



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**5th Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2024**

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 – *Let us pray.*

O God, who brought us from the rest of last night to the light of this new day, brings us from the light of this day to the guiding light of eternity. We ask that you help us be aware of your presence among us, O God, as we venture into the uncertainties of this world. In the name of Christ we pray, amen.

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

God is enthroned forever, and promises to return

We are waiting for Jesus

God will rebuild all things, so that everything will shine with justice and mercy

God will hear the prayers of those who are stripped of all things

God will appoint the time and the place, stay awake

Come let us listen closely to the Word of our God

***HYMN #100 (GtG)**

My Soul Cries Out

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?*

Refrain:

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.*

*Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.*

*Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain***

*From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.*

*Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.*

*The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, every mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain***

*Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:*

*God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. **Refrain***

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

*With our full selves, we come before God, who knows us
and loves us. Let us confess ourselves to our loving
God, first in silent prayer.*

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

God, we confess that we do not know the hour or the day of your coming and that troubles us. We worry that we will not be awake or aware enough for when you come. We are afraid that we will be asleep. Comfort us. Remind us that you are the God of grace, and that it is not a grace that is earned but one that is given out of love. Help us to know that you will help us tend to the Kingdom work, so that we may pray and participate in Your Kingdom Come, Your will be Done with confidence we pray. Amen.

KYRIE #572

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news, if Christ is for us, who is against us? We know that Jesus Christ is even now working towards our grace, and so we can proclaim 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – *at this time, all children are invited up to hear a short message! After, kindergarten and younger can be dismissed to Story Circle with Olivia Meyers. Those older than kindergarten may return to their pews. We have activity bags available for their use in the back.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION– *Let us pray.*

Guide us O God, by your word, and Holy Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover peace, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

FIRST READING

Psalm 102:12-17

But you, O Lord, are enthroned forever;
your name endures to all generations.
You will rise up and have compassion on Zion,
for it is time to favor it;
the appointed time has come.
For your servants hold its stones dear,
and have pity on its dust.
The nations will fear the name of the Lord,
and all the kings of the earth your glory.
For the Lord will build up Zion;
he will appear in his glory.
He will regard the prayer of the destitute,
and will not despise their prayer.

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

SECOND READING

Mark 13: 24-37

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Necessity for Watchfulness

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

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

We Respond to God's Love

***HYMN #2166 (StF)**

Christ Beside Me

*Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me never to part.*

*Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me shield in the strife;
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising light of my life.*

*Christ beside me, Christ before me,
Christ behind me, King of my heart;
Christ within me, Christ below me,
Christ above me never to part.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

God has not taken his people out of the world, but has sent them into the world to worship him there and serve all humankind. We worship God in the world by standing before the Lord in behalf of all people. Our cries for help and our songs of praise are never for ourselves alone. Worship is no retreat from the world; it is part of our mission. We serve humankind by discerning what God is doing in the world and joining him in his work. We risk disagreement and error when we try to say what

God is doing here and now. But we find guidance in God's deeds in the past and his promises for the future, as they are witnessed to in Scripture. We affirm that the Lord is at work, especially in events and movements that free people by the gospel and advance justice, compassion and peace. Amen.

(from "A Declaration of Faith," 1977)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – *You may be seated.*

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

(If you prefer to give online you may scan this code to be directed to the Giving Page)



***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #694 (GtG)**

Great God of every blessing,
of faithful, loving care

You are the fount of goodness,
the daily bread we share.

How can we hope to thank you?

The praise is but a start.

Sincerely and completely, I offer you my heart.

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

You are the source of every good and perfect gift, O God. Use these tithes and offerings for your glory. Let your church be a spring whose waters never fail; and let your people be repairers of the breach and restorers of streets to live in. We pray in Christ's name.

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #339**

Be Thou My Vision

*Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art.
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.*

*Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High king of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art.*

*High King of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach heaven's joys, o bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still by my vision, O ruler of all.*

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING RESPONSE**

Go On Your Way in Peace

Go on your way in peace, my friends.

Go on your way in peace, my friends.

Go on your way in peace, my friends.

Let your left foot say, "Glory"

And your right say, "Amen."

Prayer List

MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Marlyne Young Shirley Dull Helen Redmond

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, SUPPORT AND CONCERN

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

Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)
James Tincher (Marlene's son)
Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)
Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)
Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)
Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)
Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)
Chuck & Bonnie Jorza (Linda Frayer's Sister-in-Law)
Cheryl Beanblossom (Valerie Copanic's sister)
Joan Williams
Rusty Garland
Kathy Garland
Vince Fazio (Marty O'Neill's friend)
Jodi Jorgensen (Lisa Sorg's friend)
Shirley Brodie
Mary Jane Hileman
Mason Blackburn (Mary J. Shaffer's friend)
Jim Meyers (Darryl's brother)
Terry Keeley Sr
Alan Bray (friend of Terry Keeley Sr.)
Joe Scafuri (Terry Goodman's father-in-law)
Logan (Friend of Abbie Postlethwait)
Pam & Sam Clay (Cousins of Debbie Rendes & Diane Reinhart)
Dawn Wilson
Cameron Watkins
Family of Mary Alice Seaborn

Prayers for the World

Eastminster Presbytery and staff
Our Mineral Ridge Church Family
World Leaders
Refugees
Peace and healing for our country and the world
Niles Community Services
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Mission
Our PC(USA) coworkers
Ukraine
Citizens of Israel and Palestine

Announcements

Community Pantry will hold their Easter Food Distribution Tuesday, March 19th from 10am-12pm.

One Great Hour of Sharing is the Special Offering received during Lent. This offering is the single largest way that Presbyterians join together to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world. The three programs it supports are: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance -goes to communities after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters. Presbyterian Hunger Program -takes action to alleviate hunger. Self-Development of People -invests 13 in communities to teach people to help themselves. Our GOAL this year is \$1,500!

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. The Children's Parade will be held at 10:15am (line up in Fellowship Hall). After worship children are invited to hunt for and color eggs.

Birthday Wishes



Melissa Keeley 03/18

Tyler Crozier 03/18

Ken Rambo 03/22

Kim Crozier 03/23



Anniversary Wishes

Dianne & James Stoddard 03/23

Responsibilities



Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist- Matt Glidewell

Elder- Carole Rummell

Deacon- Rosie Rebraca

Music- Anita Miller

Story Circle- Olivia Meyers

Media- Samara Fabian

Thank you for your generosity

(We need \$3,000 weekly to make our budget!)



03/10/24 \$1,120

03/03/24 \$2,103

02/25/24 \$1,146

(2024 Per Capita needed \$4,420

Received to date \$944)



This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 17 (5 th Sunday in Lent)	9:15am	Church School
	9:30am	Tiny Tots
	10:30am	Worship/Fellowship
Monday, March 18	7:00pm	Al-Anon & Al-Ateen
Tuesday, March 19	10am-12pm	Community Pantry Food Distribution
	6:30pm	Committee Night
Sunday, March 24 (Palm Sunday)	9:15am	Church School
	9:30am	Tiny Tots
	10:15am	Kid's Parade
	10:30am	Worship/Fellowship
	12pm-2pm	Easter Eggs w/Kids

Staff

Pastor

Reverend Kori Robbins
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Christian Education

Carole Rummell

Administrative Assistant

April Dahl
330-652-5712

Custodian

Patty Postlethwait

Story Circle Attendant

Olivia Meyers

Media

Samara Fabian

Hours

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm

General Office Hours

Tuesday/Thursday
9am-1pm

Church Info

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