



# **First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge**

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 10, 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.*

God, you are here to serve us and to feed us. You stooped your divine self into human form--translating divinity into a body and Good News into a format that we can understand, so that we can taste and see the Good News of your life. We desire your presence among us. Be with us in this time of worship and singing and listening. We pray in the name of your son Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

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

I will sing of your steadfast love, forever!

**With my mouth, I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations!**

God made a covenant with David and his descendants.  
God is faithful,

**Come let us praise our faithful God!**

**\*HYMN #401 (GtG)**

*Here In This Place*

*Here in this place, the new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness, vanished away,  
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.*

*Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young, our lives are a mystery;  
we are the old, who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.*

*Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.*

*Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat, the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven light years away,  
but here in this space, the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.*

*Gather us in, and hold us forever;  
gather us in, and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

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

*With our full selves, we come before God, who knows us  
and loves us. Come 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 the command to simply love  
God with all of our heart, minds and souls does not  
always seem to be concrete enough for us. In what  
ways? Are there not specific hymns to sing or  
prayers to pray? We confess that it bothers us that  
Jesus does not say how we are supposed to love  
God, just that we should. Help us when we judge  
one another for the ways they give and show love.  
Help us not to judge, and to just love you the best  
we can 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, God loves us exactly as we are, so we know the truth.

**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.*

*Lord our God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us. Let us hear your promises in this Scripture, and let the world know your blessing in our lives. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

**FIRST READING***Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God,  
the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with  
all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your  
might. Keep these words that I am commanding you  
today in your heart. Recite them to your children and  
talk about them when you are at home and when you  
are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind  
them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an  
emblem on your forehead, and write them on the  
doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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

**SECOND READING***Mark 12:28-34*

One of the scribes came near and heard them  
disputing with one another, and seeing that he  
answered them well he asked him, “Which  
commandment is the first of all?” Jesus answered,  
“The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the  
Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all  
your heart and with all your soul and with all your  
mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this,  
‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no  
other commandment greater than these.” Then the  
scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have  
truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no  
other’; and ‘to love him with all the heart and with all  
the understanding and with all the strength’ and ‘to  
love one’s neighbor as oneself’—this is much more  
important than all whole burnt offerings and  
sacrifices.” When Jesus saw that he answered wisely,

he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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

**SERMON**

*Rev. Meta Cramer*

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

**\*HYMN #356**

*Come Thou Fount*

*Come Thou fount of every blessing,  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
Streams of mercy never ceasing,  
Call for songs of loudest praise,  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
Sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,  
Mount of God's unchanging love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer,  
Hither by Thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,  
Safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
Wandering from the fold of God;  
He to rescue me from danger,  
Interposed His precious blood.*

*Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
Bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,  
Prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it,  
Seal it for Thy courts above.*

## **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.*

**God who sees us as complete and calls us by name in the midst of our struggles, lead us towards a faith that helps us to serve in a way that is not about ability but about faith we pray. Amen.**

**EUCCHARIST** – *see insert*

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

**\*HYMN #525**

*Here I Am Lord*

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin  
My hand will save.*

*I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN***

**REFRAIN:** *Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.  
They turn away.*



*I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN***

*I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them.  
My hand will save.*

*Finest bread I will provide,  
Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN***

**\*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**

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.*

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

## **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**

The Christian Education committee has books on Easter available in Fellowship Hall for our kids. Please feel free to take one!

Community Pantry will hold a meeting on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am in the lounge.

Easter flowers may be ordered today after worship cost is \$10/ea.

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!

## **Birthday Wishes**



Noah Glidewell 03/10

Marsha Brozier 03/11

Tyler Pugh 03/11

Patrick McCabe 03/15

Diane Reinhart 03/16

## **Responsibilities**



*Pastor- Rev. Meta Cramer*

*Liturgist- Tim Gleason*

*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!)*



03/03/24 \$

02/25/24 \$1,146

02/18/24 \$1,779.84

*(2024 Per Capita needed \$4,420*

*Received to date \$794)*



## **This Week at First Presbyterian Church**

|  |         |                                 |
|--|---------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday, March 10<br>(4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent) | 9:15am  | Church School                   |
|  | 9:30am  | Tiny Tots                       |
|  | 10:30am | Worship/Communion<br>Fellowship |
| Monday, March 11                                     | 7:00pm  | Al-Anon & Al-Ateen              |
| Tuesday, March 12                                    | 8:30am  | Community Pantry<br>Meeting     |
| Sunday, March 17<br>(5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent) | 9:15am  | Church School                   |
|  | 9:30am  | Tiny Tots                       |
|  | 10:30am | Worship/Fellowship              |

## **Staff**

### **Pastor**

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

### **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**

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

### **Email**

Admin@FPCMR.org

### **Phone**

330-652-5712

### **Website**

www.fpcmr.org

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