

# March 27, 2022

## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

*Our PCAS Vision:*

*"To be a Light by Living, Loving, Learning, and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."*

### *Order of Worship*

*(\*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Blessed Assurance

Setting by J. Bert Carlson

Candle Lighting

\*Call to Worship

Leader We come, because we seek our God.

**People Every morning, every day, every evening,  
every moment, God is with us.**

Leader We come, because we hunger for Christ.

**People Jesus will feed us with hope,  
will replace our emptiness with grace.**

Leader We come, because we thirst for the Spirit.

**People Who fills our yearning for peace,  
who ends the drought of justice.**

\*Hymn #35

Praise Ye the Lord

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near,  
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
sheltering thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er been granted  
in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again;  
gladly for aye we adore him.

## Call to Confession

Sin imprisons; Christ's forgiveness frees. Let us seek the grace of God that opens pathways to a shared, full experience of life.

## Prayer of Confession (**unison**)

### **Liberating God,**

**For being a freedom loving people, we do confine so many of our neighbors. We make policy that confines the poor to their poverty, and those who express the full range of human sexuality to their closets. We make minimal efforts to open up public life to those who need accessibility and transportation. We warehouse our aged and infirm. We live in captivity ourselves when we box out so many others.**

**We claim to believe in your unconditional love for all people, but we confess it's an idea that we have not fully integrated in our thinking and living. Forgive us, we who humbly seek to open every door we once shut another behind. As Jesus opened up abundant life for so many, may we as faithful disciples, participate in his liberating grace.**

## Moment of Silent Reflection

*You are invited to use this time to fill out a card to hang on the gnarly cross. For what are you seeking Christ's grace in this Lenten season? What's in your soul that needs transformation, resurrection, liberation, love?*

## Assurance of Pardon

The good news is that God never confines us to our world of sin. God frees us from ourselves to join in gracious and loving community.

**We rejoice in the beauty of who we all are and the lives God has created for us.**

## Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson                      Isaiah 58:6-12

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

## Sharing of Joys and Concerns

## Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

## \*Passing of the Peace

\*Hymn #506

## Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table

Look who gathers at Christ's table! Hear the stories that they bring.  
Some are weeping; some are laughing; some have songs they want to sing.  
Others ask why they're invited, burdened by the wrong they've done.  
Christ insists they all are welcome. There is room for everyone.

Clouds of light surround the table; ancient followers appear,  
saints confessing how they wrestled with their guilt, their doubt and fear.  
Peter tells of his denying Christ was ever in his sight;  
Paul relates his fruitless effort to obliterate the light.

Their sad stories are repeated in the thousand different ways,  
but they share one thing in common: they are end in thanks and praise  
for the host who has invited north and south and east and west  
to converge around this table, where all life is fed and blest.

Bring your joy and bring your sadness, and prepare to be surprised  
by the host whose hands are wounded, who will open wide your eyes  
when he blesses bread and breaks it— truth and manna from above!—  
and then passes wine that wakens in your hear the taste of love.

Second Scripture Lesson

Luke 13:10-17

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

Sermon

Unlocking Life

Offering

Offertory:

Sonata in Am - Largo

Arcangelo Corelli

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #839

## Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story; this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight.  
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. [Refrain]

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blessed,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.  
[Refrain]

\*Benediction

Postlude

Sonata in Am - Allemanda

Arcangelo Corelli

## **Announcements and Upcoming Events:**

Worship Leaders:

This mornings Liturgist: David Apy

Ushering this morning: Team D

Zoom Host: Jim Wright

Hymn Leadership: Sean Starke and Melonie Chambers

Piano and Organ: Kathleen Healy-Wedsworth and Marcello Velame

Offertory Recorder: Marcello Velame

Video Editing: Rich Vodhanel

Coffee Hour: PW

*The Chancel Flowers were donated by Debi & Mike Coccaro  
in loving memory of Doris & Ed Coccaro and Jean & Edward Carter.*

**Food Drive:** The Deacons invite you to donate shelf stable food for the Eatontown CO-OP. You may leave donations in the bin or the foyer of the Church House.

**Chancel Flowers:** Please sign up to dedicate and supply flowers in memory of your loved ones. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer of The Church House, or you can email [pcas@verizon.com](mailto:pcas@verizon.com) or call the office 7327473557 your information.

**THE BOOK NOOK** is open for business...Come shop!!!

**Church Groups and Committees** who wish to meet in the Church House can call the office (732 747 3557) or email ([pcas@verizon.com](mailto:pcas@verizon.com)) to book your meetings.

**Choir:** All are welcome to join us. Rehearsal time will be 8:30-9:30am on Sundays.

### **Reflections on What we Believe**

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”

*Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa*

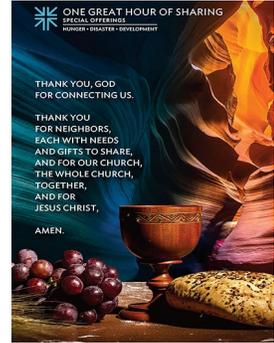
**ZOOM BIBLE STUDY Tuesday 9am:** You can jump in on our discussion anytime at this zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87686705631>

**Or by phone: (646) 558-8656 Enter Meeting ID: 876 8670 5631**



**SOLES FOR SOULS SHOE DRIVE MARCH 3-APRIL 17:** We will be collecting all types of shoes with/without heels, boots, flip flops, anything that DOES NOT have holes in the bottom of the shoe. A collection box will be in Fellowship Hall during the Lenten Season. If you have any questions, please contact Lori Hirce.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** Received during the season of Lent (March 2 - April 17, 2022), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need, In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. Watch your mail for your OGHS envelope. Lori Hirce Church & Society



**The Gnarly Cross:** Pick up a card with the bulletin for the purpose of writing anonymously what you hope to confront in your soul. Then after the service hang it on the Gnarly Cross.

**Order your Easter Lilies for the Chancel  
For Easter Sunday April 17, 2022.  
Palm Sunday is the last day to order**

Please make Check payable to The Board of Deacons, Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury.

I would like to order \_\_\_ Easter Lily(s) at \$10.00 each. Total Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/ Honor of (circle one) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate line;

I will pick up my Lily(s) following the 10 AM Service



**Pastor.....Rev. Katja Gruening**  
**Director of Music Ministries .....Marcello Velame**  
**Office Administrator.....Billie McNally**  
**Sexton..... Douglas Silk**