



Pittsburg Presbyterian Church

March 27, 2022 ~ 10:00 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent

GATHERING

Prelude

Were You There?

Spiritual/Arr. Barbara B. Kinyon
Pitt Pres Ringers

Lay Leader: Preset your folder at your seat.
Bring in the Light of Christ during the Prelude.

Welcome

Ron Rhodes

Good Morning, we are glad you are here with us today at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church. We are truly blessed to gather together for worship on this fourth Sunday in Lent.

Mission Statement

Ron Rhodes

Our Mission at Pittsburg Presbyterian Church is to love God, know Christ, care for one another, and to joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please remain seated and join together in singing our Missional Song.

Missional Song

Susan Laushman

Love God, care for one another;
Know Christ, care for one another;
Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!
Joyfully share the good news of Jesus Christ!

Please stand for the Opening Sentences.

*Opening Sentences

Ron Rhodes

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: We are ambassadors for Christ.

People: God has entrusted to us the message of reconciliation.

Leader: We gather as God's beloved family to worship God and offer our praise.

People: Let us join our hearts in song and in prayer.

Leader: *Our opening song today is “How Firm a Foundation” and Jim wanted me to read and explain the 4th verse we’re about to sing:*

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply. The flames shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.”

When a goldsmith refines gold to make it pure, they heat it until it melts. Gold, being heavy, sinks to the bottom and all the impurities - the dross - float to the top for the goldsmith to skim off. This is an image of what God wants to do for us. ...Come, let us worship God.

***Opening Song**

Glory To God #463

How Firm a Foundation

Words - George Keith, Music - Folk Song

Verse 1

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Verse 2

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

Verse 3

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

Verse 4

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Verse 5

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

Please be seated

Announcements

Ron Rhodes

- *Good morning and thank you for worshiping with us today!*
- *As part of COVID precautions, please be respectful of those that wish to social distance.*
- *Please Check-in on Social Media to share the peace of Christ with your friends and loved ones online!*
- *(Explain & show the Yellow Cards.) Please fill out the front and write any information/prayer concerns, etc. on the back and place it in one of the white boxes at the back of the Sanctuary, as you leave.*
- *"Kids Following Jesus" (KFJ) is available online. Please access the KFJ video through "The Sower", Facebook page, or YouTube channel.*
- *(Show the Announcement flyer): Please refer to the Announcement flyer for important information and take it home with you.*
- *Birthday today: if Allie Wade is in attendance, please sing "Happy Birthday" to her.*
 * **Please mention any last minute announcements.**

Call to Confession

Ron Rhodes

*Trusting the grace promised to us in Jesus Christ,
let us confess our sins before God and one another.*

Prayer of Confession

Ron Rhodes

Leader: Merciful God,

*All: we confess that we have strayed from your ways.
Like the Prodigal Son, we have wasted our inheritance.
You gave us the earth for our home,
but we squander earth's resources and hoard its bounty.
You gave us neighbors to love, but we pursue selfish ambitions.
You gave us the commandments that lead to human flourishing,
but we break your law and forsake your love.
Forgive us our sin and bring us to repentance.
Draw our wandering hearts back to you
that we may find freedom in obedience to your love.
Through Christ our Lord we pray.*

Leader: Hear now our individual silent confessions:

Wait a minute and say "Amen", then proceed into the Assurance of Pardon.

Assurance of Pardon

Ron Rhodes

*Leader: As a parent welcomes home a wayward child, . . .
so God embraces all who return in true repentance.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

People: Thanks be to God!

[Virginia offers intro to *Gloria*]

Please stand

***Gloria Patri**
Glory to God #581
Meineke

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

Please be seated

WORD

Brock announces: *Lelia Morris was a prolific Methodist songwriter in the late 1800's and early 1900's. In 1912 she started going blind. Doctors did what they could. She and her family prayed. Her church prayed, but finally she had to accept that she would no longer see. Mrs. Morris did not lose faith, but continued to write songs by composing them in her head and dictating them to her adult daughter on her yearly visits until the hymn writer's death in 1929.*

We welcome Mallory Womeldorff and Cooper Neil in helping us to tell Mrs. Morris' story.

Special Music

Sweet Will of God

Words & Music by Lelia Morris (1862-1929)/Arr. James Harris
Pitt Pres Choir
featuring Cooper Neil, Euphonium
Dance Choreographed & Performed by Mallory Womelforff

Old Testament Introduction

Ron Rhodes

Jim's sister, Doris Grotheer, will read our scripture.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 22:1-19 (KJV)

Doris Grotheer

Reader: A reading from Psalm chapter 22, verses 1 through 19.

