



# **First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter  
April 16, 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** – *let us pray.*

*(Written by Moira Laidlaw)*

Lord Jesus Christ, the light of your love shines on, illuminating the places where you are present. As the bewildered disciples pondered the stories of your appearance, you penetrated the darkness of their fear and doubt with your word of peace.

You showed them the appalling marks of evil pierced on your hands and feet.

You opened their minds to understand why you had to die to defeat such evil and death.

Increase our understanding, we pray,  
and open our minds and hearts to receive you, Lord.  
Speak your word of peace to us and let your love shine on any dark areas in our lives.

May this worship which we offer in your name be a worthy response to your love and your sacrifice for us.  
Amen.

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

Where is this Jesus, the one you call Messiah?

**Christ is Risen! Christ is here among us!**

I do not see him. I don't believe you.

**People (louder): Christ is Risen! Christ is here among us!**

Let me see his body, his hands and his feet.

**We are Christ's body; We are Christ's feet.**

You see the suffering in the world? Where is Jesus now?

**We are going into the world to be the body of Christ.**

Let us go together, let us partner with others.

**For we are the body of Christ: let us share the Good News!**

**\*HYMN #108**

*Christ is Alive!*

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

*Christ is alive! No longer bound  
To distant years in Palestine,  
But saving, healing here and now  
And touching every place and time.*

*Not throned afar, remotely high,  
Untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
But daily, in the midst of life,  
Our Savior in the Godhead reigns.*

*In every insult, rift, and war  
Where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
And lives, where even hope has died.*

*Christ is alive! And comes to bring  
Good news to this and every age,  
Till Earth and sky and ocean ring,  
With joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

**CALL TO CONFESSION** – *Please be seated.*

*Loving God, you take us exactly as we are. You encourage our honest conversations with you. You already know what bothers us, where our faith is fickle, and where our hearts need reassurance. Thank you*

*that you are big enough to handle our doubts. Thank you that in your great power, we can simply be weak before you. We trust you. Let us now confess our sins, first in silence, then together.*

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

**Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives: The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely place, see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed, have faith that you are with us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**KYRIE #572**

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

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, hear this good news: God is not far from each one of us. In every breath, the Spirit makes us new, alive with Christ!

We are forgiven, loved, and free. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**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.

*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.*

*Risen Christ, fill us with your Spirit and speak peace to us through these words of scripture. As we hear you, let our love overflow with knowledge and insight, and teach us to live in you, to the glory and praise of God. Amen.*

**FIRST READING**

*Matthew 28:16-20*

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

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

**SECOND READING**

*John 20: 24-29*

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the

other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

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

**SERMON**

*Rev. Kori Robbins*

## ***We Respond to God's Love***

**\*HYMN #434** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

*Today we are all called to be  
Disciples of the Lord,  
To help to set the captives free,  
Make plow-share out of sword,  
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,  
Make love and peace our fast,  
To serve the poor and homeless first,  
Our ease and comfort last.*

*God made the world and at its birth  
Ordained our human race*

*To live as stewards of the earth,  
Responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud,  
We sow not peace but strife,  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud  
That threatens all of life.*

*Pray justice may come rolling down  
As in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town  
To cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore  
An earth where conflicts cease,  
A world that was created for  
A harmony of peace.*

*May we in service to our God  
Act out the living word,  
And walk the road the saints have trod  
Till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we  
Give thanks in one accord  
To God who calls us all to be  
Disciples of the Lord.*

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in a God who created all things and seeks for all to be in communion as God's people. We believe in Jesus Christ who showed us how to share love, and who commissioned us to go out into the highways and byways inviting all to be a part of God's work in the world.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit who leads and guides us into the world, then touches the lives of those around us in ways that make them receptive to love.**

**We believe in the call to be disciples and strive to receive and respond, sharing light and life with the world. Amen.**

### **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 of grace, you are the source of all we have  
gained, but your greatest gift is the new life we  
receive in Christ. We offer these gifts as signs of  
our commitment to claim Christ's resurrection as  
your gift, for you have claimed us in his life. Amen.**

### ***We Go Out to Serve God***

**\*HYMN #181**

*Come Sing to God*

*Come sing to God, O living saints,  
Sing praises to God's name.  
God's anger is not permanent,  
God's love will never wane.  
Though tears may tarry for the night  
With sighs of deepest pain,  
Yet joy comes with the morning sun,  
A peace that is not vain.*

*In my success I felt secure.  
How good You've been to me.  
I said that this is my own work,  
Ascribing all to me.  
But when You turned aside Your face,*

*My life was filled with fears.  
I begged for help, to You I cried  
With loud and bitter tears.*

*What good is gained by my disgrace  
What profit in defeat?  
My grave cannot confess Your name,  
Nor praise for You repeat.  
Now hear, O Lord, my plaintive cry;  
Be merciful to me.  
Accept my longing heart's request  
And from death set me free.*

*You change my grief to joy-filled dance,  
My sorrows You destroy.  
In faithfulness You hear my cry  
And fill my life with joy.  
And so to You my heart shall sing,  
My voice Your goodness raise.  
You are my God, forevermore,  
My life shall sing Your praise.*

**\*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 noted.*

Family of 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)

Marty O'Neill

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)

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)

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)

Cheryl Beanblossom (Valerie Copanic's sister)  
Alan Bray (friend of Keeley Family)  
Janiece Eischen (Melissa Keeley's Aunt)

### **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 & Syria  
The Community of East Palestine

## **Announcements**

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

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We are deeply saddened to learn of the passing of longtime church member Betty Garland. Calling hours for Betty will be held at Lane Chapel, Austintown, on Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 2pm-5pm. Services will take place here at First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 11am.

We will be having a New Member class on April 23<sup>rd</sup> after worship. Come and learn about what being Presbyterian means. If you're interested in learning more about joining the church, join us in the Lounge!

### **Birthday Wishes**



Paul McMullen 04/15

Bret Warrick 04/20

Robin Warrick 04/17

Nicholas Pugh 04/22

## **Responsibilities**

Pastor- *Rev. Kori Robbins*

Liturgist- *Lori Brendlinger*

Elder- *Brian Williams*

Deacon- *Rosie Rebraca*

Music- *Anita Miller*

Story Circle - *Olivia Meyers*

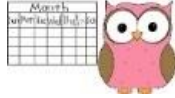
Media- *Alyssa Strange*

## **Thank you for your Generosity**

April 09<sup>th</sup> \$2,495

April 02<sup>nd</sup> \$2,075

March 26<sup>th</sup> \$617



## **THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, April 16	9:15am	Adult Class
	10:30am	Worship/Fellowship
Monday, April 17	11:00am	Funeral Service for Betty Garland
	7:00pm	Al-Anon/Al-Ateen
Tuesday, April 18	6:30pm	Committee Night
Wednesday, April 19	1:30pm	Presbytery Meeting
Sunday, April 23	9:15am	Adult Class
	10:30am	Worship/Fellowship/ New Member Class

## **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**

**Address**- 3654 Main Street  
Mineral Ridge, OH 44440

### **Email (office)**

Admin@FPCMR.org

### **Phone**

330-652-5712

### **Website**

www.fpcmr.org

**Clerk of Session**: mrfpcclerk@gmail.com.