

March 4, 2018

3rd Sunday of Lent

GOD'S PEOPLE PREPARE FOR THE WORD

As we gather, some of our number have found it helpful to begin worship with a time of group singing and praise a few moments prior to worship each week. If you choose not to participate in the singing, and would prefer to visit or make personal connections at this time, please use the Assembly Room for these purposes. We hope that this extended time brings an opportunity to embrace the Lord in worship.

Gathering Music: Hymn #343

Sing Praise to God

Words of Welcome and Announcements
Our Friendship in Christ

*Call to Worship: *(Responsive)*

We gather this day to worship our God, whose words and ways challenge us.

God invites us to lose our selfishness to find ourselves.

God calls us to be fools in the world to show forth the wisdom of Christ.

God urges us to empty ourselves to discover life's fullness.

God bids us to be obedient to a divine will so we might know true freedom.

We come to worship our Creator, seeking to have our faith challenged into growth.

We root our faith in worship seeking to find nourishment for our spirits in this growing season of Lent.

*Hymn of Praise and Adoration: Hymn #332

The God of Abraham Praise

Prayer of Confession: *(Unison)*

Word of God Incarnate, you came to this world to accomplish salvation. By your grace you call us to repent, to be crucified with you, that we might be raised as new creations. But we confess that we often do not live as renewed people. We confess that often we "go with the flow" instead of stemming sin's tide. Forgive us when we do not show evidence of renewal. Forgive us when we let the fruit of the Spirit be choked by the weeds of evil.

(A time for silent prayer and confession)

You have made us your children, members of your kingdom. Help us to show evidence of that every day as we work to bring your justice, peace, gentleness, goodness, love, joy, and hope to all we meet. For Jesus' sake, amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *(Responsive)*

The Lord God said: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh."

In Christ, all God's promises are "Yes."

Hear the good news: through Christ, our minds and hearts are cleansed, healed,
and renewed! – based on Ezekiel 36:26; 2 Corinthians 1:20

Congregational Response: Hymn #253, v.1

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

GOD'S PEOPLE RECEIVE THE WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading: Mark 4:1-20 (NIV)
This is the Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God!

The Children's Sermon

Young children may worship with their families or may go to the Infant-Toddler Room behind the sanctuary. Children age 3 – 1st grade may be dismissed to the Children's Room at this time.

The New Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:5-9 (NIV)
This is the Word of the Lord;
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Nothing But Dirt

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*Hymn of Reflection: Blue Songbooks #90

I Will Never Be

The Mission of the Church: Disaster Relief

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer
Joys and Concerns

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings
The Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*Congregational Response: Blue Songbooks #18

I Stand in Awe

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Dedication: (see screen)

Everlasting God

*Charge & Benediction
Postlude

****Please stand, if able.***

Opportunities for the Week of March 4th

Sunday	3/4	7:00 pm	Youth Group
Monday	3/4	9:00 am	Exercise
		7:00 pm	International Partnership Meeting @ Presbytery
Tuesday	3/6	10:00 am	Women's Groups
		7:30 pm	Preschool Board
		7:30 pm	Dartball @ CHUP (Trinity)
Wednesday	3/7	9:00 am	Exercise
		12:30 pm	Preschool Open House
		6:00 pm	Pot Luck Dinner
		7:00 pm	Worship
Thursday	3/8	6:30 pm	Steering Committee Meeting
Friday	3/9	9:00 am	Exercise
Saturday	3/10	11:30 am	Preschool Open House
		12:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	3/11	9:30 am	Faithbuilders
		11:00 am	Worship – 4 th Sunday of Lent
		7:00 pm	Youth Group

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY

Leading in Worship: Dani Anderson

Toddler Room: Linda Pearson, Linda Piper

Childcare: Carly Barnes, Carolyn Dunhoff

Greeters: Alice Schnelbach, John McConnell

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR MARCH 4th

Leading in Worship:

Toddler Room: Rebecca Mehl, Jamie Klein

Childcare: Karren & Danielle Sites, Karlana Mehl

Greeters: Bill & Fay Reynolds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Printed copies of previous sermons are available on the shelves in the back of the sanctuary and on the web at: www.chup.org . Each worship service is also recorded on audio CD. In addition to being on the church website, all of Pastor Dave's sermons are posted on his blog at www.castyournet.wordpress.com.

