

# First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship Taizé-Iona Service for the First Sunday in Lent – March 6, 2022

\*All who are able, please stand.

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE**

#### **TOLLING OF THE HOUR**

OPENING SONG

"Be Still and Know"



Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

## \*OPENING WORDS (responsive)

Leader: Driven by the Spirit, Jesus went out to inhabit a liminal place.

Men: For forty days and nights, homeless and weary, famished and footsore,

he wandered and watched and wrestled ...

Women: For forty days and nights, companioned and comforted by animals and angels,

he traversed and tested and tempered ...

Leader: And then, knowing who he was, seeing where he must go,

understanding what he should do...

All: Jesus, filled with the Spirit, returned from the uncharted place

to do the work of the Kingdom.

Leader: Jesus, by your example you challenge us to make this season a journey of discovery;

All: As we leave comforting landmarks behind to inhabit and explore our own

uncharted places, help us to discern who we are and embrace what we

might become.

Leader: Jesus, by your words and actions you show us how to watch and wait and wrestle;

All: As we listen now to those familiar stories and savor afresh your wit and wisdom,

help us to recognize where we are and envisage where we need to move to.

Leader: Jesus, you offer us your company in the known and the unknown places;

All: As we touch hands with you now through story and song, and in bread and wine,

help us to better understand the threads of our lives and see how to weave them

with yours into the patterns of God's Kingdom.

#### \*HYMN #167

"Forty Days and Forty Nights"

- 1 Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild; forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.
- 2 Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain, fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?

- 3 Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail, victor in the wilderness, grant that we not faint nor fail!
- 4 So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be; round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.

#### **LENTEN CANDLE RITUAL**

# REFLECTION & EXTINGUISHING OF THE FIRST CANDLE PRAYER

**RESPONSE #775** 

"I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me; all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

# **CONFESSION OF SIN** (responsive)

Let us draw near to God in spirit and in truth. God of the liminal places, you draw us into the quietness of the desert so that we can encounter ourselves.

We confess that all too often we stubbornly cling to false images rather than face the necessity of change.

Silence

You call us into the emptiness of the desert so that we can confront our desires.

We confess that all too often we continue to choose our own comfort rather than serving the needs of others.

Silence

You drive us into the dangers of the desert so that we can engage with your Kingdom.

We confess that all too often we prefer the smooth roads of safety over the perilous pathways of justice.

Silence

Forgive us, O God, wherever we have chosen to be, or do, or dare less than you have asked of us; and as we walk on in the desert with you help us watch and wrestle with these things so that we might choose life over death.

#### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

May the Father of all mercy forgive you, draw you forth into life and peace, and make real the hope that we, and all creation, be released from bondage and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

#### \*RESPONSE #544

"Bless the Lord, My Soul"

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

#### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Like a tent in the wilderness the table of God stands open and ready as a place of sanctuary and safety, of hospitality and healing. So come, all you who are tired and travel-stained, footsore and famished; come with your fellow travelers and find companionship and comfort; for here, Jesus – who knows what it is to wander, watch and wrestle in desert places – waits to meet us and welcome us in, offering us rest and restoration, solace and strength, for the journey still to come. May the peace of God, the comforting peace of familiar presence, the untamed peace of wilderness places, the challenging peace of watching and wrestling, surround and shape your journey onwards.

# May the peace of God be also with you

#### **GATHERING SONG #518**

"Lamb of God"

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,<sup>2</sup> will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."

- <sup>9</sup> Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place, <sup>10</sup> no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. <sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup> On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
- <sup>13</sup> You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. <sup>14</sup> Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. <sup>15</sup> When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. <sup>16</sup> With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

#### **HYMN #43**

"On Eagle's Wings"

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life, say to the Lord, "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

#### Refrain:

And he will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:

- under his wings, your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. (Refrain)
- 3 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day; though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. (Refrain)
- 4 For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways; upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. (Refrain)

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup> where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'"

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup> And the devil said to him, "To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup> If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." <sup>8</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

<sup>9</sup> Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup> for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' <sup>11</sup> and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

<sup>12</sup> Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

SERMON "Evil vs. Good" Heather Henkel

#### **HYMN #750**

"Goodness is Stronger than Evil"

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death. Victory is ours; victory is ours, through God who loves us. Victory is ours, victory is ours, through God who loves us.

