

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 13, 2022 • 8:00 a.m.



Mother Hen
Lauren Wright Pittman



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.
* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in E Minor Op. 28, No. 4

Frédéric Chopin

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Psalmist sings, one thing I asked of the Lord,
that I will seek after:

**All: To live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord,
and to inquire in God's temple.**

One: Sisters and brothers, God is good,

All: And in love and mercy God in Jesus Christ greets us here.

* HYMN

Wilderness Gifts Us a Holy Disruption

O QUANTA QUALIA

This hymn is on your insert.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

**you have made us citizens of heaven,
but we confess we have set our minds on earthly things.**

**We have let our desire for security restrain our
commitment to serve the poor and to fight for the weak.**

We have let our fear of danger curb our obligation to love our enemies.

We have let our love of things dull our generosity to the needy.

**We have let our craving for public status prevent our
honesty about hidden sins.**

Yet, you know the desires of our heart and nothing is hidden from you.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

**Conform our sin-bent bodies to the glory of Christ,
that we may be the body of Christ for the world...**

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy Lord. Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy.

This is *Psalm 123: Have Mercy* by Greg Scheer.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart.
Rise to all eternity.**

This is Stanza 4 of Hymn 440, Jesus, Lover of My Soul (ABERYSTWYTH).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 27

God, your light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

I rely on you. No one scares me.

When people want to see me fall on my face, I watch them stumble and fall instead.

No matter how many bullies team up against me, my heart will be strong and I won't be afraid.

And even if a war breaks out all around me, I will trust in you to save me.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

I have only one thing to ask you, God: "Can I live with you forever?"

To see your beautiful face, and to be with you where you live would be awesome.

You always keep me safe when I know I'm in trouble.

You take me to a safe place that no one knows about.

When the floodwaters come. You pick me up and put me high upon a rock.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

When my face is drooping, you lift up my head in front of those who make fun of me.

Because you do these things for me, I couldn't be any happier.

I can't stop singing and making music that praises you.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

Listen to me, God. And then answer me.

I heard you whisper to my heart: "Come find me."

And that's what I'm doing, looking for you.

So don't hide from me, God.

Don't turn the other way when I come.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

You have always helped me. So don't leave me now. I count

on you. Even if everyone who loves me leaves me, you will be with me.

So show me your way, God. Lead me in a clear direction.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

Don't let me walk into their traps.

I know some people lie about me, and want to see bad things come my way.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

I don't know what would happen if I didn't believe in your goodness! So calm down and wait for God. "Be strong" I tell myself,

"and God will make things right and comfort your restless heart.*"

Wait patiently. Wait for the God you trust.

God's light shines in my life and makes it worth living.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:31–35

The grass withers, the flower fades; **the word of the Lord endures forever.**

RESPONDING AND SEALING

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In a broken and fearful world

**the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

**we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

The Lord Is My Light and My Salvation

John Rutter

Chancel Choir Section Leaders

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
Though an host of all were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid:
And though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.
One thing have I desired of the Lord, which I will require;
Even that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
To behold the fair beauty of the Lord, and to visit his temple.
For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle;
Yea, in the secret places of his dwelling shall he hide me,
And set me up upon a rock of stone.
Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness.
I will sing, and speak praises unto the Lord.
Hearken unto my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto thee;
Have mercy upon me, and hear me.
My heart hath talked of thee, seek ye my face, Lord, will I seek.
O hide not thou thy face from me, nor cast thy servant away in displeasure.
Thou hast been my succor, leave me not, neither forsake me,
O God of my salvation.
When my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord taketh me up.
Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart,
And put thou thy trust in the Lord.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please see the Communion Card.

SENDING

* HYMN 440

Please join in singing Stanzas 1–3.

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

ABERYSTWYTH

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

In the name of Jesus —

Let us Love...**with Open Hearts!**

Let us Learn...**with Open Minds!**

Let us Serve...**with Open Arms!**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Shepherd Me, O God

Haugen/Hayes

Please remain seated until the conclusion of the Closing Voluntary.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We are glad you are here! Please sign our Friendship Pad. If you are worshiping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, please sign the pad on our website to let us know you are here.