1. We continue to observe the Season of with a series of **Wednesday evening programs**. On March 7, we will gather for a pot-luck dinner at 6 pm and a worship service at 7 pm. The worship service will be focused on our recent mission trip to Houston to assist in the recovery from Hurricane Harvey. The offering that night will be items to stock our food pantry. Feel free to take a food list from the back of the Sanctuary, or call the office 412-921-6153.
2. This week, we are privileged to **welcome visitors from Central Michigan University**. This team of about a dozen young people is in Pittsburgh for an "Alternative Spring Break," wherein they'll be doing some housing rehabilitation in our area. They'll be staying in the choir room and showering at the Open Door. Look for them, and welcome them into our community!
3. **The International Partnership Ministry Team** of Pittsburgh Presbytery will hold its regular meeting on Monday, March 5 at 7 pm at the Presbytery Center. If you'd like to know more about our partnership with the church in Africa, please feel free to attend! Talk to Pastor Dave if you'd like to carpool.
4. **Easter Choir**. Rehearsals for the Easter Choir are every Saturday in Lent from 12:00 pm- 2:00 pm. For more information, please speak with PJ Winters 412-735-6663.
5. Please note that **next Saturday night, March 10, we'll "spring forward"** and therefore "lose" an hour of sleep. Set your clocks ahead before you go to sleep and make sure you're on time for worship next week.
6. **The 2018 Roll Books will soon be available**. Please take a moment to correct your contact information on the sheets in the back of the Sanctuary.

My Daily Time with God This Week March 4th – March 11th

One of the ways that we can best remember who we are, and who God calls us to be, is to spend time in His presence. In 2018, we will follow the devotional schedule published by *The Upper Room*. To receive devotions in your e-mail each day, simply visit <http://www.upperroom.org/devotional/email/> and sign up. May God bless you as you seek Him!

God's Promise: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."
(*2 Chronicles 7:14*)

Psalm for the week: Psalm 19 (*Read this through prayerfully each day. As you do so, you will concentrate less on yourself and more on your Lord.*)

Daily Scripture Readings:

Monday	Mark 1:9-20	Friday	Psalm 121:1-6
Tuesday	Matthew 18:10-14	Saturday	James 1:22-27
Wednesday	Psalm 150:1-6	Sunday	Mark 4:21-34
Thursday	John 14:1-12		

Speaking with your Creator:

- about your own life
- about those in our family of faith

--**members** – Ron Gielarowski, Alice Schnellbach, Dan & Amy Durkin, Gert Clokey, Lynn Langford, Don & Clare Weaver, Deb Jacob, Tina Dame, Ed Kososki, Dolly Bock, Maryanne Richardson, Cheryl Reed, Joey Szumigalski & family, Justin & Eric Barth, Lauren Mack in Malawi, Joe Connor in the military, the homebound and those in caring facilities.

--**friends & relatives** – Frieda Jones, Ellie Musolino, Ross Family, Lisa & Nicholas Daugherty, Rita Imhoff, Lorraine Barth, Duane Eagan, Eadie Children, Gary Rivit, Betty Hartlep, Krieger family, Mark Mattern, Elijah Todd, Harold Garrison.

--**about our world** – Friends & Family in the Armed Forces, World peace, the Mbenjere Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, members of the church in South Sudan, Veterans & disabled, poor & needy, those persecuted and martyred for their faith. (*If you would like to include someone in your prayers, please fill out an "I Wish" card from the pews.*)

Listening to your Creator: -a time of silence

Going out into your world: -remembering that God sends you to the people he loves.

Church Prayer Families: Virginia Jones, Jon Mack

Preschool Prayer Family: Wesley's Family