

THIRD 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

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT | *March 3, 2024*

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: Give us faith to perceive his glory that we may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John White

*SILENT PROCESSION

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on JESU MEINE FREUDE
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Bach

CHORAL INTROIT

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word
Chancel Choir

Ahle

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder David Greene

One: We've come to worship God, who makes streams flow from rock, who turns the parched earth into springs of water, who sends the rain from heaven and makes the wilderness blossom and flourish.

ALL: *As the deer thirsts for flowing streams, so we thirst for You, O God.*

One: Come, let's worship our life-giving God, who pours out living water on all who thirst.

*HYMN OF PRAISE: 369 *Blessing and Honor*

O QUANTA QUALIA

PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Rev. John White

We thank you, Lord, for making us in your divine image. You are like a potter, shaping and molding us like clay on a spinning wheel. You lead us through lives of joy and sorrow, bringing goodness out of all things. Hear our confession of sin and wrongdoing. Transform us with your grace. Like the psalmist who sought cleansing and pardon, we ask you to "create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** (*1 John 1:8-9*) *Rev. John White*
One: "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."
ALL: *God gave His only Son, that we might be forgiven and have life eternal. Our forgiveness, our hope, our life is in Jesus.*

***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** *Rev. John White*
One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.
ALL: *And also with you.*

THE WORD

ANTHEM *When I Survey the Wonderous Cross* arr. Chilcott
Chancel Choir

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION: *Jim Jenkins + Christine Crowley* (Reaffirmation of Faith) *Rev. John White*
Blest be the Tie that Binds (Hymn 306)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN *Gabi Cox*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *Rev. John White*

***HYMN: 626 As the Deer** (*sing 2 times*) **AS THE DEER**

MINUTE FOR MISSION: MEMBERSHIP *Elder Paul Taylor*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *Elder David Greene*

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Psalm 63:1-8* (pg.527) *Elder David Greene*

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Ephesians 1:1-8* (pg. 191-192) *Rev. John White*
One: This is the word of God for the people of God. **ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON *Blessings Abound!* *Rev. John White*



RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Philippians 2:5-11*)

Elder David Greene

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶ *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;*

⁷ *rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*

⁸ *And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!*

⁹ *Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,*

¹⁰ *that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,*

¹¹ *and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew, sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)

OFFERING

Elder David Greene

OFFERTORY

Be Thou My Vision

arr. by Hebble

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 David Greene

SENDING

***HYMN: 695** *Change My Heart, O God* (*sing 2 times*)

CHANGE MY HEART

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. John White

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

Hymn Improvisation on ST DENIO

Burkhardt

Dr. Terry McRoberts