

Bath Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

In Church, In Parking Lot (Radio 105.3 FM) or on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/bathpreschurch>



What does the
LORD
require of you, but to
Act Justly
to **LOVE MERCY** and to
Walk Humbly
WITH **GOD**
YOUR
MICAH 6:8

Worship Leader: Janet Miller

Lay Leader: Mabel Geis

Musician: JO Miller

Pastor Emily: (937) 903-8188 emilyhaddox1@gmail.com

Office Hours: Wednesday 10-5; by appointment

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*Stand if it's comfortable to do so

Time for Quiet Reflection & Prayer

Lighting of the Candles

Ringling of the Bell

Music for Praise & Meditation

Welcome!

Announcements

- In the life of our Church
- Minute for Mission
- Sharing of Joys & Concern

Covenant Church for Prayers: Korean Presbyterian Church, Pastor Dan Song.

Call to Worship: Lighting of the Pascal Candle and Lenten reflection

One: We come to worship you, O God, as *“The Eternal is my light amidst my darkness...”*

All: We come to revere our God, as God gives light and hope to us even in our darkness.

One: We come, O God, to: *“...live with him all of my days—in the shadow of his temple...”*

All: We come to worship our God, as we shelter in the large shadow of God’s presence.

One: We come, O God, *“...to behold his beauty and ponder his ways in the company of his people... It is there I find peace in the midst of storm...”* We come, to wait upon God.

All: We come to worship and praise our God, because God does lift us up above the storms of life; and above the claims on our time and energy - to renewal, and growth in grace. Amen.

***Call to Worship in Music: #821 Refrain Only “How Can I Keep from Singing”**

*No Storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I’m clinging,
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?*

***Call to Confession:** The gospel assures us that those who love God will be protected, and those who call out in times of trouble will be answered. With faith and hope, let us confess our sin.

***Prayer of Confession** (in unison) - Offered a feast at grace’s table, God of the covenant, we choose to gorge ourselves on



the empty calories of greed. Invited to live in your house, we move into death’s fear-infested boarding house. Though you promise to be with us, we toss you aside, chasing after those who will abandon us at the first chance. But you will not let the foxes of foolishness devour us, Mothering God, but will gather us under the shelter of your love. You do so in order to give us that peace which heals us, that wonder which surprises us, and that faith which enables us to let go of the present to walk into the covenant of grace made possible through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon:** God does not abandon us. God gathers us up, leading us to that shelter of love and life. Today, tomorrow, and the next day, God’s grace rests upon us and gives us hope and mercy. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven. Amen.

Opening Hymn – #735 “I Need Thee Every Hour”

The Passing of the Peace - Stay seated and display loving signs of Christ’s peace to your church family - smile, wave, flash the peace sign, etc.

Children’s Message

1st Scripture Reading – Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal^[a] to this day.¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Music for Meditation

2nd Scripture Reading – Luke 15: 1-3; 11-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ¹¹ Then Jesus^[a] said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to

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his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks Be To God

Sermon: "Micah: Then as Now" Janet Miller

***Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed (The United Church)**

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

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Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People – 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sung Prayer Response: "What a friend we have in Jesus"

"What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer. Oh what peace we often forfeit. Oh what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer."

Offering

***Doxology** - "Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

***Offertory Prayer**

***Closing Hymn - #300 "We are One in the Spirit"**

***Benediction-**

One: Today, tomorrow, and the next day, go with God:

All: we will take the Word of grace into our world.

One; Today, tomorrow, and the next days, go with Jesus:

All: we will shelter those who have nowhere else to go.

One: Today, tomorrow, and all the days to come, go with the Spirit:

All: we will gather the forsaken into our hearts.

***Postlude: #542 "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"**

"God be with you till we meet a-gain; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a Shepherd's care enfold you. God be with you till we meet a-gain. Amen."

Announcements & More

Every Sunday:

✠ Breakfast – 9 am

✠ Sunday School: 9:30 - 10:30: In person and via Zoom

Ongoing:

➤ Food for FISH: Non-perishable foods, cleaning supplies, personal care items; bar, hand & body soap.

Mission:

❖ Women's Gathering Bazaar (March 27-April 3) – for Heifer

❖ PDA Collection for Ukraine