



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**5th Sunday after Epiphany
February 4, 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 of grace and powerful weakness, at times your projects were ignored, rejected, belittled, and unwelcome. Trusting that we, too, are called to be prophets, fill us with your Spirit, and support us by your gentle hands, that we may persevere in speaking your word and living our faith. Amen.

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

We come from mountaintop and valley

From highways and quiet streets.

We come with joys and concerns

with expectations and excuses.

We come seeking Christ

to know and follow his way.

***HYMN #473**

For the Beauty of the Earth

*For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,*

Refrain:

*Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This, our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light, **Refrain***

*For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony,
Linking sense to sound and sight,. **Refrain***

*For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild, **Refrain***

*For Thy church that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love, **Refrain***

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

There is nothing, nothing, which can divide us—in life and death—from God. We may be touched by the healing power of God, so let us confess our worst faults, our failures, and deepest fears, first in silent prayer.

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

You know how stubborn we can be, Holy God. You call us to serve others, and we stay in the comfort of our own homes. You would send us to where the hopeless live, but we are reluctant to leave the comfort of our complacency. You would feed us on the peace and joy of your word, but we pull our chairs up to the tables of those who serve false promises. Forgive us, Guiding God. Transform our defiance into discipleship, and our rejection of others into the resurrection of welcoming all people as siblings in Christ. Help us to love as faithfully as you have always loved us, and send us

forth to take the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet.

KYRIE #572

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

We open our lips and confess our hearts.
God hears our words and make us new,
sending us out to bring hope and joy to all the world.
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.*
Saving God, source of our calling, your Word is full of power and glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us so

*that we may receive your grace and live as your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

FIRST READING

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

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

SECOND READING

Mark 6: 1- 6, 14-29

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his

hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

The Death of John the Baptist

King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason, these powers are at work in him.' But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of

John the Baptist on a platter.’ The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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

SERMON

Rev. Kori Robbins

We Respond to God’s Love

***HYMN #420** *God of Grace and God of Glory*

*God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power.
Crown Thine ancient church's story,
Bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil 'round us,
Scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways.
From the fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.*

*Cure Thy children's warring madness,
Bend our pride to Thy control.
Shame our wanton selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.*

*Set our feet on lofty places,
Gird our lives that they may be,
Armored with all Christ-like graces,
Pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
That we fail not them nor Thee,
That we fail not them nor Thee.*

*Save us from weak resignation,
To the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of Thy salvation,
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving Thee whom we adore,
Serving Thee whom we adore.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Jesus announced the coming of God's kingdom and its hidden presence in the midst of the world's kingdoms. He taught his disciples to seek God's kingdom first. Our confidence and our hope for ourselves and other people do not rest in the powers and achievement of this world, but in the coming and hidden presence of God's kingdom. Christ calls each of us to a life appropriate to that kingdom: to serve as he has served us; to take up

our cross, risking the consequences of faithful discipleship; to walk by faith, not by sight, to hope for what we have not seen.

(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.*

Creator God, you call us to join in your work of love in the world, and you equip us with all we need to follow your lead. Now make us generous of hand, heart, and mind, as you are. As we return to you a portion of your gifts, we pray you would receive them as a sign of our gratitude for your unending love and guide us as we offer our whole selves in your service, seeking your abundant life for all. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #375** *Lord of All Good*

*Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to You,
Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill.
Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
That our whole life is offered to Your will.*

*We give our minds to understand Your ways,
Hands, eyes, and voices, to serve Your great design,*

*Heart with the flame of Your own love ablaze,
'Til for Your glory all our powers combine.*

*Father, whose bounty all creation shows,
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live,
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows,
To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.*

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING RESPONSE**

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

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)

Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother)

Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)

Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver)

Chuck & Bonnie Jorza (family of Linda Frayer)

Cheryl Beanblossom (Valerie Copanic's sister)

Joan Williams

Rusty Garland

Kathy Garland

Vince Fazio (Marty O'Neill's friend)

Rich Pilla (Lisa Sorg's step-dad)

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 Godman's father-in-law)

Logan (Friend of Abbie Postlethwait)

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
Needles's Eye
Ukraine
World Leaders
Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
Our PC(USA) coworkers
Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker
Ukraine
Victims of Natural Disasters
Citizens of Israel/Palestine

Announcements

The Souper Bowl Offering is coming soon. The children will be holding the kitchen pots at the doors of the sanctuary at the end of the service on the same day at the NFL play their Super Bowl football game, February 11th. This is your opportunity to give an offering of a dollar or more to aid those that are less fortunate than you. Watch for more information in the next Church Mouse.

FPCMR will be hosting Ashes to Go on Wednesday Feb. 14th from 11am-1pm and 4pm to 5:30pm. Use the driveway between the church and the manse to receive ashes and prayer. Additionally, we've partnered with other area PCUSA to offer an Ash Wednesday worship

service on the 14th at 7:00 pm at Canfield
Presbyterian Church.



Anniversary Wishes

Richard & Judi Henniger 02/05



Birthday Wishes

Laura Brozier 02/05

Bryce Brendlinger 02/08

Dirk Kaschak 02/08

Lonnie Kaschak 02/08

Joan Williams 02/09

January Rendes 02/10



Responsibilities

Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist- Brooke Kaschak

Elder- Andy Konsol

Deacon- Patty Postlethwait

Music- Anita Miller

Story Circle- Olivia Meyers

Media- Samara Fabian

Thank you for your generosity

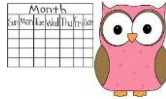


We need \$3,000 weekly to make our budget!

January 28th \$1,816

January 21st \$4,130

January 14th \$738.25



THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 4 9:15am Church School
 9:30am Tiny Tots
 10:30am Worship/Fellowship

Monday, February 5 7:00pm Al-Anon & Al-Ateen

Sunday, February 11 9:15am Church School
 9:30am Tiny Tots
 10:30am Worship/Communion/Souper
 Bowl of Caring/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

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