

March 19th, 2023

Fourth Sunday in 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 Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley
Setting by Jason W. Krug

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Holy God, we praise you for protecting and guiding us.

People: We thank you for liberating your children from oppression.

Leader: We bless you even in the midst of conflict.

People: We glory in your tangible presence among us.

Leader: We rejoice in your Spirit's presence in all times and places.

People: Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End, Holy God, we welcome you to this place today!

***Hymn #687** Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (verses 1,2,3,6)
music and lyrics page 7

Call to Confession

Leader: In our search for truth, God prompts us to name what is hard but necessary to confess as true. Let us pray boldly so that we may welcome God's grace and truth more deeply into our lives.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Sovereign God, You reign over the whole universe, free to do as You please. You chose to bind Yourself to us in faithful service that we might enjoy Your blessing. We confess that we fall short of Your example. With our freedom, we don't always choose to love and serve others. We hold others captive when we refuse to forgive, when we make unjust laws that allow discrimination to continue, when we exploit poor workers in exchange for cheap goods. We fail to see that we erode our own freedom when we misuse it. Lord, you have earned for us freedom from the strong hold of sin. May we live into this powerful gift, understanding its true nature, and uniting our hearts with your desire that all should experience it. Amen.

Moment for Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. (Romans 8:1-2)

People: Therefore let us live as people who are free, not using our freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. (1 Peter 2:16)

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Psalm 49:5-15

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

Children's Message

Noisy Offering

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

***Passing of the Peace**

***Hymn** #819 Be Still, My Soul music and lyrics page 8

Second Scripture Lesson 1 Timothy 2:5-7

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

The Healing Tree

*There in God's garden stands the tree of Wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations:
tree of all knowledge, tree of all compassion, tree of all beauty.*

*Its name is Jesus, name that says "Our Savior!"
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;
see, there the tendrils of our human selfhood feed on its lifeblood.*

*See how its branches reach to us in welcome;
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness; give me all your sorrow; I will give blessing."*

Text from a 17th century hymn written by Hungarian pastor Pecselyi Kiraly Imre

Throughout the Lenten season, you are invited to use the green leaves in the pew racks to "grow" the tree - to name lives and places in your life or in the world where you see Christ's work of reconciliation and healing happening - even if only in tiny ways! It all counts! You may add leaves to Christ's tree before or after the service, or during the passing of the peace, or you may place them in the offering plates for the worship committee to add. As the tree "grows", we will have a visible sign of Christ's vital work among us.



Holy Week Services

The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury



Palm Sunday

4/2/23, 10am, Sanctuary

Gather at the church house at 9:45am to join in our procession with palms, singing, and handbells, or meet us in the sanctuary or on Zoom.

Maundy Thursday Prayer Service & Vigil

4/6/23, 7pm, Sanctuary

Join us for contemplative prayer at 7pm

Sign up to keep vigil for one hour between 8pm and 9am
in the sanctuary, or on Zoom

Good Friday Tenebrae Service

4/7/23, 7:30pm, Fellowship Hall

A service of lengthening shadows as the story of Jesus's last days and crucifixion are dramatically told, including holy communion.

Easter Celebration of the Resurrection

4/9/23, 10am, Sanctuary

On the most holy day of the year, join us in great celebration of the resurrection of the Lord!

Joyous music from our choir, handbell choir, and trumpet.

LAST WEEK FOR THE LENTEN COLLECTION

When we show up to support those in need,
Life isn't always rainy and gray...



WEEK 5 - Umbrellas

Feel free to add to the donations from previous weeks

WEEK 1 - water bottle

WEEK 2 - paper products

WEEK 3 - toiletries

WEEK 4 - cleaning products

The donation box is in the Church House foyer.

