

LENT 1C
MARCH 9, 2025



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PERRY, FL

GATHERING

P -PASTOR, L- LITURGIST, **BOLD -ALL**

PRAYER (PRAYED SILENTLY UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY)

We pray: **Eternal God, you who breathed the spirit of life within me. Draw out of me the light and life you created through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRELUDE

INTROIT *“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PASSING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS/SESSION SHARING

We stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L God of our solitude, we worship you.
God of our temptations, we cry out to you.
Christ, our companion we look to you.
Holy Spirit, our hope, help us worship. Help us love. Help us live.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P We pray: O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -
 love up - on my way, from the cross the ra - diance
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no
 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred

sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

CALL TO CONFESSION

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(silence for reflection)

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected injustice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome you home. In † Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever. **Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI

(the Gloria is omitted during Lent)

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

L We pray: **Prepare our hearts, O God, to receive your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own. Amen.**

We sit.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

L 1 When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.”

4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, 5 you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7 we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.” You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

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

PSALM

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (*we say responsively by whole verse*)

L ¹You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

²will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.”

⁹Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,

¹⁰no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

¹¹For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

¹²On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

¹³You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

¹⁴Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

¹⁵When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

¹⁶With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

SECOND READING Romans 10:8b-13

L 8b “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); 9 because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

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

We Stand.

GOSPEL

Luke 4:1-13

P The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke the 4th chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

1 Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2 where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3 The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.”

4 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

5 Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6 And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”

8 Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

9 Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ 11 and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

12 Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” 13 When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON “Temptation our Teacher”

Pr. J. David Bryant

We stand.

SERMON HYMN

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

GTG 465

1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bere'd with a load of care?

What a priv-i-lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev-er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav-ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!

O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for-sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so-lace there.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

L Let us confess the faith of our baptism, saying: **I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the † resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

We sit or stand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

L *(brief silence)* God of suffering service, grant to your church faithful leaders who have the hearts of servants, and who will gently lead your people into love for you and service to their neighbors. Lord of Lent, **renew our lives.**

God of gentle justice, raise up righteous leaders in every nation who will govern with truth and guide their people with fairness and equity. Lord of Lent, **renew our lives.**

God of tender compassion, hear the cries of all who suffer and who are contending with sickness and disease especially those on our prayer list and those we name before you now, aloud upon our lips or silently

within our hearts. (*pause*) Lay upon them your gentle hand of healing. Lord of Lent, **renew our lives.**

God of all goodness, guide the work of our congregation, that a pervasive unity of purpose would guide all discernments, ministries, and missions. Lord of Lent, **renew our lives.**

God of comforting hope, tend to those who are grieving, that their mourning may be tempered with joy. Bring us at length, with all our blessed dead, to the joy of your heavenly realm. Lord of Lent, **renew our lives.**

P God Most High, thank you for signs of your power and grace, shown to us even in the wilderness. Give us courage to stand firm in your Word in every time of trial and testing, that we may enter the land of your freedom and receive the salvation you so generously give, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L As Christ has taught us, so we boldly pray: **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.**

THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

We sit.

OFFERTORY

L With gladness, let us present the offering of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM “Amazing Grace”

LENTEN DOXOLOGY

Praise God through - out these for - ty days. Praise

Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spir - it who im -

parts God's love in Christ in - to our hearts. A - men.

We stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this money to offer, the fruit of our labor and of the skills you have

given us. Take us and our possessions to do your work in the world.
Blessed be God forever.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

P The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint us with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair GTG 189

1 O won - drous sight, O vi - sion fair
 2 From age to age the tale de - clare,
 3 The law and proph - ets there have place,
 4 With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray
 5 And faith - ful hearts are raised on high

(Am) (Dm) (Am) (Em) (Am)
 Cm Fm Cm Gm Cm

of glo - ry that the church shall share,
 how with the three dis - ci - ples there,
 two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
 Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
 by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y,

(G) (Dm) (Em) (G) (Am)
 B^b Fm Gm B^b Cm

which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows,
 where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet,
 the Fa - ther's voice from out the cloud
 what glo - ry shall be theirs a - bove
 for which in joy - ful strains we raise

(Em) (Dm) (F) (G) (Am)
 Gm Fm A^b B^b Cm

where bright - er than the sun he glows!
 the Lord holds con - verse high and sweet.
 pro - claims his on - ly Son a - loud.
 who joy in God with per - fect love.
 the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Leading Worship: Rev. Pr. J. David Bryant, Minister; Bob Bell, Liturgist;
Aimee Roberts, Accompanist

Notes & Announcements

- Fellowship meeting Tuesday, March 11th at 5 pm
- Worship meeting Tuesday, March 11th at 6 pm
- No Fellowship supper Wednesday, March 12th
- Christian Education meeting Thursday, March 13th at 10:30 am
- Finance meeting Friday, March 14th at 11 am
- **Ushers** for March 16th: Bobby Harper, Martha Davis, Mike Perrine, Marcy Fletcher, Robin Walker
- **Liturgist** for March 16th: Juanita Ratliff
- FPC website www.firstpresperry.org
- Send **prayer requests** to prayer@firstpresperry.org or contact Jeanne Hilgendorf



Lenten Supper & Devotion

In keeping with the penitential season of Lent, Wednesday suppers will be a simple meal of soup and

bread. Pastor John David Bryant will lead a short Lenten Devotional during these evenings. Wednesday night suppers during Lent will be March 5th, March 19th, March 26th, April 2nd, and April 9th. Come at 5:45 pm for a time of fellowship and the meal will be served at 6:00 pm.

FPC PRAYER LIST

TOGETHER, WE PRAY FOR:

CATHY WIGGINS

JEANNE RAULERSON

DIANNA SANDONATO, FLU

CHERYL EVERETT, BACK

ROMMES FAMILY

PRAISE FROM HELBERG'S

TRAVELLING MERCIES FOR MEMBERS

NURSING HOME, LOCAL

GOVERNMENT

SANDI HILGENDORF

TEACHERS

MARGIE RAWLS

BLUE CREEK CHURCH

PRESBY BIBLE STUDIES AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUPPER TEAMS

JOHN DAVID & HARRIET BRYANT

*THE HOMELESS
CULBREATH'S
CHERYL RICKETSON, REHAB
RITA BENOIT, OPTIONS
RON POPPELL, ONGOING
PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR OUR CHURCH*