, how fickle we are;  
we sin against you without even knowing it.  
Clear us, we pray, of any unknown sin,  
And save us from willfully ignoring your way.  
Let your commandments rule and guide us.

**Forgive us for worshipping anyone or anything except you. Keep us faithful.**

**Forgive us for failing to honor all our relationships—  
with those closest to us and those who are distant neighbors.**

**Help us to speak words of blessing and kindness,  
rather than words that belittle or destroy.**

**Turn us from all violence, falsehood, and selfishness.**

**Forgive us for thinking that everything depends on our efforts and  
power,**

**for you are the God who made us, led us out of slavery,  
and has brought us into the community of faith.**

**Help us to depend on you alone and to rest in your peace.**

**In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In Jesus Christ, we are freed to live as children of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE** “Hear the Good News of Salvation” GtG#441

**Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God’s love.  
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven  
above. Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You Save from  
sin! How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.**

# **We Hear the Word of God in Scripture and Song**

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

<b>GOSPEL</b>	Mark 12:28-34	Bernice Rogers
<b>ANTHEM</b>	“See the Savior”	Hal H Hopson
<b>OLD TESTAMENT</b>	Exodus 20:1-17	
<b>SERMON</b>	“Contracts and Covenants”	
<b>*HYMN OF RESPONSE</b>	“O Lord, My God”	GtG #625

## **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**            “I will Arise and Go to Jesus”  
arr. John Carter

**\*SONG OF GRATITUDE**      “We Give Thee But Thine Own” (v. 1) #708

**We give thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

Invitation to the Table

Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;  
let those who have no money come and eat.  
**God will satisfy our souls with a rich feast,  
and we will bless the Lord as long as we live.**

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.**

Holy Lord, Father almighty, everlasting God before whose  
justice no human being can stand, yet whose love is so sure we  
need not hide ourselves...

With men and women of faith from all times and places, we lift  
our hearts in joyful praise, for you alone are holy:

**HYMN:**      “Holy, Holy, Holy”

GtG #562

Holy God, we thank you for your Son Jesus, who lived with us  
sharing joy and sorrow...

Great is the mystery of faith:

**HYMN:** “Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen” GTG #563

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come a - gain.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Jesus on the night he was betrayed prayed for his followers, for all those who believed in him and would believe, and for all whom he loved...

O God, who called us from death to life: we give ourselves to you; and with the church through all ages, we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

**HYMN:** “Amen” GTG #564

A - men, a - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

**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  
Communion of the People  
Prayer After Communion

\*HYMN: "The Lord is God"

GtG #63

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Lord, Prepare Me" (Sanctuary)

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

"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

arr. Carol Tornquist

## *Devotion for Discernment*

**Scripture:** Mark 1:14-20

**Focus Text:** “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news” (v. 15).

**Listening to God:** I want to do something new in you and in your church. This new thing is of a piece with what I have been doing with you, but it is also fresh and different. I want you to turn away from your contentment with the way things are and ask me what I want you to be doing. I want you to partner with me now, not next week or next year. There are people all around you who need what only I can give. Let me use you to be good news to them.

**My Prayer:**



Today's flowers are in honor of Adele Page's birthday.



## ***Announcements & Upcoming Events***

**PW CT Meeting** will meet Wednesday, Mar 6, at 2:00.

**Concerts On The Hill** - First Presbyterian Church in **Clarksville** is presenting a series of special services during the liturgical season of Lent. Local musicians will be featured in a short program of music and scripture at noon on Wednesdays in their Fellowship Hall. The public is invited. Mar 6 at noon, featuring Benji Stegner on the organ.

**PW Annual Gathering:** The PW Annual Gathering will be on March 16 at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Augusta. Daryl Mullee, a participant in the USA Mission Experience to the southern border in Arizona, will be the featured speaker. There is a signup sheet in the upper narthex.

**Church Work Day** Friday, Mar 22. Come one, come all! Starting at 9am we will be sprucing up the church grounds. Stop on by and help us get our church ready for spring. (Make up rain date will be the Mar 23)

Yonah Lodge 382 is planning on displaying **Veteran memorial markers** along roadsides in Cleveland to honor deceased veterans of the armed forces. The metal crosses will be displayed from the weekend before Memorial Day through July 5. Requests forms, available in the Upper Narthex, and payments of \$150 per memorial must be returned to the church office before the end of March.

## *The Week at a Glance*

### **Monday, Mar 4th**

Office Closed

### **Tuesday, Mar 5th**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

8:00 - 12:00 TGP

### **Wednesday, Mar 6th**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

8:00 - 12:00 TGP

12:30 Bible Study

2:00 PW Committee Meeting

6:30 Choir Rehearsal

### **Thursday, Mar 7th**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

8:00 - 12:00 TGP

### **Friday, Mar 8th**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

### **Sunday, Mar 10th**

9:30 Choir Rehearsal

10:00 Coffee & Conversation

11:00 Worship Service

Pastor:

Director of Music:

Accompanist:

Organist

Usher:

Greeters:

Liturgist:

Elder of the Month March:

Deacon of the Month March:

Rev. Burnetta Armour

David Arvold

James Geiger

Rachel Ficklin

Bill Woods

Charles Massingale

Hugh Walters

Collin Armour

Bernice Rogers

Jim Crawford

Debbie Wessely

## *Remember in Your Prayers*

Family, Friends, and those Recovering will be kept on our pastoral care list for one month unless an extension of time is requested. Please notify the church office of any changes. **Bold** print indicates new prayer requests. You can call the church or send your new requests to [info@fpcleveland.org](mailto:info@fpcleveland.org).

### *Members' Special Needs, at Home, or Hospitalized*

David and Clair Arvold and their family

#### *Family and Friends*

Diane & Mark Grainger  
Eddie Price, Brother-in-law to Donna Barrett  
Pat Ellenburg, friend to Faye Boatenreiter  
Erma Axelson, cousin to Penny Murdoch

#### *In the Military*

Zack Ciriello .....	Ciriello and Murdoch family
Greyson Ekdahl-McBride .....	Ciriello and Murdoch family
Charlsie Maddox .....	Maddox family
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



First Presbyterian Church

147 N. Main Street

Cleveland, GA 30528

706-865-6499

[www.fpcleveland.org](http://www.fpcleveland.org)