



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**2nd Sunday in Lent
March 05, 2023**

Welcome to our church! It is a joy to worship with you on this morning. Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We Gather as God's People

OPENING PRAYER – *For our opening prayer this morning, we begin with a poem-prayer by Gay Williams. Let us pray.*

Lent – an invitation
to reflect, to reconsider,
to slow down, to discover.
Invited by Jesus to join him on the journey.
Invited to humble ourselves
Sometimes on that dusty road

I feel lonely, and am fearful.
What lies ahead?
Will I be able to withstand the challenges?
Will I be enough?
Will I respond with joy
to the blessings to be realized?

We are called forth
out of the winter of ourselves
to reimagine our relationship with God.
On Ash Wednesday we are marked –
tagged as Christ's own;
humbled now, readied to be exalted
as we draw closer to that place called Jerusalem.

As the birds awaken in spring,
the bulbs and the buds break forth
and the animals stir, so too we are roused.
We enter the city triumphantly,
Having discovered that we are whole,
Loved, perfect,
Now, and always. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** – *Please stand and join me in the call to worship.*

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

There are times when we are filled with hope and joy, and other times when we are sad and scared.

There are times when we laugh, and times when we weep.

**There are times when we are confident and strong,
and times when we are unsure and weak.**

In every season, steadfast God, you promise to be with us.

**When we are tempted to despair, turn us back to
your enduring promise.**

Let us worship the God of Always.

***HYMN #85**

What Wondrous Love is This

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul?*

*To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.*

*And when from death I'm free I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.*

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

In worship, everyone is welcome as they are. We invite each other to set our burdens down and remember that we are yours regardless. Let us confess our sins, first in silence.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION - *Please join me in the unison prayer of confession.*

Loving and holy God, as we enter into the season of Lent, we consider what it means to be tempted.

When we hear your words of faithful promise, but are tempted not to believe, forgive us. When we listen to voices of the crowd and the false promises of advertising, call us back again to your steadfast path. When we cannot quiet our minds or our lives long enough to be aware of your presence, invite us once more to pause in the green pastures and visit the still waters. Forgive us God. Have mercy on us. And receive us into your light and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

KYRIE #572

“Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.”

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Be still, and know God is with you, today, tomorrow, and every day, and feel the good news: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

SUNG RESPONSE #582 (GtG)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, who grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Suzie McCabe

Kindergarten and younger children may now leave with Olivia Meyers for Story Circle in Fellowship Hall. For children above kindergarten there are worship bags with activities to use in worship.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION— *Let us pray.*

Loving God, the earth speaks and tells us it is yours. We look at Christ and remember we are yours. With acts of kindness, and words of truth, may we proclaim your rule in our hearing of Your word this day. Amen.

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time for war, and a time for peace.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

SECOND READING*Matthew 18: 21-35*

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do

to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

*The Word of God for the People of God. **Amen.***

SERMON

Rev. Kori Robbins

We Respond to God's Love

***HYMN #298** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

*There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice,
Which is more than liberty.*

*There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given.*

*For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.*

*If our love were but more faithful,
We would gladly trust God's word;
And our lives reflect thanksgiving
For the goodness of our Lord.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(Scott Cervas)

Every day is a day to be renewed - to become the people God created us to be.

May we learn to recognize our true selves as we reflect on God's hope and intention for creation.

God calls us to proclaim the gospel for the salvation of all humanity.

May we seek to be the presence of Christ in the world without creating clubs that push people away.

God calls us to shelter, nurture, and cultivate spiritual communion among all God's children.

May we be a safe place for everyone to question, to know, to struggle, and to grow

God calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.

May we abandon entertainment for profound awareness; may we share our gifts and creativity in our expression; and may the table at which we gather always have room.

God calls us to uphold the truth.

May we faithfully struggle to understand truth, so that instead of being chained and imprisoned to it, we may be joyfully and completely set free by it.

God calls us to be advocates for social justice.

May everything that seeks to undermine God's love make us uncomfortable and passionately counteractive.

God calls us to be a visible manifestation of God's vision of, and hope for, all creation.

May we live as if we truly believe that; shining light in darkness and celebrating the joy of life that we

all share together.

Let it be so!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting indeed that you are always there, we pray to you now as your Son taught us, saying together,

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

In the kingdom of God, we find that generosity of spirit, generosity of possessions & the radical sharing of skills are practiced openly. All gifts are important to God, so as the offering plate comes around, place your hand over it, committing to God that you will use your time, talent and treasures for furthering the work of God's kingdom.

OFFERTORY

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #324**

Open my mouth and let me bear
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for Thee, ready my God,
Thy will to see;
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** – *Please join me in saying the prayer of dedication.*

God Most Holy, you have set us free to worship you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Receive these gifts of our substance as acts of worship, and let all that we do bless your beloved people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLES

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #543**

Abide With Me

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O, abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks,*

*and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, o Lord, abide with me.*

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING RESPONSE #743** *Step by Step*

O God, You are my God and I will ever praise You
O God, You are my God and I will ever praise You
I will seek You in the morning
And I will learn to walk in Your ways
And step by step You'll lead me
And I will follow You all of my days

Prayer List

MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Mary Alice Seaborn

Marlyne Young

Helen Redmond

Shirley Dull

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, SUPPORT AND CONCERN

Names will be taken off after 6 weeks, unless otherwise noted.

