

Journeying on the Path to the Cross

First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

4th Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

10:45 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude

Violin Concerto in A Minor
Allegro moderato and Andante
Rachel Ostler, violin

Bach

Introit

Kyrie/Lord, Have Mercy

Brumm

Call to Worship

The psalmist reminds us that God's constant love reaches to the heavens, and faithfulness extends to the skies.

God's righteousness towers like the mountains, and justice is deeper than the sea.

All find protection under the shadow of God's wings.

We feast on the abundance God provides.

God is the source of all life, and in God's light, we see light.

Therefore, with humility and joy,

Come, let us worship God!

*Hymn 410

God Is Calling through the Whisper

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

Call to Reconciliation

Silence is kept.

Prayer of Confession

O God, in your goodness, you defend the weak and uphold the cause of the poor. In our unholy carelessness, we let the poor struggle on their own, not seeing them, not caring about them, seldom asking about them. O God, friend of the helpless, you sent Jesus to "proclaim good news to the poor." But we care much more about those who already have enough and ignore those who lack even the simplest essentials of life. Convict and correct us, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

..... God's grace abounds beyond the heavens. Friends, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Song of Praise

What Wondrous Love Is This

*The Peace
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
(Before sitting, please greet those around you with words of Christ's peace.)

Words of Welcome
Please sign the black friendship pad and pass to others in your pew.
Children are welcome to participate in the Children in Worship program.

Walking the Path The Reverend Theo Gill

Response *Lamb of God*

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Deuteronomy 15: 1-11 (pp. 171-172)

Psalm Psalm 36

Second Lesson Matthew 26: 1-16 (pp. 29-30)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Jesus and the Poor People's Campaign* The Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis

*Hymn 345 *In an Age of Twisted Values* CHURCH UNITED

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Building the Lenten Cairn

*Affirmation of Faith From Confession of 1967

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as a man involves the church in the common life of humanity. His service to humanity commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of humankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of humans in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on inhumanity and the awful consequences of complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of humanity's life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

The Offering
Offertory Anthem *Out of the Depths* Frost
Rachel Ostler, violin

*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 Thanksgiving
God of Life, we bless you for all your many gifts to us. We return these gifts as a token of our gratitude, longing for the conviction and strength to offer our whole lives to your service. Amen.

Bible Study: Mid-week Bible study has resumed and is now being held on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. in the Miller Gathering Hall. Bring your Bible and gather with others for a time of study and discussion. For more information, contact Ralph Jones.

Sunday Church Parking: Please remember that our small church lot is reserved on Sunday morning for those with limited mobility. For everyone else, there is plenty of parking on Whitney Avenue, Huntington Street, the front lawn (weather permitting) or the Worthington Hooker School lot across the street.

Third Thursday Potluck March 15th @ 6:30 p.m.: All are welcome for dinner at the Manse! Pastor JC and Heather will provide the main dish and you can bring a side dish, dessert or beverage to share. The Manse is located at 724 Whitney Ave., next door to the church.

Ending Gun Violence/March for Our Lives on March 24: Kids and families will take to the streets to demand that their lives and safety become a priority and that we end gun violence and mass shootings in our schools today. There are two opportunities at First Pres to support this demonstration to end gun violence.

Friday, March 23 @ 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in marching or supporting those who can, come to the church for a **poster-making party**. We'll order pizzas, make posters and organize ourselves to march. People of all ages welcome - especially children!

Saturday, March 24 @12:30.p.m. We will march in Hartford with sisters and brothers from across the state, starting at the north side of the Corning Fountain to arrive at the Capitol at 1:00 pm, at which time the rally will begin and last until 3 p.m.

Upcycling; Donate Your Used Jeans, Flannel, and Fleece: As part of our ongoing studies of stewardship of the earth and ethical labor, we're exploring practical ways to Reduce and Reuse materials. During the season of Lent, our Youth Group will collect denim, flannel, and fleece that might not otherwise be re-sellable. We hope to upcycle them into some crafty projects – like DIY bean bag chairs or floor cushions for the Children in Worship program.

Please do NOT buy new items to contribute to this drive. We only wish to receive items that are currently sitting in Mending Purgatory or in a similar circumstances. You'll find our box marked for donations in the Copeland Room.

Columbus House Homeless Shelter: Seeking a few good people to cook and/or serve and/or provide donations for dinner the first Saturday during the months of April or May. It only takes a couple hours of your time early in the evening but it's wonderful way to do your bit for mission. New to the church or haven't participated before? Speak to Pat Wales after service or e-mail her (patwales@att.net). Thanks for helping out...the guests will be very grateful.

