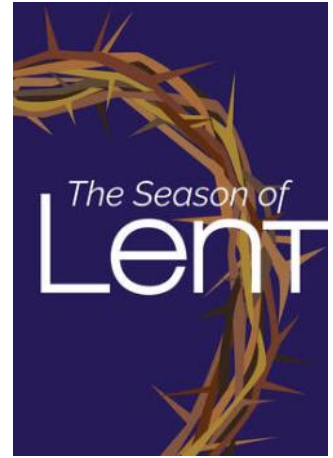




Welcome to Worship

February 26, 2023

9:00 am



Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

“Adagio in E Major”

Frank Bridge

Opening Words

Deannine Shipman

Introit

Forty Days and Forty Nights

Keep repeating, like a chant

Ned Wetherald, 2023

Musical notation for the Introit, consisting of a treble and bass clef staff in 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are: "For for - ty days and for - ty nights. For".

For for - ty days and for - ty nights. For

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*Call to Worship

Deannine Shipman

Leader: Shall we keep faith with God?

People: Then let us turn and seek, let us pray and praise,

Leader: while we desire to be found.

People: Surely no flood of challenges will sweep us out of God’s reach

Leader: God is shelter, a safe place,

People: God watches over and protects

Leader: Though we feel pulled by strong currents

People: God encircles us with deliverance and holds us.

*Hymn No. 166

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

*Call to Confession

Allison Maus

*Prayer of Confession

God, we often struggle to experience the freedom you have blessed us with. We are overwhelmed by our desire for control and driven into hiding by undesirable emotions. Forgive our willful resistance to your goodwill toward us. Forgive our careless disregard for your faithfulness. Forgive our desperate attempts to hide from you the part of us that is not whole and longs for restoration. Gently but firmly hold us. Speak to us words of love and grace until we settle into your warm embrace. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

*Hymn No. 575

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

*Assurance of Pardon

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Inspiration

Olivia Mortimore

First Scripture Reading	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-5	Olivia Mortimore
Anthem	“Forbidden Fruit” LOGOS Geckos (Grades 1-5)	Daniel A. Smith
Time for Children See “Children in Worship”		Deannine Shipman
Song After Children’s Time	“As Each New Horizon Beckons” [HOLY MANNA]	
Second Scripture Reading	Matthew 4:1-11	John Porter
Sermon	“Nothing to Prove, Nothing to Gain”	John Porter
Responding to the Word		
*Hymn No. 783	“When We Are Tested”	
*Affirmation of Faith—Apostle's Creed		John Porter
<p>I Believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead; on the third day He rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.</p>		
Welcome and Announcements		Reed Dressler
Call to Offering		Reed Dressler
Offertory Anthem	“Since by Man Came Death” The Chancel Choir	Georg Frideric Handel
*Doxology Hymn No. 609	“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”	
*Prayer of Dedication		Olivia Mortimore
Sharing of Joys and Concerns		Allison Maus
Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer		Allison Maus
<p>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 debt- ors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the pow- er and the glory, forever. Amen.</p>		
*Hymn No. 833	“O Love that Wilt not Let Me Go”	
*Charge & Benediction		John Porter
*Sharing of the Peace		John Porter
Postlude	Postlude on “The Glory of These Forty Days”	Matthew McConnell

Welcome Visitors & Guests

We are so glad you have joined us today. If you have questions about our church, our programs or activities offered here, stop by the Information Desk outside the Church Office.

Ushers this Morning:

Head Usher: Miguel Cruden

Ushers: Sharon Manno, Carrie Miller, Jillian Rounsville, and Phil Spangler

Information Desk: Kim Phillips

Coffee Hour:

Host: Linda Morrow

Greeters this Morning:

Fraser Street: Susan Sanders

Parking Lot: Mary Hartzell

Sanctuary Flowers: The sanctuary flowers are given in memory of Joanne Thompson and in Honor of Fred Thompson given by Terri and Scott Thompson.

Adult Offerings Today

February 26: "Spiritual Disciplines" led by Pastor John Porter. Rev. Porter will lead a two part Adult Education offering over two consecutive weeks covering four classical spiritual disciplines that we practice together as a community. Richard Foster in "Celebration of Discipline" asserts "The classical Disciplines of the spiritual life call us to move beyond the surface of living into the depths... God intends [them] to be for ordinary human beings: people who have jobs, who care for children, who wash dishes and mow lawns. In fact, the Disciplines are best exercised in the midst of our relationships." In two sessions we will look at the last of the twelve spiritual disciplines Foster covers in the text; Confession and Worship on February 26th and Guidance, and Celebration on March 5th.

"Connect" Room 10

This ongoing weekly small group discussion led by Bizz and Zack Maser, and Jamie Bauman
Connect is an invitation to deepen your relationship with others and with God by contemplating scripture, lyrics, writing, poetry, and other topics of interest through small group discussions.

The LENTEN BAGS are here for your use!

Adults, families, all ages are welcome to take one for yourself or your family, or small group!