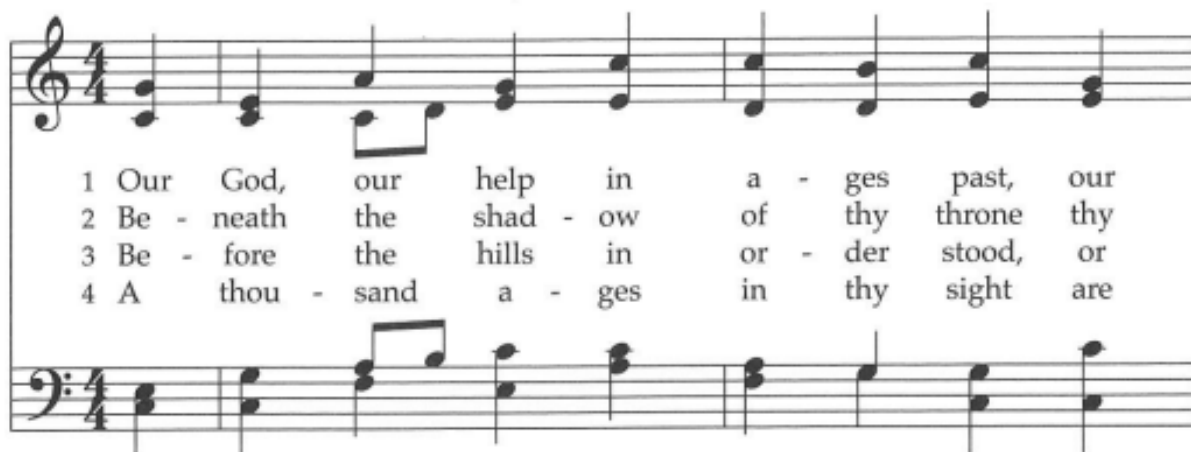
We also accept monetary donations made out to Ocean's Harbor House.

Thank you so much for all of your generous donations so far.

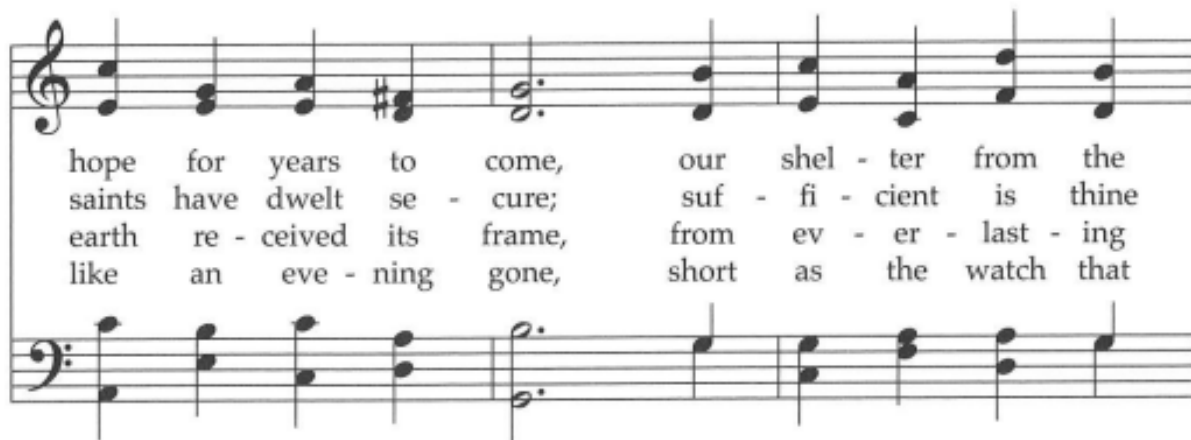


687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)



1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
thou art God, to end - less years the same.
ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.
 2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
 to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
 when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord;

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide,
 Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
 all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

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Live into Hope

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

Schedule Week of March 20th

20	MAR, MON	● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Wisdom Tree Yoga - Gentle Floor Yoga(studio)
		● 7 – 9pm	Boy Scouts (FH)
21	MAR, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Zoom Bible Study
		● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga - Chair Yoga Fitness(studio)
		● 11am – 12pm	Overeaters Anonymous (TR)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Session Meeting (TR)
22	MAR, WED	● 9:30 – 11am	Mission Belles (TR)
23	MAR, THU	● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga - Yoga for Bone Health (studio)
		● 4:45 – 5:45pm	Yoga Small Group - (FH)
		● 6 – 7pm	Bells (Social Room)
25	MAR, SAT	● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
26	MAR, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (FH)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)