Betty Garland

Megan Taylor (Carole's cousin)

Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)

James Tincher (Marlene's son)

Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)

Barb and Alan (friends of Suzie McCabe)

Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)

Jim Flores (Marty O'Neill's boyfriend)

Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)

Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)

Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother)

Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)

Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver)

Bill Happney

Shannon Poole (daughter of Sherry and Tim Gleason)

Samara Fabian

Bonnie Jorza (Linda Frayer's Sister-in-Law)

Lora McGlynn (Marty O'Neill's friend)

Glen Duncan (Marty O'Neill's friend)

Dale Jaquin (January Rendes' Uncle)

Pam & Sam Clay (Cousins of Debbie Rendes & Diane Reinhart)

Andreas Reichart (Carole Rummell's cousin)

Lacie Weber (Kathy Graham's Daughter)
Kristen Graham (Kathy Graham's Daughter-in-Law)
Amanda (Jessica Painter's friend)

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

Eastminster Presbytery and staff
Our Mineral Ridge Church Family
Niles Community Services
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions
Refugees
Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)
Peace and healing for our country
Casa de Buen Trato
Ukraine
World Leaders
Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
Our PC(USA) coworkers
Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker
Earthquake victims in Turkey
The community of East Palestine

Announcements

Information sent after Thursday at 9 am may not make it into the bulletin.

One Great Hour of Sharing is a special offering of the Presbyterian Church (USA) that is received during the season of Lent. It is a longstanding ecumenical effort (begun in 1948) aimed at raising funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster.

It will make a difference in the world through three impactful programs. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. PDA is already at work in East Palestine. Offering envelopes are in the church pews. You can also send a check to the church please mark on your check (OGHS). Thank you.

Please remember to send in your “per capita” offering for 2023 if you are able. The amount is \$32.50 per member. This offering is an apportionment to help hold the PC(USA) together and pay for a large number of services that support the church's mission. Please consider making this a part of your giving in 2023. Please mark “Per Capita” on your checks. Thank you.

The backpack program is still ongoing. We have a total of 23 families and 34 students in our backpack

program! We are in need of fruit cups, boxes of macaroni & cheese, ramen noodles, and snacks (snack bars, chips, pudding cups, packs of crackers or cookies, etc.) for this program. The number normally rises during the school year so any help you can provide is greatly appreciated. Should you have any questions please reach out to January or Debbie Rendes.

As we continue to provide free groceries to families in need within our community, our community food pantry needs Cereal, Spaghetti Sauce, boxes of Macaroni and cheese, and Ramen Noodles. If you are able to donate, we greatly appreciate it. Our next food distribution will be March 28th, 2023, for our Easter Distribution. Should you have any questions please reach out to January or Debbie Rendes.

We have some exciting news; we will be selling new shirts for the Church! Nicole McMullen has graciously offered to make the shirts and provide the church with a portion of the profits of what we sell. We will have an order form in Fellowship Hall beginning on Sunday, January 29th, 2023. We will have the sign-up sheet for the next 3 weeks in Fellowship hall. We will be selling sweatshirts for \$30, Crewneck (long sleeve) for \$20, and T-shirts for \$15. For sizes 2XL and 3XL there will be an additional \$5 charge. We will be accepting cash and checks. Checks can be made to First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge.



FORTY DAYS FORTY ITEMS

DONATING CLOTHING TO THOSE IN NEED

THROUGHOUT THE FORTY DAYS OF LENT, WE CHALLENGE EVERYONE TO REMOVE ONE ITEM FROM YOUR CLOSET THAT YOU NO LONGER WEAR OR NEED AND PUT INTO A TRASH BAG. AT THE END OF THE FORTY DAYS OF LENT, DONATE THESE ITEMS TO A PLACE THAT CAN SHARE THEM WITH THOSE THAT NEED THEM. THE COMMITTEE HAS PUT TOGETHER BAGS FOR US, AND WILL HAVE THEM TO PICK UP AFTER WORSHIP ON THE 26TH.



Birthday Wishes



Debby Wasilewski 02/26 Andrew Garris 02/28
Jason Reese 02/26 Patty Postlethwait 03/03
Mary Jane Shaffer 02/27 Gayle Hollowell 03/04
Matthew Pugh 02/28 Brian Pugh 03/04

Anniversary Wishes



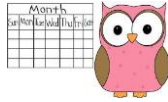
Randall & Tracey Rummell 03/03

Responsibilities

Pastor- *Rev. Kori Robbins*
Liturgist- *Debbie Rendes*
Elder- *Chuck Reinhart*
Deacon- *Patty Postlethwait*
Music- *Anita Miller*
Story Circle - *Olivia Meyers*
Media- *Alyssa Strange*

Thank you for your Generosity

February 19th \$3,064.50
February 12th \$729
February 05th \$3,103



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 26 9:15am Church School
 9:30am Tiny Tots
 10:30am Worship/Fellowship

Monday, February 27 6:30pm Deacon's Meeting
 7:00pm Al-Anon & Al-Ateen

Tuesday, February 28 6:30pm Session

Sunday, March 05 9:15am Church School
 9:30am Tiny Tots
 10:30am Worship/Fellowship

Staff

Pastor

Reverend Kori Robbins
(406)-560-5548
Pastor@FPCMR.org

Christian Educator

Carole Rummell

Administrative Assistant

April Dahl
330-652-5712

Custodians

April Mohn/
James Boyce

Story Circle Attendant

Olivia Meyers

Media

Alyssa Strange

Hours

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm

General Office Hours

Tuesday/Thursday
9am-1pm

Church Info

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Phone

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Clerk of Session: mrfpcclerk@gmail.com.