The 9:30 worship service is broadcast on WAAM 1600 radio at 11:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Liturgist – Megan Berry and Melissa Anne Rogers; Scripture Reader – Diane Knibbs; Preacher – Jay Sanderford; Communion server – Diane Knibbs; Pianist – Eric Banitt; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Chancel Choir Section Leaders

Join us for Coffee Hour today in the Social Hall immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

Faith Formation Hour is at 11:00 a.m. There are classes for all ages. Please refer to the website for more information.

Use the offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love and to consider your own response in loving service. As you consider making your offering, remember that the church's regular expenses continue in these difficult times. And the community around us needs your financial support: your faithful giving is like the breath of life to mission programs we love, neighbors in need, members who are hurting. Thank you for your faithful generosity! Ways to give include online on our First Pres website, via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523), using our Vanco Mobile app, putting a check in the mail, or scanning the QR code on the right.



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FEATURED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fast-Track to Membership today, Sunday, March 13, at 11:00 a.m. Interested in joining? We make it easy! Join us in the Lead Pastor's office for about 20 minutes to meet with a pastor and two Elders. A new member class follows, offered multiple times per year, for those who feel moved to join. For more information, contact Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firsptresbyterian.org or 662-4466, ext. 390).

Exploring the Faith and **First Friends** meet in the Social Hall at 11:00 a.m., for *Visio and Lectio Divino*, a class led by Callie Feyen, a member of the Liturgical/Visual Arts Team. This class is based on the two Stations of the Cross art exhibits currently on display in the Social Hall. All are welcome!

Ukrainian Appeal: Our Presbyterian response to the situation in Ukraine will include both financial and technical assistance as the network of faith communities providing humanitarian assistance grows in the months ahead. The needs for the response are great. God's people are called to stand in the "**GAP**" - **Give** | **Act** | **Pray**:

Give: Gifts can be made to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance through First Pres. Give online here: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/campaign/C-115MR>. Checks marked "Ukraine" may be placed in the offering plate on Sunday or mailed to First Pres. **Act:** Send gifts and **Pray** for peace.

Our March donations and financial contributions support Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Donations will be coordinated by Presbyterian Women.

First Pres Name Tags: If you would like to order a new name tag with the option to include your personal pronouns, complete the form here:

<https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/zcrbxip0yqf18f/>. The cost is \$9.

En la Mesa de Dios // At God's Table: A Stations of the Cross Experience

April 3 - 17 | Sundays, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | Mondays - Thursdays, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Experience the Holy Week narrative by taking in the art of *En la mesa de Dios / At God's Table*, illustrated by Joel Schoon-Tanis. Both an audio track to help in the walk-through and a pamphlet will be available.

Did you know we have a First Pres knitting ministry called "Knit Night"? Knit from home or with the group on the first Friday evening of each month. We can teach you, and we have patterns and suggestions! Knit baby blankets or shawls for those recovering, and take on other projects! If you know someone who would like a prayer shawl during a difficult time, please contact Rev. Rogers mrogers@firsptresbyterian.org

Daytime Handbell Choir rehearses on Thursday afternoons, 2:00 - 2:45 p.m., in the Handbell Room. No experience is needed. For more information, contact Dave VanderMeer, Minister of Music & Fine Arts at dvandermeer@firstpresbyterian.org

Wilderness | Welcome is our theme for Lenten worship. Each Sunday we will wrestle with Scripture passages that deal with questions of hospitality, loneliness, discovery, loss, and hope in the midst of wilderness moments. Many of us have been living in the wilderness for far too long.



WILDERNESS
welcome
LENT 2022

This Lent, we enter our third year of pandemic life with losses and hard realities all around us. Often, as we navigate these places of uncertainty and pain, our first instinct is to turn inward and to clench our fists until we can make it to the other side. Our faith invites us to a different response: one where fear leads us to turn toward one another, to rely on God's presence, to build love and support for all, and to trust that we do not journey on difficult roads alone. God calls us to welcome the wilderness and to turn wilderness into welcome.

Worship Themes:

Sunday, March 6	A Table in the Wilderness
Sunday March 13	Wondering in the Wilderness
Sunday, March 20	Lost in the Wilderness (Youth Service)
Sunday, March 27	Found in the Wilderness
Sunday, April 3	Alone in the Wilderness
Sunday, April 10	Stories of Wilderness