



First Presbyterian CHURCH of VIRGINIA BEACH

— THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR —

Fourth Sunday in Lent 8:30 am Service

WELCOME

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church of Virginia Beach. All are welcome, and we are so pleased to have you with us this morning as we gather to praise God.

GUESTS

We extend a special welcome to you! Whether this is your first visit with us or your 100th visit, it is a gift to have you among us. Please take a moment to sign in using the Welcome Pads in the pews and leave contact information for Pastor Dee Dee to reach out to you. We are excited you are here and look forward to welcoming you into the life of the church through our ministries. You can find more information on our church website: www.firstpresvb.org.

If you ever struggle to hear while in our Sanctuary, we have a few options that might help you. First, you can see one of our ushers for a hearing device that fits over your ear and might assist you. Second, our Sanctuary has a hearing loop installed on the main floor. If you use hearing aids that are equipped with a T-coil, you are able to connect your hearing aids directly into our sound system. Please see an usher for instructions on how to connect your hearing aids into our system.

WORSHIP GUIDE

Items in bold indicate congregational participation. * invites you to stand in body or in spirit. Please silence all mobile devices prior to the start of the service.

March 19, 2023

THE GATHERING

GREETING

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us welcome one another with the peace of Christ.

VOLUNTARY

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

setting by Dale Wood

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 95

Leader: God does not see as we see.

People: We look on outward appearance, but God looks at the heart.

Leader: Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see.

People: Once we lived in darkness, but now we have seen a great light.

Leader: As children of light, we are called to what is good and right and true.

People: Jesus, Light of the World, give us eyes to see as you see.

OPENING PRAYER

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 280

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O God, when we are people who still love darkness rather than light. We keep shameful deeds hidden, but long for our good deeds to be known. We see ourselves as blameless, but pass judgment on others. We do not stand firmly enough with those who are vulnerable, but step back, protecting ourselves. Forgive us, O God. Bring us into your light that we may see ourselves more clearly. Bring us into your light that we may know your love and grace. Bring us into your light that we may live more faithfully. Amen. *(Silent prayers and confession)*

* KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

* DECLARATION OF PARDON

* HYMN 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.

THE WORD

WORD FOR CHILDREN: SPIRIT BOX

Following this time, children *ages 4 years - 2nd grade* may return to their seats or join our Wonders of Worship team in the Chapel. Children will rejoin their families in the Sanctuary near the end of the service in time for the offering.

Children 2-3 years old will join caregivers in Room 214 and may be picked up after the service.

*Our Nursery, located on the first floor, is available for our youngest children and infants during the entire worship service.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

John 9:1-34

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.' The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents

of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Now I See

Rev. Dee Dee Carson

* HYMN 339

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

THE RESPONSE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offering

Offertory

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Helen Howarth Lemmel

Kimberly Nickerson, soprano

O soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you see? There's light for a look at the Savior, and life more abundant and free! Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

Through death into life everlasting He passed, and we followed Him there; over us sin no more hath dominion for more than conquerors we are! Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

His word shall not fail you He promised; believe Him, and all will be well; then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.

* 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 Dedication

THE SENDING

* HYMN 332

Live Into Hope

TRUNO

* BENEDICTION

* VOLUNTARY

HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN

J. S. Bach

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by the grace and truth of Christ, we nurture one another's faith to do God's work in the world.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church approved the above statement in and affirmed the following ten values to guide the leaders of our church as they prayerfully plan for our congregation's future.

Values that Reach UP

Worship
Preaching
Music
Prayer
Bible Teaching

Values that Reach OUT

Ministries that serve the community
Congregational Care
Financial Stewardship
Early Childhood Christian Education
Family

PASTORS AND STAFF

The Reverend Dee Dee Carson, *Pastor*
Jacqui Horton, *Director of Senior Adult Ministries*
The Reverend Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam, *Minister to Youth and Their Families*
Randy DuVall, *Commissioned Pastor and Director of Missions*
David S. Kunkel, *Music Director*
Kimberly Markham Nickerson, *Assistant Music Director*
Bonnie Baxter, *Director of Children's Music and Handbells*
Dr. Antoinette Anglin, *Organist*

SESSION

Sallie Bryant, Leslie Cutchins, Becky Davison (Clerk), Hunter Frischkorn, Justin Fulton, Christine Harris, Liz Harris, Paul Hirschbiel, Caroline Nelson (Youth Elder), Shannan Poteran, Don Schultz, Martha Simkins, Jon Thornton, Mark Winters.

TRUSTEES

Sandy Cowden, Gael Daugherty, Laurie Dawson, Dudley Fulton, Ed Hurt, Hunter Sims.



First Presbyterian offers you the opportunity to give electronically. Scan the QR Code to the left and make a donation.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)