

First Presbyterian Church

Organized May 25, 1822

*With Christ as our Savior and Guide
We seek to know God's love and share it
With each other, our community, and the world.
We invite you to join us in this journey
of discipleship.*

Rev. Dr. Gregory L. Glover, Pastor

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 31, 2019

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "Adagio in D-Flat"
Franz Liszt

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE AND GREETING

The LORD be with you.
And also with you.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come as you are, broken and burdened,
and find healing in God's goodness.

Come as you are, gifted and beloved,
and find purpose in God's calling.

Come as you are, weary and wary,
and find comfort in God's embrace.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and worship God with gladness.

Let us worship God together.

*HYMN #172 "Blest Are They"

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, in you we live and move and have our being. Forgive us when we ignore your presence: when we place our trust in things that fade away. By your grace, move us to be more faithful

disciples. By your forgiveness, empower us to share forgiveness with others

Now hear our silent, personal prayers of confession.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn #581

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Joshua 5:9-12 (p. 171)

ANTHEM "Lamb of God"
Franz Schubert

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

***Children ages 4-4th grade leave for Children's Worship*

INTERLUDE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (p. 848)

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God

SERMON "Weighted Down to Defying Gravity"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #22 "God of the Sparrow"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Confession of 1967 (9.31)*

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "O Rest In the Lord"
Felix Mendelssohn

*THE DOXOLOGY, HYMN #606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #828 "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE "Trumpet Tune in d Minor"
Henry Purcell

WORSHIP NOTES

Maggie Glenn is today's liturgist.

Eric Salyer is today's audio-visual specialist.

Mark Ring is Director of Music/Organist.

Matt McNeill, Accompanist.

***Please stand if you are able.**

**** Children's Worship is in the Chapel outside of the church office.**

Note on Psalm 32: This is another of the penitential psalms, a short catechism or set of instructions regarding forgiveness of sins, a nuts and bolts handbook or road map, a "grammar of the penitential life" (Tennent). The psalmist offers a view of repentance that acknowledges human responsibility and need. We must seek the Lord while he is near; we are not relieved of the responsibility and requirements of obedience to the commandments. This requires teaching, and the implementation of both "bit and bridle" to reform our behavior and lead us back to God (vv. 8-9). On the other hand, as Calvin would say, our repentance does not cause us to receive God's grace; repentance is itself a gift of God's grace ("Blessed is...blessed is...." vv. 1-2) We cannot, as John Donne says, swim our way to salvation; we require the raft of God's grace, especially as it is offered in the sacraments. True forgiveness must be entered through the doorway of true acknowledgement of wrong, confession of sin, and prayer (vv. 5-7). The end state of this forgiveness road--from

justification to sanctification, from being weighed down with the gravity of sin to being buoyed by God's love and grace-- is full-on joy and singing: "Be glad and rejoice and shout for joy you righteous and upright of heart!" (v. 11)

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, March 31

9:00am **Adult, Children & Youth S.S.**

9:00-9:15am **Children's Music**

4:00pm **Youth Groups** (see below)

Monday, April 1

5:00pm **Theology on Tap** at Don Pablos on Riverside

Tuesday, April 2

8:00am Men's Quarterly Breakfast at Shoney's

5:00pm **Yoga**

Wednesday, April 3

10:00am **Bible Study**

6:00pm **Handbells**

6:30pm **Youth @CFA**

7:00pm **Adult Choir**

Thursday, April 4

8:30am **Yoga**

Noon **Staff Meeting**

7:30pm **Gateway Chamber Orchestra** at FPC

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION for FPC Learning Center which serves Homeschool students K-12 in a small group instructional setting. To register call the Learning Center Office at 931-648-266

YOUTH GROUPS 4-6p at AOC

Middle School - We will have a devotion and go to eat at a fast food restaurant (please bring \$).

High School - We will work on preparing for Youth Sunday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY WEEK MIDDAY SERVICES:

Downtown churches will offer a noontime service and light meal each work day during Holy Week 2018.

Monday- Madison Street United Methodist

319 Madison Street

Tuesday – First Baptist Church

435 Madison Street

Wednesday – Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic

709 Franklin Street

Maundy Thursday – Trinity Episcopal Church

317 Franklin Street

Good Friday - First Presbyterian Church

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14 During the Children's Moment the children will be presenting special music as part of their Palm Sunday skit. ALL children will participate in the Palm Parade.

EASTER EGG HUNT The 63rd Annual Easter Egg hunt will be **Saturday March 31, 3:00 to 4:30pm**, at Jane & Steve Wallace's home, **145 E. Glenwood!** Parents are asked to bring cookies and/or juice to share with everyone.

EASTER SERVICES: 6:00am we will hold a joint Sunrise Service with Trinity at the Downtown Commons (details coming!) **10:00am** Worship Service with sermon "This is the Day".

MEMORIAL EASTER LILIES The church will purchase Memorial lilies for the Easter Service. Names of those in memory of (or in honor of) along with donors will be listed in the bulletin, **April 21**. All you do is donate to the FPC Memorial Garden Fund and let the church office know your loved one's name. The deadline to have names listed in the bulletin is 1:00pm **Friday, April 12**.

MEMBER/VISITOR INFORMATION CARD

Please complete and place in offering plate

10:00am Service

Name: _____

Member(s) 1st Time Visitor(s) Visitor(s)

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Members indicate if this is a change in information.

I am interested in membership, baptism, or a meeting with the pastor (please circle which one(s)).

Other: _____

Prayer Requests: _____

LOOKING AHEAD:

April 7, Showers of Love

April 14, Palm Sunday/Second Sunday Lunch

April 19, Good Friday No School

April 20, Easter Egg Hunt

April 21, Easter

April 25, New Members/Visitor Dinner

April 26, Men's Work Trip

May 5, Youth Sunday

May 11, Youth Day Hike

May 12, Mother's Day

May 19, Townhall

May 22, Last Day of School

May 23-25, High School Graduations

May 27, Memorial Day Office Closed

FPC Social Media Links:

Instagram: fpcclarksvilletn

Facebook: @FPCClarksville

Twitter: clarksvillefpc