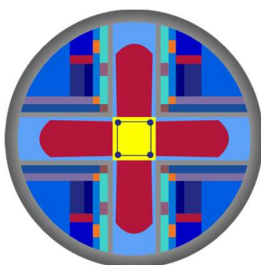


We are imperfect believers, passionate
about sharing the love of Christ:
by **Connecting**, **Growing**, and **Serving**.



St. Andrews
Presbyterian Church

A Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome! If you are visiting, please use the QR code on the visitor card found in the pew rack to share your info online or fill out the back of the card and drop it in the offering plate. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack, and we invite you to list your concerns and place them in the offering plate as well.

***Congregation stands as noted**

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (from Psalm 25)

Leader: O God, in you we trust.

People: Lead us in your truth and teach us,

Leader: for you are the God of our salvation

People: for you we wait, for you we worship

All: Let us worship our Lord!

Invocation and 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.

***Opening Hymn #165**

"The Glory of These Forty Days"

We Acknowledge Our Brokenness and Seek Reconciliation with God

Preparing Our Hearts for Confession - "Confession"

Words/Music by Kenneth Jones

(front cover of hymnal)

Lord, I come before you, asking your forgiveness. I am broken, I have faltered. I have turned from you.

Create in me a new heart. Fill me with your love. Grant that I receive your grace, I pray.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, as we begin this Lenten wilderness journey with Jesus, we confess our neglect of you and our faith. We make idols of nation, money and power. We build walls instead of better relationships. We fail to follow Jesus to the poor, the destitute, the stranger. Empty us this Lent, Holy God. Guide us in our faith so we can leave this wilderness season in right relationship with you. Amen.

Time of Silent Reflection and Personal Prayer of Confession

Leader: And all the people of Christ say, **People: Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Remember and receive these hopeful words from John 8. "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." Receive God's truth. Receive God's grace. Accept the freedom God provides. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: Thanks be to God!

***Thanks for God's Forgiveness (#647; no repeats)**

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give Thanks! Give Thanks!

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: Grace to you, and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

***Transition Hymn #813**

"I Depend Upon You Faithfulness"

We Respond to God's Faithfulness in Our Life

Offering Our Lives to Jesus through Our Time, Gifts, and Resources

(see the 'Giving' card in the pew rack for information about options for digital giving)

***Doxology (#606)**

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

Time for Young Disciples

(Children that have not yet finished 1st Grade are dismissed following this time for Children's Church)

God's Word Is Read and Proclaimed

Special Music

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"
arr. Linda Cable Shute

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading

Genesis 9:8-17; Mark 1:9-15

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of God's Word

Rev. Preston Shealy

"Temptation"

Time of Meditation, Reflection

Responding to God's Word

***Affirmation of Our Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us

together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

***Responsive Hymn #783**

"When We Are Tested"

Preparing Our Hearts for Prayer (#471)

"O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

Prayers for the People

Dana Tate

Sending Out Into the World

***Sending Hymn #775**

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Benediction**

"Love Will Be Our Lenten Calling"

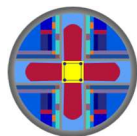
sung to the PICARDY tune ("Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"), words by Elizabeth Smith

Love will be our Lenten calling, love to shake and shatter sin,
waking every closed, cold spirit, stirring new life deep within,
till the quickened heart remembers what our Easter birth can mean.

***Postlude**

Sanctuary Flowers: the flowers were placed in the sanctuary today by Karen Jones, in loving memory of her brother, Fred, on the first anniversary of his death.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We hope you were blessed so you can go and be a witness to Christ's love in the world. May your spirits be renewed for the days ahead.



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Presbyterian Church

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Preston Shealy, Interim Pastor
Kenneth Jones, Director of Music
Millie Shiflett, Accompanist
Karlee Tate, Director of Communications

Joyce Johnson, CDC Director
Richard Balentine, Elder of Administration
Dana Tate, Elder of Christian Formation
Russell Truluck, Elder of Facilities Management

Jennifer Massey, Lay Leader