The contents of the bag will assist you with a time of reflection, while using symbols to help facilitate discussion.

If you would like to have one and cannot get to church to pick one up, please call the church office at 814-238-2422 and let us know! Questions? Deannine Shipman, our Director of Education, will be happy to help you!

Spiritual Disciplines - Lenten Study Begins Tomorrow

There will be a 6-week study on Spiritual Disciplines on Mondays at 11:00 am during the season of Lent (from February 27 through April 3).

Pastor John Porter, Associate Pastor Allison Maus, and Director of Youth Ministry Reed Dressler will lead six individual sessions looking at; fasting, study, service & submission, simplicity, meditation & prayer, and solitude. The good news of Jesus Christ is that through him we are liberated from attitudes and ingrained patterns of behavior that degrade and demean the glory of God revealed in all people and every element of creation. Though the gospel message about transformation is simple, our experience of transformation is not. Scripture teaches that we are not capable of transforming ourselves. It is by God that we are transformed and set free from sin.

Spiritual disciplines are practices that help bring us into God's transforming presence. Drawing on a variety of resources including Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline, our study will consider the nature of these spiritual practices and how we can move deeper and more fully into the life of freedom that we have received through Christ.

CALLING FOR Accepting submissions now!
LENTEN Reach out to Mary Jane Kistler
DEVOTIONALS or Allison Maus for more info.
We invite your personal reflections about instances where you have noticed God was with you through the kindness of a stranger, a new path made clear, or unexpected joy. All are encouraged to write and reflect!

Easter Flowers—Orders Due by March 6th
Orders are being taken until Sunday, March 6th, for spring flowering plants to decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning. Each plant costs \$9.50 and the order forms are on the back tables or on our website. You may take your plant with you following the service on Easter morning.

February 26th @3pm
Westminster Hall
This month's movie:

We'll have wiggle space and quiet activities to help kiddos and others be engaged

Sunday, February 26th

- 8:30 am Childcare Available—Room 101
- **9:00 am Worship Service**
- Creative Movement & Music and Children and Worship—After the Children's Message
- 10:00 am Exploration Hour for All Ages
- 10:00 am Coffee Hour
- 10:15 am Adult Opportunities
- 10:30 am YoPro Bible Study—Tower Room
- 3:00 pm Watch Party—Westminster Hall

Monday, February 27th

- 11:00 am Lenten Study—Room 10
- 6:00 pm CAYAM—Zoom
- 6:00 pm Education Ministry Unit—Zoom
- 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study—Fireside Room
- 7:00 pm Virtual Centering Prayer—Zoom

Tuesday, February 28th

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm Congregational Prayer Meeting—Zoom
- 12:15 pm Deacon Moderators Planning Meeting—Martin Room
- 4:00 pm LOGOS Geckos/ Kindergarten Night
- 5:00 pm LOGOS Chrysalis
- 7:30 pm Handbell Choir

Wednesday, March 1st

- 6:00 pm FISH
- 8:15 pm POLO Women's Bible Study—Zoom

Thursday, March 2nd

- 6:00 pm Presbyterian Student Fellowship—Fireside Room
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, March 3rd

Saturday, March 4th

- 8:00 am Pinewood Derby—Social Hall

Sunday, March 5th

Communion Sunday

- 8:30 am Childcare Available—Room 101
- **9:00 am Worship Service**
- Creative Movement & Music and Children and Worship—After the Children's Message
- 10:00 Coffee Fellowship
- 10:00 am Exploration Hour for All Ages
- 10:15 am Adult Opportunities
- 10:30 am YoPro Bible Study—Tower Room
- 11:00 am Deacons' Meeting—Martin Room

Children in Worship

9:00 am Worship - Children of all ages are invited to come forward for the children's message. Following this time, children 3 years old by September 1, 2022, through grade 3, are welcome to leave for special programs.

Creative Movement and Music (Ages 3-K) meets in Westminster Hall.

Children and Worship (Grades 1,2, & 3) meets in Room 11. Unless parents make other arrangements, these children will be taken to their Pathways classrooms at the conclusion of these programs. Infant and Toddler Care (through age 3) are available in Room 101 throughout the morning.

Exploration Hour

PATHWAYS (Preschool and Elementary) meet in separate age groups, and begin around 10:00 am 3's,4's, and K meet in Room 103, main level - we provide a light snack to our pre schoolers.

1st- 5th Grade meet upstairs in Room 210

Once a month we will combine all children for a special MUSIC experience with our own Ned Wetherald.

THE OASIS (grades 6-12) meet in the Fireside Room at 10:15 am each Sunday, with both Middle School and High School ages together until the group grows too large!



For more information about the church and our programs please visit our website at scpresby.org

If you are an online attender we hope you will "sign the pew pad" virtually on Sunday mornings by texting "check in" during the welcome and announcement time so we know you're watching! The phone number is: 833-234-1326.

To give via our Online Giving site, scan the QR Code.

