



# **First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge**

**Palm Sunday  
April 2, 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 & PROCESSIONAL**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

## ***We Gather as God's People***

**OPENING PRAYER** – *Our prayer this morning comes from Christine Barrett. Let us pray.*

You are on your way to Jerusalem, precious Lord.

You are one your way to suffering and to death for the sake of our freedom and our salvation.

This is mystery and wonder.

Our hearts overflow into songs of praise.

“Hosanna!”, we cry with the crowds.

“Blessed are you who comes in God’s name!”

Yet, you puzzle us:  
you puzzle us with your suffering love  
that is more powerful than our brokenness;  
you puzzle us with your freely chosen humility  
that brings blessings in our weary places;  
you puzzle us with your forgiveness  
that summons us beyond our hurt.

Liberating Savior,  
you make us uncomfortable  
so that you can lead us  
into more life  
and deeper wonder;  
so that God can take who we are  
and break us open,  
and bless us  
and give us to the world.

Grant us grace  
to welcome this holy restlessness,  
that we may live by the power of your Spirit,  
and in your name. Amen.

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

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.  
**We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;**  
**we will travel through betrayal and death,**  
**cradling hope deep in our hearts**

Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,  
for he is the life we long for,  
he is the Word who sustains us.

**We wave palm branches in anticipation,  
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk**  
Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:  
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

**Hosanna! Hosanna!  
Blessed is the One who brings us  
the kingdom of God.**

**\*HYMN #391 (GTG)**      *This is the Day*

**Refrain**

*This is the day, this is the day;  
This is the day, That God has made!*

*Open now, open the doorways of justice!  
Let us be glad as we pass through those gates.  
This is the place where the righteous may enter,  
Singing to God with thanksgiving and praise    **Refrain***

*I will sing praises because you have heard me,  
Offering salvation with grace upon grace,  
Turning the stone that the builders rejected  
Into the cornerstone, rock of our faith.    **Refrain***

*It is the Lord who has done all these wonders.  
I have seen marvelous, marvelous things.  
This is the day that the Lord has created.  
Join the rejoicing as every heart sings;    **Refrain***

*Praise the Creator, the Christ, the Spirit  
From the beginning through worlds without end:  
God who is now and evermore shall be,  
Glory forever, amen, and amen! Refrain*

**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 belong to God. Let us confess our sins, first in silence.*

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

**On this Sunday, O God, we remember how quickly we change. How fickle we are, how we pledge our devotion one moment and turn our backs the next. We go from shouting “Hosanna! Save Us!” to “Crucify Him.” We declare that we love our neighbors and then we turn our backs on those who need us. We speak up for change and justice in one breath, and then continue unjust practices in daily lives by what we consume and the needs we ignore.**

**Forgive us, O God, for we are half-hearted believers.**

**Forgive us, O God, for we are partial justice warriors.**

**Forgive us, O God, for we tire easily and we forget, and we grow weary.**

**Forgive us, restore us, and renew us for the journey of faith, so that we might become whole people who live wholly into Your vision of new life. In the**

**name of Christ, who lived into the fullness of  
humanity,  
and whom we follow. 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:

God’s love has been poured into our hearts  
through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ,  
we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

**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.*

*Your eyes miss nothing, O God—you look not only at the things we can see but also inside, where we can only imagine. Open our eyes this day to see as you see. Open our ears to hear as you speak. Open our hearts to receive your wisdom, to know your voice, your truth, your grace. As we come together to your word, lead us in your way. 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 21:1-17*

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, “The Lord needs them.” And he will send them immediately.’ This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, ‘Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’ The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!’ When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, ‘Who is this?’ The crowds were saying, ‘This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.’

Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold doves. He said to them, ‘It is written, “My house shall be called a house of prayer”; but you are making it a den of robbers.’

The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. But when the chief priests and the

scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, 'Hosanna to the Son of David', they became angry and said to him, 'Do you hear what these are saying?' Jesus said to them, 'Yes; have you never read, "Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself"?' He left them, went out of the city to Bethany, and spent the night there.

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

**SERMON**

*Rev. Kori Robbins*

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

**\*HYMN #200 (GtG)** *A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd*

*A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd  
Had stripped the green trees bare,  
And hailing Christ as king aloud,  
Waved branches in the air.*

*They laid their garments in the road  
And spread his path with palms  
And vows of lasting love bestowed  
With royal hymns and psalms.*

*When day dimmed down to deep'ning dark  
The crowd began to fade  
'Till only trampled leaves and bark  
were left from the parade.*

*Lest we be fooled because our hearts  
Have surged with passing praise,*



*Remind us, God, as this week starts  
Where Christ has fixed his gaze.*

*Instead of palms a winding sheet  
Will have to be unrolled,  
A carpet much more fit to greet  
The king a cross will hold.*

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

**We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.**

**We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.**

**We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.**

**We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.**

**We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.**

**We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.**

**This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus Christ. 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.*

**We give you thanks and praise, O Lord: You have created us in your own image. You have claimed us**

**as your beloved people. You have called us to be a blessing for others. Use the gifts of your good creation and the works of our hands to lift up the oppressed, break down dividing walls, and build up your church; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLES**

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

**\*HYMN #597**      *Sanna, Sananina*

*Sanna, sannanina,  
sanna, sanna, sanna.  
Sanna, sannanina,  
sanna, sanna, sanna.  
Sanna, sanna, sanna sannanina,  
sanna, sanna, sanna.  
Sanna, sanna, sanna sannanina,  
sanna, sanna, sanna.*

**\*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)

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)

## **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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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.

To help our Deacons fund their projects and ministry, Session has decided that Communion Sundays (the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month) will be an opportunity to give to the Deacons' Fund (as well as our normal offering.) In addition to that, to help our Food Distribution and Backpack Program, Communion Sundays will be an opportunity to bring in specific items that the Distribution needs to provide food to our community. This month we are requesting macaroni and cheese and fruit cups.

Church Growth will be hosting Easter Breakfast at 9:15 on April 9, 2023. Come join us for time of fellowship and good food followed by the annual releasing of the doves.



**Birthday Wishes**

Ken Wilson 04/03	Robert Palomo 04/05
Tom Morris 04/03	Jeffrey Meyers 04/08
Donald Pugh 04/05	Mike Fabian 04/08

**Responsibilities**

Pastor- *Rev. Kori Robbins*

Liturgist- *Sue McCabe*

Elder- *Chuck Reinhart*

Deacon- *Rosie Rebraca*

Music- *Anita Miller*

Story Circle - *Olivia Meyers*

Media- *Alyssa Strange*

**Thank you for your Generosity**

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

March 19<sup>th</sup> \$1,148

March 12<sup>th</sup> \$1,950



**THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Sunday, April 2	9:15am	Church School
	9:30am	Tiny Tots
	10:30am	Worship/Congregational Meeting/Fellowship
Monday, April 3	6:30pm	Deacon's Meeting
	7:00pm	Al-Anon & Al-Ateen
Thursday, April 6	10:00am	Sewing Guild
	6:30pm	Maundy Thursday Service Fellowship Hall
Friday, April 7	7:00pm	Tenebrae Service
Sunday, April 09 (Easter Sunday)	9:15am	Easter Breakfast
	10:00am	Releasing of Doves
	10:30am	Worship/Fellowship
	5:00pm	Presbytery Event

## **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.