

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020



Order of Worship

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE *We Praise Thee, Lord Jesus Christ* J. S. Bach

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP Adapted from Sanctified Art

We have been in the wilderness –

Discerning and working, seeing and dreaming.

Grieving and wondering, praying and hoping.

Longing and running, creating and waiting.

We have been in the wilderness, but we have not been alone;
for God walks with us every step of the way. So let us worship
the God of our darkest nights and our brightest days. Let us
worship the living God!

✦ HYMN 664 *Morning Has Broken*

✦ CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ PRAYER OF CONFESSION Sanctified Art

Gracious God, you invite us to plant a garden of love, but we
grow weeds of prejudice and hatred. You invite us to sow joy
and gratitude, but we scatter seeds of greed and envy. You
call us to tend the soil of fear and denial, but instead we close
our eyes and let the earth suffer. Forgive us. You invite us to
plant a garden, and we lost ourselves in the wilderness. Clear
our hearts. Breathe life into these weary bones and grant us a
fresh start. Amen.

✦ KYRIE Gabriel Fauré

***Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison, eleison, eleison.***

✦ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

✦ THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 37:1-14

ANTHEM *When Peace Like A River* (Hymn 840, VILLE DU HAVRE)

THE WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

There is also a special pre-recorded message for children under Worship Resources on our website. Check it out!

GOSPEL READING

John 11:1-45

SERMON

Rev. Neeley Lane

Wilderness Wanderings:

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

♠HYMN 610 (stanzas 1-3) *O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON

♠AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *Sanctified Art*

We believe in a wilderness God—

Who breathed life into dust, turned seeds into flowers,
and flooded the sky with stars.

Who went hungry in the desert, walked barefoot on the
water, and taught from the mountainside.

Whose love could be described as nothing short of wild.

So with confidence and hope, we long to follow our wilderness God who
walks with people on their darkest nights, Who sings hope into places of
grief, isolation, and suffering, and who exists in the form of untamed joy,
wildfire love, and impossible hope. Step by step, may it be so. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

THE OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, who gives life to dry and empty bones, use these gifts of our offering
to spring forth your transformative and redeeming love. May our tithes, our
offerings, our labor, our gifts, our very selves bring life to the hurting, the
lamenting, the crying, and the broken on this wilderness road. Unbind us to
go forth proclaiming the good news of the gospel through our time, talents,
and tender care for one another. May it be so. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

♠HYMN 157 (stanzas 1-3) *I Danced in the Morning* LORD OF THE DANCE

♠CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Like a River Glorious

James Mountain

Giving

During this season the church is continuing to operate, though in modified ways. But we need your help by continuing to give to the church.

You may continue to give by mailing checks to the church, dropping your offering in our mailbox (open the box and drop it in, then close the box. This box can only be accessed by a key) or by giving on-line.

To use Realm visit <https://tinyurl.com/fpcgiving>

1. Log-in with your email and password
 2. When your page opens click on "Giving" on the left-side menu
 3. At the top click on +giving tab
 4. Fill out form with amount and fund (you can change it to any fund by clicking on the menu arrow)
 5. If you pledge you need it to say "2020 pledge"; or non-pledge or other fund
 6. Click continue when you've filled out that page;
 7. On the next page you can choose a credit card or bank; continue to put in account information
- After you complete that the program leads you into clicking through the process and then "finish"

Call the church office if you need help. If you've never set up a Realm account (or forgotten your password), Peni can send you a link to do that. Be sure after you've entered your log-in information to save the page to your favorites so you can click on it to go back to the site when you want to access it again.

The FPC Realm page has a specific URL; you can't get to it by going to "Realm".

Giving by Text: Text **FPCCOV** to **73256** to give using your text messaging. If you made a pledge for 2020, choose "2020 Pledge" as the fund. Then the system will walk you through entering your bank or credit card information. Standard text message rates do apply. If you did not make a pledge you can choose another fund such as "Non-pledge"; or "Flowers-all", etc. There is a drop-down menu you can scroll through to choose a fund.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

- ◆ Karen Moss-breast cancer
- ◆ Warren Liem-home, recovering from broken hip with home rehab
- ◆ Chris Martin-recovering from cataract surgery
- ◆ Tricia Hinton-recovering at home
- ◆ Natalie Phillips-for thyroid cancer
- ◆ Carter Mackenzie-neck injury (son of Julie & Jeff Mackenzie)
- ◆ Olaava Mackenzie-stranded in Thailand due to the Corona virus situation (daughter of Jeff & Julie Mackenzie)
- ◆ Richard Juliano-surgery (friend of Jeff Mackenzie)
- ◆ Miles Bryant-family concerns (son of John and Nancy Bryant, friend of the Liems)
- ◆ Roger Tingler-hip surgery
- ◆ Tom Bass-cancer treatment & dialysis (friend of Beth & Danny Vining)
- ◆ Martha Daddario-kidney surgery (friend of Jeff & Julie Mackenzie)
- ◆ Brenda Howell-breast cancer treatment
- ◆ Anderson Krieger-return of leukemia
- ◆ Denny Dobbs-knee surgery
- ◆ Noah Hicks-recovering from knee surgery
- ◆ Wilford Reed-daughter was in car accident; his brother has age-related issues (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
- ◆ Denise Vining-recovering from kidney transplant (she is Danny & Beth Vining's niece)

