

March 23, 2025



**First Presbyterian
Church**
of Pittsburgh

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am – 3rd SUNDAY OF LENT

**Please stand as you are able*

Prelude: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”
arr. by Marilyn Ham

Ruth Ann Reamer, *piano*

Time of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Daniel B. Merry, *Interim Senior Pastor*

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits.

Leader: As the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love to all who fear God.

People: God satisfies us with good as long as we live, so our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Leader: Turn aside and see a great sight; attune your ears to the voice of God.

People: The place where we are standing is holy ground.

In awe, we seek the One who heals the penitent.

All: Let us worship God together this Third Sunday of Lent.

***Hymn:** “Give Praise to Our God” (*located in this bulletin*)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Merry

Faithful and loving God,

we have tried to live without You amid the idols we have created.

We have closed our minds and hearts

to Your presence and Your invitation.

Our advantages have oppressed unknown multitudes of our sister and brothers

who receive only token leftovers from our hands.

Our idolatry is killing us, and them.

O God, is there any way out of the prisons we have built around ourselves?

Time of Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Children's Message

Rev. Merry

*(Children ages preschool – 2nd grade are invited to attend Children in Worship on the 3rd floor balcony at this time.
Children are to be picked up immediately after service in the chapel behind the high pulpit.)*

***Hymn:** "God, Be Merciful to Me" (located in this bulletin)

Scripture Reading: John 4:1-30; 39

4 Now Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard that he was gaining and baptizing more disciples than John—² although in fact it was not Jesus who baptized, but his disciples. ³ So he left Judea and went back once more to Galilee.

⁴ Now he had to go through Samaria. ⁵ So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of ground Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired as he was from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about noon.

⁷ When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, "Will you give me a drink?" ⁸ (His disciples had gone into the town to buy food.)

⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)

¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."

¹¹ "Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water? ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his livestock?"

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water so that I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶ He told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

¹⁷ "I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. ¹⁸ The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

¹⁹ "Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem."

²¹ "Woman," Jesus replied, "believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know that Messiah" (called Christ) "is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us."

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, "I, the one speaking to you—I am he."

²⁷ Just then his disciples returned and were surprised to find him talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?"

²⁸ Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ²⁹ "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.

³⁹ Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I ever did."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "The Woman at the Well"

Rev. Merry

***Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

We believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Pastoral Prayer 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering (*Online giving available, scan code on back*)

Rev. Merry

Anthem: “Living Waters”

by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Ed Cash

*Are you thirsty
Are you empty
Come and drink these Living
Waters
Time unbroken
Peace unspoken
Rest beside these Living Waters*

*Christ is calling
Find refreshing
At the cross of Living Waters
Lay your life down
All the old gone
Rise up in these Living Waters*

*Chorus: There's a river that flows
With mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God
There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of Living Waters*

*Spirit moving
Mercy washing
Healing in these living waters
Lead your children to the shore line
Life is in these Living Waters
(Chorus)*

*Are you thirsty
Are you empty
Come and drink these Living
Waters
Love, forgiveness
Vast and boundless
Christ, He is our Living Water
(Chorus)*

*There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of Living Waters*

***Doxology (tune Old 100th)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Merry

Welcome New Members

***Hymn: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”** (*located in this bulletin*)

***Invitation, Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: “Fugue in G Major”

J.S. Bach (BWV 577)

Samuel Olawoyin

Give Praise to Our God

PSALM 149



1 Give praise to our God and sing a new song,
 2 With tim-brel and harp and joy-ful ac-claim,
 3 In glo-ry ex-ult, you saints of the Word;
 4 For this is God's word: the saints shall not fail,

a - mid all the saints God's prais - es pro - long;
 with glad - ness and mirth, we praise your great name;
 with songs in the night high prais - es ac - cord;
 but o - ver the earth the hum - ble pre - vail;

a song to your Mak - er and Rul - er now raise,
 for now in your peo - ple your plea - sure you seek,
 go forth in God's ser - vice, be strong in God's might
 all rul - ers and na - tions shall yield to their sway.

all chil - dren of Zi - on, re - joice and give praise.
 with robes of sal - va - tion a - dorn - ing the meek.
 to con - quer all e - vil and stand for the right.
 To God give the glo - ry; sing prais - es for aye.

