



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**2nd Sunday of Easter
April 7, 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.*

Almighty God,
as we prepare to worship today,
we ask that you will stretch our imaginations
to sense the majesty and mystery of your ascension.
Help us perceive how Jesus' presence in heaven
can give us confidence in our praying
and hope for the future.
Through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

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

We have come to worship God, the living God,

Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope.

All glory to God!

***HYMN** *Every Morning is Easter Morning*

Refrain:

Every morning is Easter morning from now on!

Every day's resurrection day,

The past is over and gone!

Goodbye guilt, goodbye fear, good riddance!

Hello Lord, Hello sun!

I am one of the Easter People!

*My new life has begun! **Refrain***

Daily news is so bad it seems the

Good News seldom gets heard.

Get it straight from the Easter People:

*God's in charge! Spread the word! **Refrain***

*Yesterday I was bored and lonely;
But today look and see!
I belong to the Easter People!
Life's exciting to me!*

*Every morning is Easter morning from now on!
Every day's resurrection day,
The past is over and gone!
Every morning is Easter morning,
Every morning is Easter morning,
Every morning is Easter morning from now on!*

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

While we claim to celebrate the ascension of our Lord, the way we live proclaims our lack of faith in his power to deal with the world. Let us confess the inconsistencies between our faith and practice. Let us pray, first in silence, then, together.

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

Too often, Lord God, we are hesitant in our proclamation; seeking safe and suitable opportunities to speak of our faith.

Too often, Lord God, we are half-hearted in our service; reluctant to stand out from the crowd or to attract criticism.

Too often, Lord God, we live as if dependent wholly on our own resources; relying on our perceived skills and modest insights.

Too often, Lord God, we look to the clouds for our inspiration, in the vain hope of finding you there. Forgive the poverty of our efforts and the frailty of our faith and open wide our hearts and minds to the immanent presence of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ.

KYRIE #572

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

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.*

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

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; he is highly exalted.

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

SECOND READING

Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and

to the ends of the earth.’ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

SERMON

Rev. Kori Robbins

We Respond to God’s Love

***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***

***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.*

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 #543**

Abide With Me

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O, abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies:
Heaven's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, o Lord, abide with me.*

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING RESPONSE** *Go On Your Way in Joy*

Go on your way in joy, my friends.

Go on your way in joy, my friends.

Go on your way in joy, 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)
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)
Pam Clay (Cousin of Debbie Rendes & Diane Reinhart)
Dawn Wilson
Cameron Watkins
Family of Joe Koch
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

*Session is convening a Safety Planning Committee.
More details will be coming soon.*

A Mother's Day Bake Sale will be held on Sunday, May 12th. Please contact Rosie Rebraca or January Rendes if you would like to donate any items for this event.

Birthday Wishes



Jeffrey Meyers 04/08

Mike Fabian 04/08

Marty O'Neill 04/12

Linda Frayer 04/13



Responsibilities

Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist- Andy Konsol

Elder- Sue McCabe

Deacon- January Rendes

Music- Anita Miller

Story Circle- Olivia Meyers

Media- Samara Fabian

Thank you for your generosity!

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



03/31/24 \$813

03/24/24 \$1,170

03/17/24 \$3,515.66

*(2024 Per Capita needed \$4,420
Received to date \$1,266.50)*



This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 07	9:15am 10:30am	Church School Worship/ Fellowship
Monday, April 08	7:00pm	Al-Anon & Al-Ateen
Sunday, April 14	9:15am 10:30am	Church School Worship/ Communion/ 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