Listen to the word of God:

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

2 *O my God, I cry in the day time, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.*

3 *But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.*

4 *Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.*

5 *They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded.*

6 *But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people.*

7 *All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying,*

8 *He trusted on the Lord that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him.*

9 *But thou art he that took me out of the womb: thou didst make me hope when I was upon my mother's breasts.*

10 *I was cast upon thee from the womb: thou art my God from my mother's belly.*

11 *Be not far from me; for trouble is near; for there is none to help.*

12 *Many bulls have compassed me: strong bulls of Bashan have beset me round.*

13 *They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion.*

14 *I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels.*

15 *My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaveth to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death.*

16 *For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.*

17 *I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me.*

18 *They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.*

19 *But be not thou far from me, O Lord: O my strength, haste thee to help me.*

This is the word of God.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

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**New Testament Reading**      **Mark 14:32-39 (KJV)**      **Doris Grotheer**

**Reader: A reading from Mark, chapter 14, verses 32 through 39.**

**Listen to the word of God:**

<sup>32</sup> *And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.*

<sup>33</sup> *And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;*

<sup>34</sup> *And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.*

<sup>35</sup> *And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.*

<sup>36</sup> *And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.*

<sup>37</sup> *And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?*

<sup>38</sup> *Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak.*

<sup>39</sup> *And again he went away, and prayed, and spake the same words.*

*This is the word of God.*

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Message “The Will of God (or, When Bob Ross Doesn’t Make Sense)” Jim Harris

### Prayer Hymn

*“(He Could Have Called) Ten Thousand Angels”*

words and music by Ray Overholt  
Sung by Mallory & John Womeldorff

Congregation sings the last chorus

#### Chorus Only

He could have called ten thousand angels  
To destroy the world and set Him free  
He could have called ten thousand angels,  
But He died alone for you and me.

### Prayer of Intercession

Ron Rhodes

**You may say your own words OR the following:**

*Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord saying, Lord have mercy.*

*For the church throughout the world,  
that all Christians may embody the reconciling love of Christ,  
. . . let us pray to the Lord.*

*All: Lord, have mercy.*

*Leader: For the nations of the world and its leaders,  
that all may dwell in peace and that justice may be tempered by mercy,*

*. . . let us pray to the Lord.*  
All: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: For the planet Earth, God's gift to humankind,  
that all may share wisely its resources  
and conserve its riches for our children's children,  
. . . let us pray to the Lord.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: For our enemies,  
that we may regard them with the reconciling love  
made manifest in Christ,  
. . . let us pray to the Lord.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: For those who are sick or in trouble,  
for the defenseless, the weak, and the poor,  
that they may be restored to wholeness of life and livelihood,  
. . . let us pray to the Lord.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: For the lost,  
for those who have abandoned God, friends, or family,  
and for those who have never known such love,  
that they may come to know the joy of love's embrace,  
. . . let us pray to the Lord.*

All: Lord, have mercy.

*Leader: Loving God, hear the prayers of your people for the sake of our world,  
and our Savior Jesus Christ, through whom we pray.*

*Please join together as Jesus taught us to pray . . .*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

People: 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 Offering**

**Ron Rhodes**

*As we prepare for our offering today, there are various ways that you may give. You may place your offering and Yellow Card in the white box, at the back, as you leave or contact the office for other options.*

*As people of the New Creation, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.*

## **Prayer for Offering**

**Ron Rhodes**

*Let us pray:*

*O God, all that we have comes from you.  
Receive this offering and with it the offering of our lives,  
for we return to you only what you have so graciously given.  
Use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.*

Please stand

**\*The Doxology**

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.

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

***A Humble Creed***  
(For the season of Lent)  
lines 13-22

**Ron Rhodes**

<https://modernliturgist.org/project/seasonal-creeds/>

**Leader:** *Believer, what do you believe?*

**People:** I believe in Christ's humble spirit  
Conceiving the holy, apostolic and universal church,  
which is among us and beyond us, before us and after us.  
I believe in a church comprised of sinners and saints,  
imperfect and in need of grace,  
yet blessed – the body of Christ.  
I believe in the forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.

**\*Closing Song**

**Ron Rhodes**

*Our closing hymn today is "Trust and Obey".*

**\*Closing Song**  
***Trust and Obey***

Words by J.H. Sammis, Music by D.B. Towner  
(V 1, 3)

Verse 1

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His word,  
What a glory He sheds on our way.  
While we do His good will He abides with us still,  
And with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
To be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey.

Verse 3



Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,  
But our toil He doth richly repay.  
Not a grief, nor a loss, not a frown nor a cross,  
But is blessed if we trust and obey.

Refrain

**\*Blessing & Charge**

**Jim Harris**

*I need to tell you this before I give the blessing and charge: Our daughter, Elizabeth soon changed her mind when she got to see her baby brother at the hospital and now she thinks Jesus didn't make a mistake after all.*

*My charge to you now is that you remember:  
God gave us the freedom to choose or reject love.  
God gave us the freedom to choose or reject faith.  
And when Bob Ross, or even when God doesn't seem to be making sense -  
Trust.*

Lay Leader: After the blessing, begin to take the light of Christ into the world:

1. Light the candle lighter with one of the candles on the communion table.
2. Extinguish both candles on the communion table.
3. Stand with the light, facing the congregation.
4. Walk out with the light through the East aisle, in front of Pastor, to the back of the sanctuary.
5. Extinguish the light and stow the candle lighter.

**Postlude**

***On Eagles Wings***

Michael Joncas/Arr. James A. Harris  
Cooper Neil, Euphonium  
Virginia Darling, Piano