



## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Fourth Sunday of Lent // March 19, 2023 // 10am

#### ASK

#### **ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE**

GATHERING MUSIC #375 Shall We Gather at the River (verse 1 and Refrain)

LIFE AT FIRST

**RINGING THE BELL** 

#### **CENTERING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

All: Jesus, be the center. Focus our minds. Break open our hearts. Give us curiosity in the unknowing, That in the uncertainty we may find your inescapable love.

CENTERING MUSIC	Sonata Op. 13, 2nd mvt.	Beethoven
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#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

- One: As we enter into worship, we offer ourselves to you.
- All: Take from us the tension that makes peace impossible.
- One: Take from us the fears that prevent us from exploring.
- All: Take from us the worries that stop us from seeing.
- One: Take from us the distress that covers our joy.
- All: We come to you, offering our whole selves, trusting that you are here, you are good, and that your love carries us even now.
- One: Come, let us worship together.

\*HYMN #649 Amazing Grace

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

\*Please stand if you are comfortable doing so.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that we often miss what you are showing us. Sometimes we are preoccupied with our own interests. Other times we put up our blinders, willfully ignoring your direction. We pretend we can't see the injustice in front of us. We avoid looking at the poor in our midst. We even ignore our own shortcomings when they are looking back at us in the mirror. Teach us to see with your eyes. Remove the blinders and the barriers that are preventing us from seeing, so that we can show others your love and worship you with our whole lives.

## **KYRIE ELEISON**

Cantor:Kyrie eleison,Lord, have mercy.All:Kyrie eleison.Christe eleison,Cantor:Christe eleison,Christ, have mercy.All:Christe eleison,Lord, have mercy.All:Kyrie eleison,Lord, have mercy.

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE

\*GLORIA #581

Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

## **\*PASSING THE PEACE**

PIANO SOLO
La fille aux cheveux de lin
Debussy

HEARING GOD'S WORD
Image: Comparison of the second seco

**CHILDREN'S TIME** 

Thank You for Loving Me

PREPARATORY HYMN #451 Open My Eyes, That I May See

## SCRIPTURE READING John 9:1-41

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

# SERMON

Rev. Paul Van Kempen

\*HYMN #490 Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

# **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Some choose to begin this prayer, "Our Mother" "Our Creator" or "Our Parent." 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.

# **GIVING OF TITHES, OFFERINGS AND LIVES**

\*OFFERTORY SONG #717 For the Life That You Have Given

# **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

\*HYMN #314 Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

**\*BENEDICTION** 

**\*SENDING SONG** #549 May the Love of the Lord

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Paul Van Kempen, Chuck Norris, Beth Magennis, Rose Gifford, Cassie Kregger, Bruce Rosensteel

**Thanks to:** Sound and Video, Greeter and Ushers, Bus Drivers, M&M Café Providers, Abbie Nutter and Nursery Care Providers.

	Holy Week	and Easter Sunday Services	
April 2	Palm Sunday		
	No Educat	ion Hour due to spring break	
April 6	Maundy Thursday 6pm service This is a family friendly event that will take place in the Fellowship Hall		
April 7	Ecumenical Good Friday Service at 12 noon at Third Reformed Church		
April 9	Easter Sunday		
	6:45am	Sunrise Communion service	
	9-10am	Easter breakfast	
	9:30 am	Easter egg hunt	
	10am	Worship with Communion	
	No Educat	ion Hour due to spring break	



The Connections Council and all the M&M volunteers are delighted with the growing numbers who enjoy fellowship and refreshments at the Meet and Mingle Cafe each Sunday before and after worship. However, while the fellowship is wonderfully no-cost, our refreshments are not, and the council budget is feeling a bit pinched by rising prices. Please remember to feed our donation jars every once in a while if you're able. Thanks!

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Easter Flowers for the Sanctuary** // Help create a beautiful worship space for Easter Sunday and purchase a plant. We will coordinate through Pat's Floral.

- Last day to order is Sunday, March 26
- Order forms can be found on the Information Desk.
- Order forms with cash /checks please place in our Bookkeeper's (Marlene Field) mailbox.
- Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church
- Please call or email Beth Magennis with questions

Installation Service for Rev. Cathy Caldwell-Hoop // Sunday, March 26 at 2pm.

**Chuck Norris' GVSU Men's Choral Group** // A free concert at St. Cecilia's in Grand Rapids on Saturday, **April 1** at 7:30pm. They will be singing music written and directed by Andre Thomas. We are offering transportation on the church bus. We will leave the church parking lot at 6:15pm. Please make your reservation with Carleen Bauer or Chris Urbaniak.

**Celebration of Life Service** // A Celebration of Life service will be held for Elaine Evenson on **April 15** at 11am with a luncheon to follow. If you plan to attend, please contact Bill Evenson by phone (616-399-4650) or email at <u>wdevenson1@gmail.com</u> so he can provide the caterer with an approximate count. All are welcome.

Lake Michigan Presbyterian Women's Spring Gathering // Hosted by our Presbyterian Women, we will meet on April 22, 2023. Our keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Carol Bechtel, author of the current Horizon Bible Study. The offering will go toward scholarships to First Presbyterian PreSchool. We will also collect new undergarments (with tags attached!) for Resilience. Registration forms are available on the Information Table (next to the office door).

**Holland Community Theatre** // Join us at HCT Sunday, **April 23** at 2:00pm for the comedy, 'Nana's Naughty Knickers'. Optional dinner afterwards at the Curraugh. Sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Desk next to the office door. Tickets are \$15. Contact Chris Urbaniak with questions. Description: Bridget and her grandmother are about to become roommates. However, what Bridget saw as a unique opportunity to stay with her favorite nana in New York City for the summer quickly turns into an experience she'll never forget. It seems her sweet grandma is running an illegal boutique from her apartment, selling handmade naughty knickers to every senior citizen in the five-borough area! Will Bridget be able to handle all the excitement? Will her nana get arrested – or worse – evicted? **Crop Hunger Walk 2023** // Save the date for **Sunday May 21** as a part of Holland Hunger Awareness weekend. Walkers and supporters from First Presbyterian will help fight hunger locally and around the world. More information will be coming in the Profiles and at the Outreach kiosk. You can also visit hollandhunger.org for more information.

Words: traditional liturgical Music: John L. Bell



#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

659 State St., Holland, Michigan 49423 / Office: (616) 392-9022 / Email: office@fpcholland.org

A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH



THANKSGIVING





DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP





Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness 314