#### **INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

That the Church will be a place of mercy freely given where all are encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

That we will all remain constant in safeguarding the dignity of every human life

We pray to the Lord: **Lord hear our prayer** 

For an increase in hearing God's call to do God's work,

in the church and in the community

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

That this season of Lent will be a time of deeper reflection for our church

We pray to the Lord: **Lord hear our prayer** 

For those preparing to enter the Church at Easter,

that they will be blessed in these days of preparation

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

For the poor, the sick, the grieving, the lonely,

and those facing serious problems:

that God in his mercy will be close to them

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

For those suffering from mental illness:

that they will be lifted up through the power of Christ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

For the grace this week to see the presence of Jesus

in all the circumstances and situations of life

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

For the grace this week to face the temptations of our life

by relying on the strength of the Lord

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

May we preserve with each other sincere charity and peace,

and grant that this place, filled with your Spirit,

continue to be a sanctuary and light to those around us.

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our lives, our world, our universe.

In work and worship. Gathered and scattered.

Now and always.

We pray to the Lord: Lord hear our prayer

#### **INDIVIDUAL PRAYER & CANDLE-LIGHTING**

Those who wish may come forward to offer individual prayers as you light a candle. The choir will lead the songs of Taizé during this time. Feel free to join in singing the prayer chants when you return to your seat, or focus on the repetition of song texts in silent mediation, prayer, and contemplation.

#### THE SONGS OF TAIZE

**HYMN #90** "Wait for the Lord"

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

**HYMN #820** "Nothing Can Trouble"

Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting. Nothing can trouble; nothing can frighten.

God alone fills us.

**HYMN #284** "Holy Spirit, Come to Us"

Holy Spirit, come to us; kindle in us the fire of your love. Holy Spirit, come to us. Holy Spirit, come to us.

**HYMN #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.

The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God. The Lord is my song; the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

#### **BLESSING & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase. Bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand. Comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful. Raise them up if they fall. And in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray saying:

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**

fpcedgewood.org/donate

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### \*HYMN #783

"When We are Tested"

- 1 When we are tested and wrestle alone, famished for bread when the world offers stone, nourish us, God, by your word and your way, food that sustains us by night and by day.
- 2 When in the desert we cry for relief, pleading for paths marked by certain belief, lift us to love you beyond sign and test, trusting your presence, our only true rest.
- 3 When we are tempted to barter our souls, trading the truth for the power to control, teach us to worship and praise only you, seeking your will in the work that we do.
- 4 When we have struggled and searched through the night, sorting and sifting the wrong from the right, Savior, surround us with circles of care, angels of healing, of hope, and of prayer.

## **BENEDICTION**

#### **POSTLUDE**

# Participants in this worship service:

Heather Henkel, guest pastor | Shaun Cloonan, minister of music & liturgist Sunny Sakai, pianist | Tyler McGuigan, song leader | The Sanctuary Choir | 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.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE meets today after worship in the Gathering Place.

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.

ESO CONCERT: SATURDAY NIGHT. Join the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra for their next performance on Saturday, March 12th at 7:30PM in the sanctuary. Say goodbye to winter with a fun and spirited performance of Sergei Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, narrated by renowned mezzosoprano Demareus Cooper. Prokofiev's classic features the first combined performance of ESO strings and woodwinds since December 2019. Then our brass section will shine through Paul Dukas' *Fanfare pour précéder la Péri*, Humperdinck's Abendsegen & Pantomime from *Hansel & Gretel*, the Premiere of ESO's own Justin Miller's *Strife*, and an arrangement of Shostakovich's Suite from "The Gadfly."

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

#### **UPCOMING LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

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 Readers' Theater Service

April 14 – Maundy Thursday/Good Friday Service, 7:00PM, Rev. Bob Ruefle 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

Today, Sunday, March 6

12:15PM Worship Committee (GP) 7:00PM PNC Meeting (Zoom)

Monday, March 7

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)

7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Tuesday, March 8

10:00AM Book Club (AH)

7:00PM Edgewood Symphony Orchestra (S)
7:00PM Session/Deacon Meeting (GP, L)

Wednesday, March 9

7:00PM Bible Study (Zoom)

Thursday, March 10

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

Friday, March 11

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Saturday, March 12

7:30PM Edgewood Symphony Concert (S)

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

Next Sunday, March 13

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)

11:00AM Worship/**Communion** (S)

Youth Sunday School (GP)

12:15PM PNC Meeting (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.