

Welcome to Worship at The First Presbyterian Church
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments at “Coffee Hour” in the
Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

5th Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2018 10:30 A.M.

THE APPROACH

PRELUDE

“Es is das Heil uns Kommen Her”
(Salvation Now Has Come to Us)

Anon.
Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign the red “friendship pads” found at the end of each pew by the center aisle. Note the names of those worshipping around you as you pass the pad back. We encourage you to greet each other after the service.)

INTROIT

“I was glad when they said unto me” **Donovan Klotzbeacher**
(Ps. 122: 1) **The Chorale**

CALL TO WORSHIP

4th & 5th Grade Sunday School Class

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in love.
The Lord makes a new covenant with us.
We are God’s people; the Lord is our God.
Let us worship God.

HYMN #101 (Hymnal)* *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)*

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. You write your law in our hearts, yet we pretend we do not know you. You lifted up Christ for all to see, yet we turn away from your glory. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to delight in your way, to seek you with all our hearts, and to trust in your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*
HYMN #579 (Hymnal)*
THE PEACE*

“Gloria Patri”

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Daune Arsnow

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51: 1-12

Emily Ellsworth
Pew Bible pg. 520

ANTHEM

“The Lord is Just”
(Ps. 145: 17-21)

Donovan Klotzbeacher
The Chorale

SCRIPTURE

John 12: 20-33

Pew Bible pgs. 106-107

SERMON

“Lift High the Cross”

Dr. Louis Mitchell

THE RESPONSE

HYMN #371 (Hymnal)*

“Lift High the Cross”

LITANY FOR LENT AND PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Because temptation is woven into the fabric of our lives, and we know the weariness of forty days in the desert, and the beckoning power of constant activity, and the vain promises of achievement,

God, we turn to you for rest, so we may lay our burdens down.

Because we still see the broken before the whole, and the half empty cup, and the unfinished task, and the thirst for freedom,

God, we turn to you for healing, so we may be made whole.

Because we trust in what we can see, and we are blinded by our prejudices, and we will not admit what we do not know,

God, we turn to you for truth, so we may stop pretending.

Because our need to be right exceeds our need for truth, and our excuses preempt the cry of the wounded, and our celebration of blessing is mindless of those who go without,

God, we turn to you for compassion, so we may join your community of caring.

Because you came among us in Jesus, and breathe life into our souls, and reach out a hand to heal our pain, and take up the cross, that we might be made new, and the world made new through us,

God, we turn to you for hope, so that we may claim the new life you offer each of us through Christ.

Because the cross is not the end of the story; as Easter dawns, Christ is alive with the power of your self-giving love.

God, you are the source of light, hope, and resurrection, in this Lenten season and in every season.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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 GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory	<i>"Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ"</i>	Anton Neunhaber
	<i>(I call to thee, Lord Jesus Christ)</i>	Organ

Hymn #592 (Hymnal)*	<i>"Doxology"</i>
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Prayer of Dedication*

HYMN #102 (Hymnal)*	<i>"Were You There?"</i>
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RESPONSE*	<i>Choral Amen</i>
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The Chorale

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE*	<i>"Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir"</i>	Johann Gottfried Walther
	<i>(Lord God, we all do praise thee)</i>	Organ

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors! We hope you will find a warm welcome here. We invite you to consider membership in our church family. Please speak to our Greeter or Pastors after worship for more information; or if you would like to be contacted, please provide us with your address and/or email address in the red “friendship pad”.

Worship Bags, Children’s Bulletins & Coloring Pages! All three are available in the narthex, and are offered with the hope that children who want to will be able to worship alongside the whole church family.

Hearing devices are available for your convenience in the Narthex.

Coffee Hour today is hosted by our 4th & 5th Grade Sunday School Class!

Head Usher is Alan Danser.

Greeter is Jack Britton/Heidi Knowlton.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Church members with special prayer concerns: Betty Borgeson; Bill Chermak; Robert Dyke; Paul Furchak; Judson Hagerty; Lucille Kirkenir; Beatrice Mabutho; Charlie Patterson; Marie Perrine; Russ & Cheryl Richardson; Wilma Shimer; Diane Smith; and Ina Zimmer.

Family and Friends of Church Members for whom prayers are asked: CPNS family, baby Nicholas & family; Pat Demers’ husband, Bob; Helen Dickerson’s mother, Martha & brother, Clifford; Linda Ferguson’s sister, Patty & daughter-in-law, Kristin; Joan & Gordon Fraser's friend, Joe; Patricia Grasso’s mother, Eileen & friends, Barbara, Joanne & Debbie; Fritz & Mary Jane Hager’s daughter-in-law, Liz; Dorothy Klotzbeacher’s ex-husband, Rev. John Maltby & son-in-law, Bob; Beatrice Mabutho’s sister, Phyllis, brother-in-law, Joe & niece, Diana; and Agnes Winchell’s sister, Aniko.