Volunteers needed for a little work and little fun. Yes, we do need volunteers to help usher for Sunday worship, and to host after-worship Friendship Hour. Both are very easy tasks and a great way to meet new people. Signup sheets are on the Welcome Table. If you're unsure about how to do the task, ask any of the Welcome Table Hosts for more info.

Food Donations for Needy: Pick up an extra item at the grocery store to help fill the green wheelbarrow in the Copeland Room. At the end of each month the food is delivered to Christian Community Action's emergency food pantry. These are the items most in demand at CCA's food pantry: Top: white (not brown) rice, cereal, canned fruit (fresh fruit on last Sunday of the month), peanut butter and jams/jellies. Secondary: macaroni & cheese, pasta (not whole wheat), tomato sauces, canned/dry beans, ground/instant coffee, sugar, oils for cooking, cake mixes. Note that they do NOT need canned *green* vegetables.

Easter Flowers!

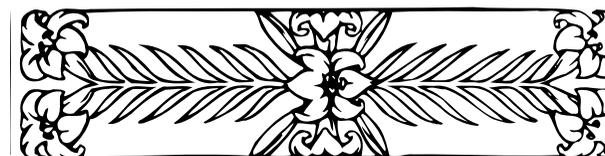
Orders for Easter flowers are now being accepted by the church office. The cost is \$15 each. Plants may be taken home after worship on Easter morning, or given to the church to be planted outside or given to homebound members. Please leave this form with a check in the offering plate or send to church office by March 18th.

Donated by: _____

_____ In memory of

_____ In thanksgiving for

_____ I would like to take the plant home



In nothing be anxious; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. (Philippians 4:6)

When you pray, offer prayers for ...

Our country and its leaders.

Church members and friends who seek God's healing grace, including Ken Haynam, at Benchmark Senior Living in Hamden.

For Jeff Miller, David Miller's brother, who is recovering from surgery.

For Ed Miller, David Miller's father, who is recovering at home after a heart attack.

For Nancy, Lynn Autry's room-mate, who is recovering from surgery.

Prayers for those who mourn or are victims of gun violence.

Prayers for the young people who seek change.

Prayers for Nelson Pinos Gonzalez and Sujitno Sajuti, our immigrant neighbors who are in local sanctuary churches.

Prayers for people who are homeless.

James Smit and Patrick Copeland, who are serving in the armed forces.

Those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis.

Prayers for other people and situations in need of our supplications.

This Week

Sunday, March 11	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	9:30 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	11:50 p.m.	Lenten Communion
	11:55 a.m.	Friendship Hour
	1:00 p.m.	Discussion with Liz Theoharis
Tuesday, March 13	6:30 p.m.	Worship Committee
	7:15 p.m.	Mission Committee
Wednesday, March 14	2:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, March 15	6:30 p.m.	3rd Thursday Potluck at Manse
Saturday, March 17	9:30 a.m.	Women's AA
Sunday, March 18	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:00 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	10:45 a.m.	Worship
	11:50 p.m.	Lenten Communion
	11:55 a.m.	Friendship Hour

The Session of First Presbyterian Church

Class of 2018

Gary Cline

John Dinkler

Phillip Phiri

Robert Williams

Class of 2019

Lucy Ambach

Rona Johnston

Fiona Scott Morton

Mary Porterfield

Class of 2020

Sue Balakrishnan

Jennifer Ballew

Jennifer Herbst

Timothy McConnell

Clerk

Tim McCloskey

Treasurer

Mike Spicer

First Presbyterian Church of New Haven is a More Light Congregation and part of Presbyterian Promise. Both organizations are dedicated to the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning individuals.

The Staff of First Presbyterian Church

Pastor:

The Reverend J. C. Cadwallader

Music Director:

Patrick McCreless

Church Administrator:

Martha Smith

Christian Educator:

Kimberley Fais

Nursery Care Provider:

Emily Landino

The church office welcomes your announcements and prayer requests for the bulletin. Please send the copy to firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com by Tuesday before noon to be included in the Sunday Bulletin.

Please remember that parking is available at the Hooker School on Sunday mornings when lawn or street parking is unavailable.

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First Presbyterian Church of New Haven
704 Whitney Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

phone: (203) 562-5664

www.fpcnh.org

firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com