



**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT:**  
A LENTEN INVITATION TO TRAVEL TOWARDS THE CROSS IN PSALMS

THE JOURNEY TO

# Jerusalem

First Presbyterian Church 1573 N. Highland Avenue 731-422-1591 [fpcjacksontn.org](http://fpcjacksontn.org)

## SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT | February 25, 2024

### GATHERING

**PRAYER FOR MEDITATION:** *God, you are our refuge. When the world gets to be too much for us, we turn to you for consolation and healing. Help us today to hear your words of compassion. Enable us to be those who would willingly serve all people in need. For we ask these things in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.*

### RINGING OF THE CHIMES

#### OPENING SENTENCES (*Psalm 27*)

*Elder Steve Bowers*

One: The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**ALL:** *The Lord is the stronghold of our life; of whom shall we be afraid?*

#### WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Elder Steve Bowers*

#### \*SILENT PROCESSION

#### PRELUDE

*Prelude on ABERSYSWTH*

Thiman

Dr. Terry McRoberts

#### CHORAL INTROIT

*Blessed Jesus, At Your Word*

Ahle

Chancel Choir

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Elder Courtney Hiscox*

One: Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens, God is the Lord of all life.

**ALL:** *In God we live and move and have our being.*

One: God requires our faithfulness and our service.

**ALL:** *We reach out to others with the same kind of love with which God has touched our lives.*

One: Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.

**ALL:** *Let us praise God who walks daily by our side.*

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE: 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

### PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

*Elder Steve Bowers*

When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Elder Steve Bowers*

One: Merciful God, we are so easily pulled this way and that way by those who would promise instant healing for all the world's woes. We want to have everything be whole and happy, and we don't know what to do, so we pay attention to those voices that cry the loudest, whether they are voices of blame or promise.

**ALL:** *Forgive us, Lord.*

One: In our fearfulness, we love to place blame for all our woes on the shoulders of a few people.

**ALL:** *Forgive us, Lord.*

One: In our anguish, we seek instant answers from sources that are very unreliable.

**ALL:** *Forgive us, Lord.*

One: Turn us around. Help us know that you are our Lord and you have provided much for us. You have given to us abilities, and understanding, and ways in which we can be those who would bring peace and justice. You have blessed our lives.

**ALL:** *Heal and restore our spirits, Lord. Help us truly place our trust in you and to work in ministries that uplift people. This prayer we offer in Jesus' name. Amen.*

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Elder Steve Bowers*

One: Hear the good news! Our God, lover of justice, glories not in punishment but in redemption.

**ALL:** *Christ has broken the power of sin and rescued us from our shame.*

One: Be at peace: you are forgiven, and you are free.

**ALL:** *To God be the glory! Amen.*

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 447 *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.*

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Elder Steve Bowers*

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL:** *And also with you.*

## THE WORD

ANTHEM

*Like a River in My Soul*

Osiek

Chancel Choir

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM, *Trey Bodiford (by Profession of Faith)*

*Rev. John White*

**HYMN: 486** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (stanza 1)*

KINGDOM

*Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign,*

*With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.*

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*Anna Poole*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Elder Steve Bowers*

\*HYMN: 841 *God is My Strong Salvation (Psalm 27)*

AURELIA

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*Elder Courtney Hiscox*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Exodus 33:18-23 (pg. 80)*

*Elder Courtney Hiscox*

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Psalms 27 (pg. 503-504)*

*Elder Steve Bowers*

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

**ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

**SERMON**

*Elder Steve Bowers*

**RESPONSE**

\***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*The Apostles' Creed-Traditional*)

*Elder Courtney Hiscox*

*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**

*Elder Courtney Hiscox*

**OFFERTORY**

*Chorale Prelude on LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER*

Bach

Dr. Terry McRoberts

\*Doxology (Tune: 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

\*Dedicatory Prayer

*Elder Courtney Hiscox*

**SENDING**

\***HYMN: 450** *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

\***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*Elder Steve Bowers*

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*Jesus, Remember Me*

Berthier

Chancel Choir

*(We request that you remain seated until after the Postlude and ask that you use the Postlude  
as a time to reflect upon the scripture that was read in today's service.)*

**POSTLUDE**

*Fugue in F Major*

Walther

Dr. Terry McRoberts