We pray for all people who are in need in our wider community and please remember family and friends in our nation’s service. Members of our church family are encouraged to make prayer requests for relatives serving in our armed services, most especially those serving in harm’s way.

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer concern, please call the church office at (609)395-0897 or email Doris Wiegartner at doriswieg@aol.com. If you would like to become part of the “chain” of church members, who pray daily with and for people with a particular need, please call the church office.

Prayer requests in the bulletin: In order to keep the prayer request list up to date, we will print the names of friends and family of church members who have prayer requests for one month. After that time you may call the church office to have a name reappear on the prayer list.

Please be sure to **sign** the “**Pipeline to Session**” cards found in the pews if you have any questions/concerns for the Session. This is a great way to give “kudos” as well!

Birthday of Distinction: Mary Jane Hager on March 25. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday School: Gathering Time from 9:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and Sunday School from 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Mark your calendars for our next Celebration Sunday, March 25 from 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.! It's a Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt!

Youth Group – Sunday Nights: Middle School meets from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and High School meets from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Yardsale! The Youth Group is participating in the town-wide yard sale on Saturday, April 28, and would graciously accept any items you'd like to donate to their cause starting April 1. So clean out your closets and your basements, and bring donated items (that you think will sell) to the church in April. Please organize drop-offs with Pastor Hannah ahead of time. Proceeds will support their Summer Mission Trips to New York City and Lorain County, Ohio.

Lenten Bible Study: Adults, join us Wednesday night, March 21, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. for a Lenten Bible Study. We will study the Scripture for Sunday's sermon.

This month's Book Club meets on March 26: Join us from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Room 1. We will be discussing *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Save the Date

Annual Pancake Breakfast on April 8: Please join us in Fellowship Hall for an all church Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 8, before worship from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.



Coffee Hour Host(s) NEEDED! Please sign-up in the Fellowship Hall if you are interested. If you have any questions, please contact Fran Stewart at (609)395-7159 or email her at frannymag58@aol.com.

CPNS

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year has begun. As you begin to research your options for a preschool for your child, please consider CPNS. Please call Janice Parker at (609)655-8663 or email her at CPNSchool@comcast.net for more information. Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about our developmentally appropriate academic Christian preschool. We don't want anyone to miss the opportunity to give their children the strongest foundation for their child's academic success.

We are preparing for our Easter Parades that will take place on Wednesday, March 28 at 11:00 am and on Thursday, March 29 at 11:00 am and 2:30 pm in our sanctuary. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us.

DEACONS

At coffee hour this morning, the Deacons will be selling beautiful spring mugs (designed by Ginny Swanagan) and pillows. All items are \$12.00 each. The proceeds from their sale will benefit the Deacons Benevolence Fund.

MISSION, SERVICE & GRANTS

One Great Hour of Sharing: Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to individuals and communities in need.

Special offering envelopes are in the pews, in the narthex and in the church office for you to use to make a generous contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing. The offering will be collected **Palm Sunday, March 25** or contributions may be made online: www.presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs.

Please support our denomination. One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. Thank you for giving generously! Anne Gordon

OTHER NEWS

Springtime at Johnsonburg! Come see and experience the natural beauty of this place, set apart by God. Johnsonburg is yours to enjoy!

The **Women's Spring Retreat**, scheduled for April 20-22 promises to be a fun weekend of fellowship with other women with engaged worship, small group discussions, hiking, boating, zip line, delicious meals, massage, campfire, starwatching and lots of laughter. Lodges are furnished with new comfy mattresses (Tempur-pedic, no less) and fresh bedlinens.

Retreat fee is \$160 per person; private rooms are available for \$180. For more information and to register online visit www.campjburg.org.

Spruce Up Day, scheduled for Saturday, April 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., is a fun filled day of service! Put your faith in action, meet new people, and work with others as you assist the camp staff in preparing the facilities for summer. There is a job for every age and ability. Lunch is included. More information about projects and what to bring will be provided when you register at www.campjburg.org.

Contact Anne Gordon for carpooling options at (609) 409-7885 or agordon321@outlook.com.

2018 Summer Camp Brochures are available now from Pastor Hannah or register your child for summer camp on the Johnsonburg website at www.campjburg.org.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Lenten Challenge: You cannot do a kindness too soon for you never know how soon it will be too late. Don't let the sunset any day without doing a small kindness.

SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

Senior Exercise Schedule: March 19, March 22, March 26 and March 29

Senior Fellowship: We have a wonderful group and hope to see you at one of our programs. If you are interested in our schedule of programs or in joining one of our exercise classes, please call the church office at (609)395-0897 and we will have someone call you.

Senior Breakfast: Please join us for Senior Breakfast Club on **Thursday, March 22** at 8:30 a.m. at The Cranbury Inn. This month, Fritz Hager, will present "Antarctica: The Past, Present and Future of this Unique Continent". You won't want to miss this interesting presentation!

The Senior Breakfast Club is open to all who wish to hear these events at our Thursday, once-a-month breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at the Cranbury Inn. If you wish to attend, and have not done so before, please notify the church office at (609)395-0897 so that we can contact you. We need to notify the Cranbury Inn with the number of guests that will attend. The cost of breakfast is \$6 payable at the Inn. For information, contact Walter Wright at (609)655-6864.

SMALL GROUPS

Prayer Shawl Group (Knitters and Crocheters): Prayer shawls have been made for centuries. They comfort and enfold; wrap and warm; mother and hug; shelter and embrace. Those who knit and those who receive shawls are blessed.

We are getting together to organize a Prayer Shawl Group here at The First Presbyterian Church. We will have an initial meeting on **Thursday, March 22**, at 10:30 a.m. in Room 1. Come out and join others who like to knit and crochet. We can enjoy our handiwork and good fellowship while reaching out to those who may be comforted by receiving our shawls.

Don't knit? Don't crochet? Want to learn? We will have instructors there for you! Try it—you'll like it! You don't have to bring anything—we will have needles, etc. for you to use to get started. (Actually, we need a crochet instructor—let me know if you can help that day.) If you have any questions, please call Doris at (609)395-7099.

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Counting Teams: 3/18 (Team #2) – 3/25 (Team #3)

	Month Ended 2/28/18
YTD Offerings	\$81,896
YTD Expenses	\$81,475
YTD Net Income/(Loss)	\$421
YTD Per Capita	\$1,576 (7% of \$21,978)

Per Capita Message: Commit yourself to work and live in fellowship with “all persons in every nation.”

Per capita exists to allow the whole church to share equitably in those things that make us Presbyterian:

◆ Connectedness ◆ Governance ◆ Theological Identity ◆ Inter-faith Connections

Please consider contributing your per capita of \$37/member!

WORSHIP

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018

9:00 a.m. Celebration Sunday and Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 a.m. Worship Service and Children’s Palm Parade

Maundy Thursday, March 29, 2018

7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Tenebrae and Communion Service

Good Friday, March 30, 2018

12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Prayer and Meditation

2:30 p.m. Good Friday Service

Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service – Church Courtyard

No Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Easter Worship and Communion Service



Lay Readers Needed: We are looking for lay readers for now through June 2018. We welcome new readers to join our team, and would be happy to see your name for one or two Sundays on the sign-up sheet which may be found on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Ushers Needed: We have a number of vacancies to fill on our Ushering Guild. All ages are welcome to participate! If you are interested in joining our ushering team, please contact Heidi Knowlton at (609)480-1976 or email her at cabotk@comcast.net.

OUR WEEKLY CALENDAR

March 18, 2018 (Fifth Sunday of Lent)

9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship followed by coffee hour
11:45a Library Committee (Lib)
2p Confirmation Retreat Returns (VAN)
5p-6:30p Middle School Yth Grp (Yth Rm)
6:30p-8p High School Yth Grp (Yth Rm)
7p-8p Boy Scouts (FH)

March 19, 2018

10:00a Senior Exercise
7:00p Brass Choir
8:00p Al-Anon (McK Rm)

March 20, 2018

9:00a Bulletin Material Due
9:30a Staff Mtg
3:30p Children's Choir
7:30p AA (McK Rm)
7:30p Session Mtg (Lib)

March 21, 2018

7:00p Bell Choir
7:00p-8:30p Lenten Bible Study - Library

March 22, 2018

8:30a Sr. Breakfast Club at the Cranbury Inn
10:00a Senior Exercise
10:30a-12:30p Prayer Shawl Mtg (Rm 1)
7:30p B&G Procedure Manual Mtg (Lib)
7:30p The Chorale

March 23, 2018

9:00a Bulletin Assembly (Church Office)
3:30p Easter Egg Prep

March 24, 2018

12:00p-2:00p Easter Egg Prep/Decorate (All areas)

March 25, 2018 (Palm Sunday)

9:15a Celebration Sunday/Easter Egg Hunt
10:30a Worship with Palm Parade followed by coffee hour
2:30-4:30p High School Yth Grp (VAN)
5p-6:30p Middle School Yth Grp (Yth Rm)
5:30p-7p Boy Scouts Blue & Gold Night (FH)