



# Called to Be Disciples

Ecclesia Reformate, Semper Reformanda The Lord's Day March 29, 2020

#### Prelude

### **Welcome & Announcements**

If you are new to the First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston, welcome!

### **Chiming of the Hour**

### Call to Worship:

- L: The Lord is our refuge.
- P: We can find peace in God's abiding love.
- L: When troubles assail us, we call upon the Lord.
- P: When joys abound, we call upon the Lord.
- L: Welcome to God's house, one of many dwellings of the Almighty One.
- P: We thank you and praise God for his refuge and sanctuary.

### **Morning Prayer:**

Eternal God, we have come here today to learn of your forgiving and healing love. We come as a people tested by various trials in life. We come as a people who are flawed, and yet you receive us and call us your own. Be with us today. Keep our hearts and minds open to your redeeming mercy and abiding love, for we ask this in Christ's Name. Amen.

\* Hymn

"Guide Me, O Though Great Jehovah"

No. 281

### \* Prayer of Reconciliation:

Merciful and loving God, our hearts are filled today with all the trials and tribulations of life. It hasn't been an easy road and sometimes we have felt so alone, without companions, without support, without hope. Bring us closer to you this day. Forgive the times when we have turned away from you, choosing not to believe because we can't see you with our own eyes.

Forgive us when we have mocked the faith of others, and yet hoped to have that same strong faith in our lives. Break through the tarnish that has covered our souls. Help us to shine with your love; help us to feel your mercy, for it is in Christ's Name that we offer this prayer. Amen.

\* Assurance of Forgiveness

\* The Gloria Patri: No. 577

Glory be to the Father, to the Son and the Holy Ghost! As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

\* Passing the Peace: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**Sharing Our Joys and Concerns** 

### Prayers of the People:

Lord of us all, we come to you today, just as we are. Some here are feeling fine. Things are going well in their lives and they are happy and content. Others come to you with heads bowed in fear, sorrow, or despair. Life has gotten difficult and they feel that they have no one who understands. They hurt, are sad, doubt, feel great loss, seethe with anger at a host of situations. To all of us, we implore you to come. Enter our lives. Dance with those who are healed and heal those who are afflicted. Open our hearts and minds to receive your healing love and strength, for we ask this in Jesus' Name.

## 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.

Anthem

Scripture Reading John 14 Bible Page 938

**Sermon** "What Are We Learning?" Rev. Sharon Gearing

### \* Gathering Our Tithes and Gifts

### Offertory

### **Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

The work of the church continues during this time of national crisis. As you can imagine, church finances are affected by the cancellation of public worship and the economic impact of the crisis. Pledges may be mailed to the church at 508 Second Avenue, South Charleston, WV 25303 or made online from the church's website: **fpcscwv.org**.

To give online just go to the church's website: **fpcscwv.org** and click on the "GIVE" button on the top righthand corner of the page. This will take you to our *Giving Page* where there are step-by-step instructions on how to make gifts to the church through Tithe.ly.

If you have any questions, please call Becky in the church office @ 304-744-2333 or Cheryl Eary at 304-347-0401.

### \* Doxology:

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

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* **Hymn** "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine" No. 341

\* Benediction (see insert)

Postlude

# What Does the Lord Require of You?



**First Presbyterian Church of South Charleston Website** www.fpcscwv.org makes available Sunday morning worship bulletins, newsletters, Session information, and youth group video. Also, posted are the Announcements for the Month, as well as information about upcoming mission projects and many fellowship opportunities.

### REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS & DEEDS OF LOVE

Church Family Martha Racer Presbyterian Connections Child Development Center George Brown Barbara Snyder Helen Cobb Care Facilities Bluestone Camp & Retreat Center Joan Eads Bob Eads Lineweaver Cottage, Davis-Stuart Tom Haines Fort Liberté, Haiti Lora Hayes David Hoffman Ray Hoppe Mill Creek Presbyterian Church Custer Holliday Second Presbyterian Church, Huntington Jack Jones Drew McIlwain Bea McElhinny Gilbert Presbyterian Church Wamagana Presbyterian Church Marsha McIlwain Pat Snyder Giakanja Parish, Kenya

# Reduce your risk of coronavirus infection:



Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub

Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with tissue or flexed elbow





Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms

Thoroughly cook meat and eggs





Avoid unprotected contact with live wild or farm animals





# **Intercessory Prayer**

O God our Healer, show your compassion for the whole human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and with fear. Hear our heartfelt pleas, O God,

Come to our aid as the coronavirus spreads globally, heal those who are sick, support and protect their families and friends from being infected.

Grant us your spirit of love and self-discipline so that we may come together, working to control and eliminate the coronavirus.

Make us vigilant, attentive, and proactive in the eradication of all diseases that create suffering and often result in death for many people.

Heal our self-centeredness and indifference that makes us worry only when the virus threatens us, open ways beyond timidity and fear that too easily ignore our neighbor.

Strengthen and encourage those in public health services and in the medical profession: care-givers, nurses, attendants, doctors, all who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families.

Inspire, give insight and hope to all researchers focused on developing a vaccine.

Sustain all workers and business owners who suffer loss of livelihood due to shutdowns, quarantines, closed borders, and other restrictions... protect and guard all those who must travel.

Guide the leaders of the nations that they speak the truth, halt the spread of misinformation and act with justice so that all your family may know healing.

Heal our world, heal our bodies, strengthen our hearts and our minds, and in the midst of turmoil, give us hope and peace.

Hold in your gentle embrace all who have died and who will die this day. Comfort their loved ones in their despair.

Hear our prayers Lord, and in your infinite grace be with us as we journey together through this global health crisis.

Amen!

# First Presbyterian Church

508 Second Avenue South Charleston, WV 25303 PHONE: 744-2333

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### Ministers:

#### **EVERY MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION**

Sharon Gearing, Pastor Mark Hornbaker, Master of Music Lisa Calderwood, Youth Leader Becky Smith, Office Manager David Smith, Custodian

### Office Hours:

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Monday through Thursday; closed Friday)

### E-Mail Addresses:

Sharon.gearing22@gmail.com becky@fpcscwv.org

## Web Address:

fpcscwv.org

### **Elders on Session:**

Tina Amburgey Dave Long
Carol Bryan Lisa Martin
Cheryl Eary Sandy Melton
Joe Fuller Tom Titus

**Bob Kent** 

### Trustees:

Chris Luzier (2020) Hersha Brown (2021) John Melton (2022)



Please be advised that our Holy Week Services are subject to cancellation and/or rescheduling pending updates from the Centers for Disease Control and the Governor's office. Please check out our website: fpcscwv.org and our Facebook Page for updates.

# Sunday, April 5, 10:55 am Palm Sunday Worship

Come celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.

## Thursday, April 9, 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship with Trifecta Churches

We are blessed to have three churches worship together with special music by the combined choirs.

## Friday, April 10, 12 noon Good Friday

Informal Reading of the crucifixion and prayers in the sanctuary

# Sunday, April 12, 10:55 am Easter Worship Celebration

Join the celebration of Jesus' resurrection! Flowering of the Cross and special music will bless our celebratory worship.