FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4th Sunday in Lent; 10:00 am March 14, 2021

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 107: 1-3, 19-23

- Leader: Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.
- People: Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe, gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- Leader: Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.
- People: They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.
- Leader: Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.
- People: You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.
- Leader: Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.
- All: Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" (see insert)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

There's something about darkness that we love, Lord. Perhaps it is that in the darkness our sins and our misdeeds will not be easily noticed. Perhaps we feel guilt and embarrassment about not following you. We have stumbled and failed far too often and sometimes we just want to give up. Reach through the darkness where we hide. Let your light of love and hope shine on us and eventually in us, that we might bring others to the Light. Forgive our waywardness and put us on the right path where we will serve you by serving your world.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

| TIME WITH THE CHILDREN | | Sandi Hilgendorf |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| FIRST SCRIPTURE READING | | Numbers 21:4-9 |
| Special Music | "What Grace is Mine" | |
| SECOND SCRIPTURE READING | | John 3:14-21 |
| SERMON | The Rev | . Natasha Sudderth |
| HYMN OF MEDITATION | 'Because He Lives' | (see insert) |
| | | |

FAMILY TIME

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

"Grace Greater Than Our Sin"

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Hymn

(see insert)

CHORAL RESPONSE "Go in the Grace of the Lord"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand.

Leading Worship: The Rev. Natasha Sudderth-Davis, Pastor; Alan Jenkins, liturgist; Leah Metzger, Accompanist; Sandi Hilgendorf, Kristie Harper, Rita Benoit, Special Music; Alex Lutz, Elder of the Month.

We warmly greet all who have come to worship God. Your presence will enhance our worship experience and our fellowship together. Sincere thanks to each of you for your participation in the service. Glory be to God!

Announcements

The rose on the alter today is in honor of Blair Grace Yates who was born to Reid and Elise Yates on Monday March 8th, 2021.

Monday Morning Yoga 10am Bible Study Tuesdays at 10 am Lenten Bible Study Wednesdays 1pm Fellowship Hall Prayer Meeting Thursdays 9:30 am FPC will be Installing Hearing Assistive Technology Praise God! We have received a donation from an anonymous church member to install a hearing loop system in the sanctuary. It will be installed in time for worship on Sunday March 21st. What is Hearing Assistive Technology? (HAT) The hearing loop is a wire that circles a room and is connected to

the sound system. The loop transmits the sound. The signal is then picked up by the telecoil in the hearing aid or cochlear implant.

How do I connect with my personal hearing device? Most hearing devices have this technology but it is not always activated by your audiologist. <u>Make an appointment with your audiologist</u> and tell them your church installed a Hearing Loop System.

What if I don't wear a hearing device but have difficulty hearing? Headsets that connect will be available to use. A more subtle option: You may purchase a hearing device with t-coil technology at Walmart.





"Moses and the Brazen Serpent", Sebastien Bourdon, 1653-54

HYMN OF PRAISE "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head; His name, like sweet perfume, shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song, and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to loose their chains; the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

HYMN OF MEDITATION

I believe in the son. I believe in the risen one. I believe I overcome, by the power of his blood.

Amen, Amen. I'm alive, I'm alive, because he lives. Amen, Amen. Let my song join the one that never ends, because he lives.

I was dead in the grave. I was covered in sin and shame. I heard mercy, call my name. He rolled the stone away. (Refrain)

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow. Because he lives every fear is gone. I know, he holds, my life, my future in his hands. (Refrain)

HYMN "Grace Greater Than Our Sin"

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt! Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured -There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain: Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within, grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is greater than all our sin!

Sin and despair, like the sea-waves cold, threaten the soul with infinite loss; grace that is greater - yes, grace untold points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross. [Refrain]