

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
YOUTH SUNDAY

March 20, 2022 • 9:30 a.m.



Life through the Shadows
Claire Gerhke

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.

The season of Lent is often marked by a journey: our traveling from the mountaintop of transfiguration back into the treacherous terrain leading to Holy Week and Easter. Turning to the cross leads us to reflect, remember, repent, and then reclaim our identity as children of God. We welcome you as you listen for God's invitation in your life.

Today's cover art, *Life through the Shadows*, was created by First Pres youth member, Claire Gerhke, and is a reflection of the two scripture passages read in today's service. Commenting on this piece, Claire writes: "You can always find life even in the dry darkness."

The Kyrie will be interpreted in American Sign Language by First Pres youth member, Anna Gehrke.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Sonatina in C Major, Op. 36, No. 1 – Vivace Muzio Clementi
Ava Westfall, pianist

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION Pastor Nominating Committee Tom Brandt

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We've come to worship God,
who makes streams flow from rock,
who turns the parched earth into springs of water,
who sends the rain from heaven
and makes the wilderness blossom and flourish.

**All: As the deer thirsts for flowing streams,
so we thirst for You, O God.**

One: Come, let's worship our life-giving God,
All: who pours out living water on all who thirst.

* **HYMN 475** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy Lord. Have mer - cy." The second system continues the piano accompaniment with the lyrics: "Have mer - cy Lord. Have mer - cy." The piano part features a steady bass line with chords and some melodic movement in the right hand.

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

In God a-lone my soul can find rest and peace, in God my peace and joy.

On - ly in God my soul can find its rest, find its rest and peace. In

This is Hymn 814, *In God Alone* (ΤΑΙΖΕ).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 63:1–8

O God, you are my God. And I am eager to find you.
I'm thirsty for you, just as if I was in the middle of the desert without water.
I have had a glimpse of your power and glory.
Your kindness to me is better than life itself.
And I will tell everyone how wonderful you are.
I will raise my hands above my head and shout your praises.
O God, you are my God. And I am eager to find you.

My soul is happy deep down like I've had a very good meal,
and my lips are happy to talk about you.
I think about you before I go to sleep at night,
and at those times when I wake up.

O God, you are my God. And I am anxious to find you.

You have been my helper all along.
And I can rest under the shadow of your wings.
My soul clings to you and your right hand won't ever let me go.

O God, you are my God. And I am ready to find you.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

This season of Lent we join together as a community in faith, building love and support for all as we seek ways to turn wilderness into welcome. Our first scripture reading each week will be in the form of a responsive reading. Many of these readings come from *God's Word, My Voice: A Lectionary for Children*, in our continued growth as a church to invite us into unity – one body of Christ. These adapted readings create an entrypoint of biblical understanding for our younger readers, while still wrapping us in the comfort of God's Word with which we are familiar.

FIRST REFLECTION *Talking to God with Music*
Sonata No. 2, Andante
Hana Kaehr, violin

J. S. Bach

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 55:1-9

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

SECOND REFLECTION *God By My Side*
Josiah Schaafsma

RESPONDING AND SEALING

* HYMN 78 *You Thirsty Ones, Come*

HEAVEN'S RAIN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

In keeping with the reverence of worship, photos may not be taken during the service.

Thomas and Kelsey Kaercher present their daughter, Addison Louise Kaercher, born October 3, 2021, for baptism.

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

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.

Thanksgiving over the Water and Baptism

Hymn 486 *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

KINGDOM

1. Child of bless-ing, child of prom-ise, bap-tized with the Spir-it's_ sign, with this
2. Child of love, our love's ex-pres-sion, love's cre-a-tion, loved in-deed! Fresh from

wa-ter God has sealed you un-to love and grace di-vine.
God, re-fresh our spir-its; in-to joy and laugh-ter lead.

This week's *Growing in God's Love Bible story*, "Remember to Love" is found on page 344.

It is important to remember that baptism is not so much something we do, but rather something that God does. In Baptism God claims us and names us as one of God's own children. Baptism is both God's gift and our acceptance of the gift of God's saving grace. We baptize in response to the God who first loved us, and we remember that we did not choose God, but God chose us.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

Come to the Water
Youth Choir

John Foley

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:
Without money, without price.
Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord:
Without money, without price.
Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.
And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord:
All who labor, without rest. How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water,
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord:
Bring the children without might.
Easy the load and light: come to the Lord.

* Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

One: Lord, in your mercy,
All: **Hear our 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.

SENDING

* HYMN 696

O God, You Are My God Alone

GRATUS

* 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!**

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service.

Ways to give:

click here:
<https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/home>
or give via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use the Vanco Mobile app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.



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CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Dona Nobis Pacem

C. Bybee

Zach and Jacob Edwards, Trumpet and Trombone

Please remain seated until the conclusion of the Closing Voluntary.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

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. 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.



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

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2OFFlvBmiZ1jQUGxeXcsAIDITp2WEYepSmnjyQYMXbHHndA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>.

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

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Mark Mares; Faith in Action – Tom Brandt; Liturgists – Melissa Anne Rogers and youth leaders; Scripture Readers – youth leaders; Children's Message – youth leaders; Musicians – Youth Choir; Youth Handbell Choir; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Ushers – Paul Smith (captain), Beth Gerwig, Greta Krapohl, Holly Major, Keith Molin, Carol Smith, Ken Westfall, and Angela Yang

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Mr. Meredith Robards and Margaret Brown Hyatt by Meg and Paul Brown; in loving memory of Larry and Magdaline Ouimet by Mark Ouimet; and in loving memory of Bob Snyder by Derek, Matthew, Jessica, and their families, and Michele Snyder-Madden.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel after the 9:30 service. Prayer team volunteers are Nancy Oliver and Katie Parker. "Prayer is the key to revival, building bridges between what should be and what will be." – Kris Vallotton

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. See our website for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Easter flowers to honor or remember loved ones may be ordered through Palm Sunday, April 10. The cost is \$18 per plant. Sign up on our website or by contacting the Church Office.

First Pres Name Tags: 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.

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.

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

Peeps and Pizza EGG-stravaganza on Holy Saturday! Team up with family and friends on Saturday, April 16, from 10:00 to 12:30 a.m., in the Social Hall and on the Front Lawn to create your own Bible story shoe box diorama using those "Crazy Marshmallow Peeps" – chicks and bunnies and Jesus, oh my! A pizza lunch and children's egg hunt will be offered on the front lawn at 11:30 a.m. Use this link to sign up for the pizza lunch: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/peeps-and-pizza-eggstravaganza-2022/>.

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! Knit baby blankets or shawls for those recovering, and take on other projects! If you know someone who would appreciate a prayer shawl during a difficult time, please contact Rev. Rogers (rogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

Expand Your Faith with Presbyterian Women. PW sends out timely information in email blasts so that all women of the church may stay connected. Contact Meg Brown (imegbrown@gmail.com) to be added to the list and for information about these PW-sponsored Bible studies: Horizons Bible study (monthly), "Evenings with Jenna" (monthly), and William Barclay Commentary study (weekly).

The Men's Study Group meets on the first and third Friday mornings, 8:30–9:30 a.m., in the Curtis Room for coffee, study, and conversation. All meetings are hybrid with both in-person gatherings as well as via Zoom. All men are welcome! Questions? Contact Rev. Jay Sanderford, jsanderford@firstpresbyterian.org.

Journeys Bible Study is a women's group that meets via Zoom on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A Resident Minister facilitates the discussion on a rotating basis. Contact Coordinator, Beth Gerwig, at bgerwig@comcast.net for more information.



A Youth Sunday Thank You: A special thank you to all our youth and families for joining us and leading us in worship this morning. We also want to give a special shout out to our Minister of Music and Fine Arts, Dave VanderMeer, for working with our youth choir and youth bells, as well as Rev. Hannah Lundberg, who worked with our youth speakers.

First Pres Youth Ministries: We hope to invite, encourage, lead, and cultivate space for youth to grow in community and connection to God and one another. We seek to provide inclusive, safe spaces where youth feel accepted and loved no matter what. We do this by creating opportunities for members of our community to share space with youth using stories as a way of growing in our discipleship and empathy as we create room for identity formation. We open ourselves to be curious and imaginative as we ask questions of God, our sacred stores, our faith, and the world. For more information, contact Rev. Mark Mares, Minister of Youth and Families.

Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist / Pianist
Rev. Megan Berry
Resident Minister
Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse
David Hufford
Organist
Rev. Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister
Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families
Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries
Stacey Pakela
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Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director
Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Associate Pastor
Rev. Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor
Beca Torres-Davenport
Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry
David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts

✝ Rev. Matthew J. Warfield
Resident Minister (In Memoriam)

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First Presbyterian Church Ann Arbor
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