FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 3rd Sunday in Lent; 10:00 am March 7, 2021

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: All heaven and earth proclaim the majesty of God's

creative power!

People: Praise God for the amazing and awesome

beauty.

Leader: God has given to us commandments by which to live

together in harmony and peace.

People: God of countless proclamations: every moment you share with us the reality of who

you are and your great love for us.

Leader: God of countless revelations, every day and night we

discover something new about you.

People: We continually encounter you and your

truths in this world you created.

Leader: We gather to celebrate the wonders and

mysteries about living in God's world and being with

God.

OPENING PRAYER

*Hymn of Praise "God of Wonders" (see insert)

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God gave us the covenant of the law to guide us and help us live with our neighbors in love. When we break God's law, we leave our neighbors hurt and bruised. God's law is a gift to us, showing us how to keep our part of the covenant. Even through old pain and wounds, may we embrace the new life that Christ can bring.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: In the name of Christ we are forgiven. May the God

of the law guide us in living lives that keep the

covenant of love.

People: May Christ's forgiveness grant us new life, even when we break God's law.

Leader: May the Holy Spirit of conviction lead us to

confession and renewal.

All: May we respond in love to the God of

covenant and change.

*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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 20:1-19

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING PSALM 19

SERMON The Rev. Natasha Sudderth

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DOXOLOGY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Great God of creation: From the soil of the earth, you have formed us in your image. We are a symphony of

have formed us in your image. We are a symphony of languages, and a mosaic of customs; we are your grand

design and desire for humanity.

People: We remember that at creation, you brought life out of chaos and began the great act of salvation. You created a wild and beautiful world, drawing up mountains and laying out

plains.

Leader: You created a world of enough. You fed us manna and quail in the desert, bread and fish with leftovers at the seaside. By your Word, you fed us the bread of life and offered us living water. And in your presence at this table, we stand as recipients of these gracious acts of shalom.

People: You created a world of compassion. You mandated jubilee, calling your people to a life of generous commonality. You dared our enemies to throw stones if they could find no sin within. You hear our ugly thoughts and still call us beloved.

Leader: Spirit of life and unity: Through this simple meal, draw us together. Renew our minds, reframe our thoughts, and reorient our hearts to beat with the rhythm of our call to peace. Reshape our understanding so that when we remember Jesus, we remember him as he was, and is, and is to come. Now we join with all the saints, those in heaven and those from around the world, in the prayer that Jesus taught us:

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN "Fairest Lord Jesus" (see insert)

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.





"Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord my Rock and my Redeemer." Psalm 19

"God of Wonders"

Lord of all creation. Lord of water, earth and sky. The heavens are your Tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high!

(Refrain) And God of wonders beyond our galaxy. You are holy, holy. The universe declares your majesty. You are holy, holy. Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.

So early in the morning, I will celebrate the light. As I stumble in the darkness, I will call your name by night. (Refrain)

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God to earth come down, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host. Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

4 Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine!

Welcome! 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!

Leading Worship: The Rev. Natasha Sudderth-Davis, Pastor; David Culpepper, liturgist; Leah Metzger, Accompanist; Juanita Ratliff, Special Music; Alex Lutz, Elder of the Month.

Announcements

Monday Morning Yoga 10am
Finance Committee meeting Monday, March 8th 6:00 pm
Bible Study Tuesdays at 10 am
Lenten Bible Study Wednesdays 1pm Fellowship Hall
Prayer Meeting Thursdays 9:30 am
March 14th Day Light Savings time begins



EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Please drop into offering plate, turn in at supper or bring to the church office.

I (We) would like to place Easter Lily(s) in the sanctuary for Easter.
Cost is \$15.00 per plant. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church and mark "Easter Lily". Last date to order is Sunday, March 21, 2021.
Please <u>print</u> clearly.
GIVEN BY: (your name as you wish it to appear in bulletin)
GIVEN IN HONOR OF:
GIVEN IN MEMORY OF:
My payment for \$ is enclosed.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

WHO? If you are a person who has felt God's nudge to serve in our church ministry, but just can't seem to decide where, this might be the place for you.



WHAT?

Help setting up: The Worship Committee has planned some very special services for Holy Week and is looking for volunteers willing to help set up tables and chairs. There will be setup before Maundy Thursday and on Saturday April 3rd. If you can help either day let us know.

Name		
Number		

HOW?

Fill in your name and number above and put it in the offering box next to the sound booth. The Worship Committee will give you a call.