



Journeying on the Path to the Cross

First Presbyterian Church

New Haven, Connecticut

5th Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2018

10:45 a.m.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

Prelude	<i>Largo, from Piano Sonata in B Minor, Op. 58</i>	Chopin
Introit	<i>Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather</i>	Japanese Melody

Call to Worship

Loving God, we come to you in worship and thanksgiving.

You are greater than we can understand;

Open our eyes that we may see the wonderful truths you have shown to us in Jesus.

You are more loving than our hearts can respond to;

Help us to give of ourselves to you in worship so that we learn what you want us to be.

You are wiser than we can know;

Still our minds as we worship you, so that we can understand the things you are saying to us.

Loving God, in Jesus you chose to come to the world in humility.

You chose the path the world saw as foolish. You used what the world considered weak.

We worship and adore you, Loving God. Amen.

*Hymn 31

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

MONKLAND

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.)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Scripture Reading Matthew 19:13-15 (p. 21)

Recalling the Meaning of Baptism

Obedying the Word of God and confident of God’s promises, we baptize those whom God has called.

In baptism, God claims us and seals us to show that we belong to God. God frees us from sin and death, uniting us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.

By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the church, the Body of Christ, and are joined in Christ’s ministry of love, peace, and justice.

In this sacrament, the love of God is offered to each one of us. Though we cannot fully understand it or explain it, we are called to accept that love with the openness and trust of a child.

In baptism, Fenner is assured of the love that God has for him, and the sign and seal of the Holy Spirit is placed upon him.

Commitments to God’s Covenant

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sacrament of Baptism

*Hymn 188 *Jesus Loves Me* JESUS LOVES ME

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 Lucy Fales Evans

Response *Lamb of God*

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 55: 1-9 (pp. 685-686)

Psalm (read responsively) Psalm 146

Praise God, O my soul!

I will praise God as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in royalty, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Most High their God, **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;**

who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry; who sets the prisoners free.

God opens the eyes of those who cannot see; lifts up those who are bowed down, and loves the righteous.

God watches over the stranger and upholds the orphan and the widow, but brings the way of the wicked to ruin.

God will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise God!

Second Lesson John 19: 1-16a (p. 113)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon *Politics and Prose* The Rev. J. C. Cadwallader

*Hymn 209 *My Song Is Love Unknown* LOVE UNKNOWN

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*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.

Building the Lenten Cairn

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Agnus Dei, from *Missa dixit Maria*

Hassler

*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

Use these gifts we offer to you, O God, and show us the way to fullness of life. Through our stewardship of your good gifts, fill our hearts with joy, hope and peace; help us to respond to opportunities to serve and strengthen us to face challenges. Help us to become the church you call us to be. In your Beloved Son's name we pray. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's 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.

*Hymn 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

*Benediction

Postlude

Sonata in E Major, K. 380

Scarlatti

*Those who prefer to do so may remain seated.



Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church of New Haven. We are glad you are here. We seek to be a warm and welcoming community of Christian people. If you are new to this congregation, please introduce yourself to others sitting around you, and to the pastor, so that we may welcome you personally. During the Words of Welcome, add your name to the Friendship Pad. Please plan to stay for the lunch following the service.

Participating in worship leadership this morning are:

Liturgist: Mary Webber

Ushers: Sue Asher, Jane Hindenlang

Friendship Hour Hosts: The Gulden Family, Lucy Ambach

We welcome Thomas Allen as our guest music leader this morning. Thomas is a graduate of the Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music in Piano Performance, with an Outside Field in Russian Music. He teaches piano at the Neighborhood Music School, composes, and studies orchestral conducting with Toshiyuki Shimada, conductor of the Yale Symphony Orchestra.

The Reverend J.C. Cadwallader may be reached at her email: PastorJC@fpcnh.org or the church phone (203) 562-5664. Mondays are her day off.

Nursery care is provided each morning in the Owens Community Building nursery. Infants and children are also welcome in the service and encouraged to participate fully in worship. A rocking chair is available nearby in the Copeland Room, and bulletins for ages 3-6 and 7-12 are found at the entrance.

Fenner Crist Gulden is presented for the Sacrament of Baptism this morning. He is the son of Cassie and Forrest and brother to siblings Dahlia and Linnea. Welcome Fenn!

Building the Lenten Cairn: A stone is provided for you each Sunday to build your own cairn through the course of the Lenten Season. You are invited to build it in a place where you need it. Consider where you need to be reminded most of the direction God is leading you and build your cairn there. It might be here in this church—find a place important to you and build it there. It might be in your home, at work, in our garden, at your bus stop. Wherever it is that it would be helpful for you to have the reminder that you are on a path, and God is with you—build your cairn there.

Lenten Communion: Each Sunday during Lent, communion will be shared in the sanctuary. The Reverend Theo Gill will preside this morning following the worship service's postlude.

All Ages Palm Sunday Celebration next Sunday at 9:30 a.m.: Join us in the Gathering Hall on March 25th. Regular youth and adult Sunday School programming will be replaced with an hour of Intergenerational Activities celebrating Palm Sunday. We'll begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. with parachute games and then have the rest of the hour for a variety of crafts.

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.

The One Great Hour of Giving special offering will be collected next week, on Palm Sunday.

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.

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 a 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.

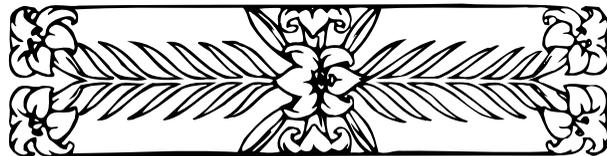
Volunteers needed for ushering and friendship hour hosting. These are very easy tasks and a great way to meet new people. Signup sheets are on the Welcome Table. We especially need ushers for Palm Sunday and Easter. If you're unsure about how to do the task, ask any of the Welcome Table Hosts for more 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!

TODAY is the Deadline for orders for Easter flowers to be 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 the church office (firstpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com).

Donated by:	
	In memory of
	In thanksgiving for
	I would like to take the plant home



<p>Holy Week Worship</p> <p>Palm Sunday, March 25th at 10:45 a.m. Maundy Thursday, March 29th at 6:30 p.m. Good Friday, March 30th at 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>Easter Sunrise, April 1st at 6:30 a.m. at East Rock Park Easter Sunday, April 1st at 10:45 a.m.</p>

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 friends and family of Barbara Cluse, Betsy Mussmann’s cousin, who passed away this week.

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 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
Tuesday, March 20	7:15 p.m.	Session
Wednesday, March 21	2:00 p.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Survivors of Homicide
Friday, March 22	6:30 p.m.	Poster-Making and Pizza
Saturday, March 24	9:30 a.m.	Women’s AA
	12:30 p.m.	March for Our Lives in Hartford
Sunday, March 25	9:30 a.m.	Intergenerational Palm Sunday Celebration
	9:30 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 Phillip Phiri	John Dinkler Robert Williams
Class of 2019	Lucy Ambach Fiona Scott Morton	Rona Johnston Mary Porterfield
Class of 2020	Sue Balakrishnan Jennifer Herbst	Jennifer Ballew 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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