God, Be Merciful to Me

PSALM 51:1-9

B \flat F/A Gm E \flat B \flat F/A

1 God, be mer - ci - ful to me, on your grace I
 2 My trans - gres - sions I con - fess; grief and guilt my
 3 I am e - vil, born in sin; you de - sire —
 4 Let my con - trite heart re - joice and in glad - ness

Gm E \flat 2 B \flat F/A Gm E \flat

rest my plea; Wash me, make me pure with - in;
 soul op - press. I have sinned a - gainst your grace
 truth with - in. Make me pure, your mer - cy show;
 hear your voice; from my sins, O hide your face,

Refrain (last time repeat)

B \flat F/A Gm E \flat 2 E \flat F

cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
 and pro - voked you to your face.
 wash me whit - er than the snow. God, be mer - ci -
 blot them out in bound - less grace.

B \flat Gm E \flat F2 B \flat D.C. for stanzas B \flat Fine

ful to me, on your grace I rest my plea.

521 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

A7 D A D G A7 D

1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my *Eb-en - e - zer; hith-er by thy help I've come;
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!

A7 D A D G A7 D

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee:

A7 D G D A7 D G D

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

A7 D A D G A7 D

Praise the mount—I'm fixed up - on it—mount of God's un-chang-ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

Welcome New Members to First Church!

Welcome to our new members, Yung Myoung, Thomas Malinake, Becky Uminski, Nicolas and Maryann Savage and Nick and Kelly Savage!

Welcome Back, Guest Organist, Olawale Samuel Olawoyin

Olawale Samuel Olawoyin is a Nigerian concert organist who was born into a musical family over three decades ago. After he graduated with a First-Class honor from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, in 2016, he earned a full scholarship for a Master of Art degree program in African Music, which he completed in 2022. Samuel came to the United States in August 2023 to pursue his long-time ambition of becoming a concert organist. He is currently pursuing a Master of Music degree at Duquesne University, under the tutelage of Prof. Ann Labounsky. Samuel has played in several organ recitals organized by the Mary Pappert School of Music and also gave an organ recital in May 2024 at Mt. Lebanon Christian Church, where he regularly plays. Samuel is happily married to Lola Grace, and they are blessed with two children (Daniel and Daniella). Welcome back, Samuel!

Hospitality Hour

Join us after worship this morning for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the chapel. If you're visiting with us, we would especially like to get to know you!

Birthday Blessings to: Bill Harrison

Easter Tulips – Order by April 10

Once again this Easter, we will adorn our sanctuary with beautiful tulips. **Tulips can be purchased for \$15 each**, with a portion of that cost supporting the purchase of a floral arrangement for the lower pulpit. This is a wonderful way to honor or memorialize loved ones. An announcement will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin, listing the donors and the individual(s) being honored or memorialized. **The deadline for ordering is Thursday, April 10.** To order, please contact **Hannah** at 412-471-3436 or **hotoole@fpcp.org**. You can then place your check (payable to the church) in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Please indicate “tulips” in the memo field.

If emailing your order, please indicate: the number of plants desired, how you would like the “in memory of” or “in honor of” information to read, how you would like your donor name to read, and whether you want to take the plants with you after the Easter service or if you would like to donate them to the **Outreached Arms fundraiser on April 26th.**

Eternal Legacy – April 5, 2025 – LCCC Spring Celebration

Join us to celebrate all that God is doing through the ministry at Ligonier Camp & Conference Center on April 5, 2025, at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. For more information and to register visit ligoniercamp.org.

A Gift of Hope – April 26, 2025 – Outreached Arms Fundraiser

Join us on April 26, 2025, for "A Gift of Hope" celebration fundraiser hosted by our Ministry Partner, Outreached Arms. Tickets are on sale now! They also need volunteers and donated items to help make the event a success. Visit <https://outreachedarms.betterworld.org/events/a-gift-of-hope> for more info.

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Our Sanctuary is open to visitors Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Call to Schedule a Tour!

You can reach the Church Office Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Call: 412-471-3436 | Email: info@fpcp.org | www.fpcp.org.

Visiting Us Today?



Scan Code to Connect with Us!

Giving Online?



Scan Code to Give!

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get a sticker for your parking ticket at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). Scan both sides of the ticket at the payment booth at the **Oliver, Mellon Square**, and **Smithfield** garages to pay \$1 for parking.