

First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship Seventh Sunday after Epiphany – February 20, 2022

*All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

*CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER (responsive)

In this sacred space,

trust in the Holy Spirit.

On this sabbath day,

take delight in Jesus Christ.

Among the faithful,

commit your way to the Lord.

Worship the triune God with gladness!

Let us pray:

God of abundant mercy,
you alone can turn evil into good,
sorrow into rejoicing,
and death into everlasting life.
Teach us your way of grace—
to meet hatred with kindness,
to answer curses with blessing,
to love without holding back,
to give without thought of return;
all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #795

"Healer of Our Every III"

Refrain:

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow, give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow. 1 You who know our fears and sadness, grace us with your peace and gladness; Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. Refrain:

Healer of our every ill, light of each tomorrow, give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow.

2 In the pain and joy beholding how your grace is still unfolding, give us all your vision, God of love.

- 3 Give us strength to love each other, every sister, every brother; Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.
- 4 You who know each thought and feeling, teach us all your way of healing;
 Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus teaches first by example. The one who says, "Do not judge, but forgive," asks only of us what he has already done for us. Let us practice the Teacher's instruction in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O Christ, the economy of your love is beautiful, expending goodness and extending lines of forgiveness beyond our imagining.

The economy of our love is stingy and crooked.

We invest love where it can be repaid. We spend mercy where it yields gain.

We advance blessing we can bank on. We hold grudges with interest.

We do all of this with no recognition of how deeply indebted we are to you.

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, we pray with our whole hearts.

(Silent Confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you: **and also with you.**(For the safety of all, please share the peace with a smile or wave from your seat.)

GATHERING SONG

"As We Gather"

As we gather may your Spirit work within us.

As we gather may we glorify your name.

Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship,

we'll be blessed because we came,

we'll be blessed because we came.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'

¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

ANTHEM

"Close Every Door" Andrew Lloyd Webber

from Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

SCRIPTURE

Luke 6:27-38

²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

SERMON "Radical Love" Heather Henkel

*HYMN #753

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

- 1 Make me a channel of your peace.Where there is hatred,let me bring your love.Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
- 2 Make me a channel of your peace.Where there's despair in life,let me bring hope.Where there is darkness, only light,and where there's sadness, ever joy.
- 3 O, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.
- 4 Make me a channel of your peace.

 It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

SHARING OF THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

INVITATION TO RECEIVE OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

fpcedgewood.org/donate

Generous God, receive our gifts offered in joy and gratitude and do more with them than we can ask or imagine. In the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who alone is the Head of the Church. Amen.

*HYMN #754

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

- 1 Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.
- 2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

- 3 Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.
- 4 Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

Participants in this worship service:

Heather Henkel, guest pastor | Elder Marcia Haley, liturgist Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our YouTube channel, or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



Welcome! Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!

IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES:

While Allegheny County is in the high transmission rate for COVID-19, the Worship Committee has established safety protocols for in-person worship following CDC recommendations as follows:

- Properly worn masks are required for all those attending and leading worship regardless of vaccination status
- Please continue to observe social distancing in the marked pews
- **Congregational singing may continue while masked.** You are welcome to use the hymnals in the pews, stand and join in singing of hymns and responses. Lyrics will continue to be printed in the bulletin for those following along online.

We understand that each person is different with the possible risks he or she may have. Live-streamed online worship will continue to be available on Facebook and YouTube for those who choose to stay home until they feel safe to rejoin in person.

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

THIS MORNING, WE WELCOME back to our pulpit Heather Henkel as guest pastor.

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR will return to rehearsals and join in worship beginning **March 6, the first Sunday in Lent.** The Emerging Worship Ensemble will return on March 20. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we prioritized the health and safety of our most vulnerable members. We look forward to a meaningful Lenten season full of rich musical offerings.

BOOK CLUB MEETS WEEKLY, discussing "The Scrolls from the Dead Sea" by Edmund Wilson, 10:00AM, Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apessos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ZOOM BIBLE STUDY: 7:00PM at https://pitt.zoom.us/j/6670286724 No password is needed. Email Tim Hoffman at HoffmanTL@gmail.com with questions.

RECYCLE BINS are located in the last pew in sanctuary and blue bin at side vestibule entrance for bulletins, cups, (list of what is accepted is posted on bins).

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER is this Friday, February 25 by 12:00 Noon. Please email information and articles to Judy at office@fpcedgewood.org.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

(awaiting confirmation from invited guest preachers for some dates listed)

February 27 – Transfiguration of the Lord, Heather Henkel preaching

March 3 – Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00PM, Rev. Fairlight Collins Lower preaching

March 6 – First Sunday in Lent, Choir returns, possible Taize worship

March 13 – Second Sunday in Lent, Communion, Rev. Fairlight Collins Lower preaching

March 20 – Third Sunday in Lent, Emerging Worship

March 27 – Fourth Sunday in Lent, Rev. Fairlight Collins Lower preaching

April 3 – Fifth Sunday in Lent, Communion, Rev. Fairlight Collins Lower preaching

April 10 – Palm/Passion Sunday, possible Reader's Theater service

April 14 – Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service, 7:00PM

April 17 – Easter Sunday, Communion, Rev. Michael Rucker preaching

April 24 – First Sunday of Easter, Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills preaching

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room, GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study, S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

Monday, February 21

Church Office Closed - Presidents' Day

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)

7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Tuesday, February 22

10:00AM Book Club (AH)

7:00PM Edgewood Symphony Orchestra (S)

Wednesday, February 23

7:00PM Bible Study (Zoom)

Thursday, February 24

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L) 7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

Friday, February 25

12:00PM Newsletter Deadline

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Saturday, February 26

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Next Sunday, February 27

11:00AM Worship (S)

Youth Sunday School (GP)

How can you become involved?

As we reopen, working to rebuild and reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

OUR FPCE FAMILY

Office & Cleaning Manager

Judy Mysels

office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager

Rob Mysels

building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music

Shaun Cloonan

music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist

Sunny Sakai

Sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Ministers

The Entire Congregation



Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ, our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.