- ◆ Julia Jones-recovering from cancer surgery (friend of the Carmichaels and the Boltions)
- ◆ Karen Lein Kaasa-cardiac bypass (sister-in-law of Julie MacKenzie)
- ◆ Bob Darby-kidney problems (friend of Jeff MacKenzie)
- ◆ Bill Miller-vascular dementia (brother of Beth Vining)
- ◆ Joyce Williams-Alzheimer's (sister of Danny Vining)
- ◆ Peter Milner-cancer (nephew of Day & Larry Kennon)
- ◆ Larri Harris-melanoma treatment (friend of Susan Boteler)
- ◆ Angela Gregory-cancer treatment, in Scotland (sister of Dave Gregory)
- ◆ Robby Ashworth-treatment for brain tumor
- ◆ Matt Cooper-CPD officer at home but still recovering
- ◆ Brandon Massey-blood cancer (grandson of Chuck and Sherry Brasher)
- ◆ Carol Baynes-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)
- ◆ Robin McKeown-cancer (friend of Phyllis Yoder)
- ◆ Sophia Hawley-cystic fibrosis

Independent and Assisted Living

- ◆ Penny Blakeney-home
- ◆ Julia Brubaker-Benton House
- ◆ Maxine Blankenship-The Oaks
- ◆ Jean Elder-The Oaks
- ◆ Patti Borders-Merryvale
- ◆ Dot Fincher-Merryvale
- ◆ Guy McGiboney-Merryvale
- ◆ Betty Robinson-Merryvale
- ◆ Louise White-Merryvale
- ◆ Roger Wallace-Merryvale
- ◆ Jerry McGaffney-Merryvale

Worship Notes

- ◆ Recordings of Sunday sermons can be accessed on the church website: www.fpccov.org.
- ◆ Music and hymns printed in our bulletins are covered by licenses authorizing their use. Licenses are from: CCLI #11379886 and One License # A-728738.

THANKS TO THOSE SERVING US TODAY

We give thanks for those who have volunteered to serve by providing technical assistance with broadcasting the worship service.

Ongoing Activities in the Life of the Church

<i>This Week at FPC</i>	
Sunday, March 29 - Lent 5 11:00 Worship Service (live streamed)	Sunday, April 5 - Palm Sunday 11:00 Worship Service (live streamed)

Christian Education Offerings

We continue to value Christian Education as a community. We have created a link on the homepage of our website to provide opportunities for all ages.

For Children: Check out a special video from Dan and Perri!

For Youth: We're gathering on Zoom Sunday at noon. The link is on the website.

For Adults: Resources are provided on the spiritual discipline of Stewardship.

Other Ways to Connect During the Week

Story Time with Kimmy on Facebook Live Wednesdays and Fridays at 1:00pm.

Lenten Reflections from Neeley will be on Facebook and on the website by 4:00pm Tuesday and Thursdays.

You're invited to leave your comments on Facebook.

Family Care Shoppers

We recognize many of our members are fearful of going out in public during this time. Therefore, some church members have volunteered to be your personal care shopper. If you are in need of food and/or other household items please contact Neeley and we will get what you need on your doorstep.

If you are willing to join the shoppers in shopping/distribution, please let Neeley know.

Volunteer with the First United Methodist Food Pantry

The Food Pantry at First United Methodist is in need of volunteers. Please see the weekly e-news for specific instructions about who can volunteer.

Interested in Joining the Church?

If you're interested in joining the FPC church family, you are welcome to reach out to Neeley. You can enjoy coffee together and discuss what it means to become a member.

By email: neeley@fpc cov.org; By phone: 770-786-7321, ext. 2

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF			
Neeley Rentz Lane	<i>Senior Pastor</i>	Alice Walker	CAGO, AAGO
Kimmy Briggs	<i>Director of</i>		<i>Organist/Ambassador Choir</i>
	<i>Family Ministries</i>	Jenny Giles and Danielle Schubert	
Peni Kehoe	<i>Church Administrator</i>		<i>Nursery</i>
Krista Firkus	<i>Music Director</i>	Darlene Alley	<i>Director of the</i>
			<i>Early Learning Center</i>



Witness and Easter Lilies

As the church is closed, we suggest that you mail your check, give through our Realm portal (choose "Flowers" for the fund) or drop your check in the mail box outside the church office entrance. You may send an email to Peni in the office with your "in memory" or "in honor" names to: admin@fpccov.org.

If you would like to make a donation this Easter to honor or memorialize a loved one, fill out this form and attach a check made out to FPC and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the church office no later April 7th. Please put "lilies" or Easter Witness" in the memo space on your check or envelope. A minimum donation of \$11 is suggested. This year whatever donations we collect for lilies over and above the cost of the flowers will be given to the Change the World Day event. Thank you!

Given by _____

Please use the first and last names for any person being remembered.

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

please circle one cash check