



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of **MADISON**



March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent/Installation of Officers

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

* Call to Worship

L: We come seeking Jesus, who is for us the way, the truth, the life.

P: We come, seeking Jesus, whose way leads to the cross, whose truth leads to love, and whose life was poured out for us all.

L: We come, seeking Jesus, who calls us to follow in this way, this truth, and this life.

All: All come, seeking Jesus, whose love empowers us to follow him.

* Opening Hymn

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
(v1 & v3)

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you welcome us with the unbounded love of a parent who loves a child. Forgive us when we lose our way. Help us when we turn away from your safekeeping. Watch over us when we choose the paths of doubt and fear. Guide us back to your embrace and write your law upon our hearts that we may know and trust you. In these last days of Lent, turn our eyes toward the cross where Christ was lifted up for us and for the world you so love.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** Congregational Response**

*You alone can rescue,
You alone can save,
You alone can lift us from the grave;
You came down to find us, led us out of death,
To You alone belongs the highest praise,
Amen.*

Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Loving God, by the power of your Spirit, open our hearts to receive your Word, speaking through the Scriptures. Reveal your truth for our lives and our times, through Jesus Christ, the Living Word. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Second Scripture Reading

John 12: 20-33

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." 22 Philip went and told Andrew, then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor. 27 "Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say: 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." 29 The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." 30 Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." 33 He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Sermon

Is it Time Yet?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Installation of Elders

Questions to the Congregation:

Do we, the members of the church, accept these members as Ruling Elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amen!

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

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 glory, forever. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

* Closing Hymn

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

(v1 & v4)

Benediction

*Postlude

As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.

We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,

to be Christ's body in the world.

WORSHIP LEADER

Susan Mennella

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY ON FORGIVENESS

Forgiveness is central to our social structures, our families, and our faith. Our Christian faith is forever imprinted by “the invitation to receive, and the imperative to offer forgiveness.” Join us by Zoom on Wednesday, March 20th, at 7:30 pm as we gather for our last Lenten study using biblical passages for a conversation on forgiveness. A Zoom link will be sent closer to the session.

MARCH MADNESS PIZZA PARTY

Join us on Thursday, March 21st from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Burnet's downtown apartment, 60 1/2 Main Street, second floor, Madison. Free bracket with prizes! Please email jimburnet@gmail.com to reserve your spot and to let us know of any dietary restrictions.

BREAKFAST AT THE NAUTILUS

Please join us for an enjoyable morning of fun and fellowship at the Nautilus Diner, 97 Main Street, Madison on Thursday, March 28th at 8:00 am. Early birds can arrive as early as 7:15 am. Please contact Jim Burnet at jimburnet@gmail.com with any questions.

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Please join us for a retirement celebration coffee hour in honor of Pastor Jacqui on Sunday, March 31st, directly after the 10:15 am Easter service. The coffee hour will be outside, weather permitting, on the church lawn. Otherwise, it will be in the narthex.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR EASTER DURING LENT

Request for Donations of Gently Used Adult Clothing

We are collecting gently used ADULT clothing to donate to the in-patient psychiatric unit at RWJ Barnabas Health Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth through Easter Sunday, March 31st. A nurse practitioner in this unit has established a clothing closet for patients. She noted that many patients come in with only the clothes on their backs and no longer have family support. Gently used clothing and shoes can be donated. If you wish to donate socks or underwear, they must be new (in unopened packages).

A gray bin for the clothing is outside the church office. Clothing donations may be placed in the bin or delivered to Susan Mennella. She lives at 156 Leeds Court (in Madison Commons). Questions?? Contact Susan at smennella@verizon.net or 201-424-1267 (voice or text).

THURSDAY MORNING CLUB'S PROM BOUTIQUE

Exciting News! It's time to clean out your closets. The Thursday Morning Club is looking for new or gently used cocktail dresses, gowns, fancy pantsuits, and tuxedos for their Prom-Attire Collection Drive. In addition, they are collecting evening purses, and gently used strappy sandals, pumps, and high heels.

Please ask your children and grandchildren to help us with this endeavor. The Madison High School Key Club is also helping collect the dresses, pantsuits and accessories.

Please drop off items at the Madison Community House, 25 Cook Avenue, Madison. The club's goal is to hold a "Prom Boutique" allowing teens who might not attend their prom, due to cost factors, to come to the event and choose items, cost-free. The drive will continue throughout March.

PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR EASTER DURING LENT

Make Time for Prayer and Reflection

Make prayer a daily habit. Set aside part of your day for quiet time when interruptions are at a minimum. Pray the psalms, use a devotional guide to choose daily prayers. Think about things in your life that you need to change and pray for help in changing them.

Attend Lenten and Easter Worship Services

- Palm Sunday, March 24 @ 10:15 am
- Maundy Thursday, March 28 @ 7:00 pm in the sanctuary
- Good Friday Tenebrae, March 29 @ 7:00 pm in the sanctuary
- Easter Sunday, March 31
 - 6:30 am on the front lawn
 - 10:15 am in the sanctuary followed by Easter Egg Hunt and coffee hour retirement celebration honoring Pastor Jacqui

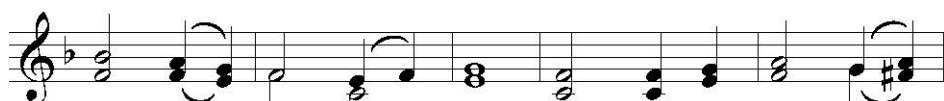
PRAYER LIST

- Pat Howard who may need back surgery and is in great discomfort
- Evelyn Dowling who is recovering slowly from surgery for tears in her retina
- Jim Kakalettris, father of Jennifer Kakalettris Boyar, who is continuing recovery from recent surgery
- Larry who is receiving new treatment for cancer
- Father of Madison Patrolman Capillas as he continues his rehabilitation from burns
- Bill, father of Sara Burnet, and for his wife, Jeri Ann
- Zoelle, recently diagnosed with a serious form of breast cancer
- Caregivers who provide physical, emotional, and psychological support for others and often neglect their own needs
- Philip, who recently moved to Sunrise Assisted Living, and his wife Ruth
- Ongoing war between Ukraine and Russia; continuing work toward peace; continuing release of captured soldiers from both sides
- Continuing loss of life in Gaza from ongoing war between Israel and Hamas; release of hostages held by Hamas and work toward peaceful ending
- All those dealing with division, hatred, prejudice and racism here and around the world
- William Christopher continuing recovery from surgery; Donna, daughter and caregiver
- Deborah for healing from grief and to feel joy in her heart again
- Pat for a new job that will relieve her stress and unhealthy environment in her current job
- Esther for strength, hope, and healing as she goes through cancer treatment
- Kiarnan and Brian dealing with mental health issues and their families
- Len who is battling cancer
- Ed for continued healing from a serious leg break, for strength and a positive spirit
- Ben who is now back in middle school after treatment for cancer

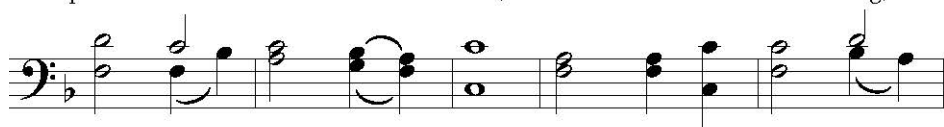
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross 223



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



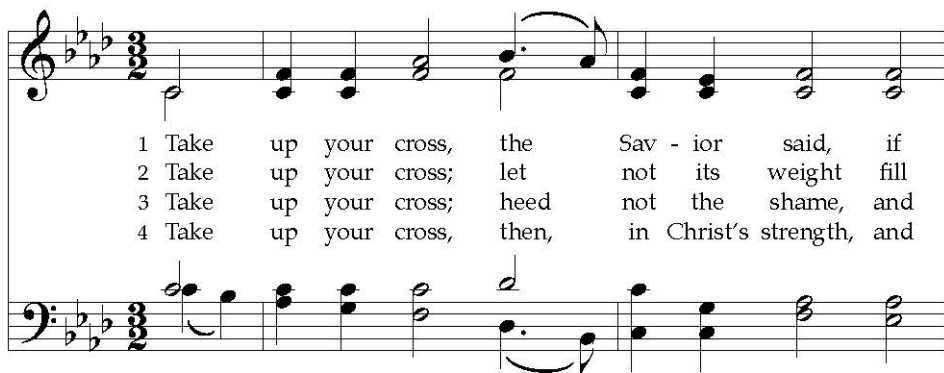
Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God; all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down; did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.



Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said 718



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
 3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
 4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
 let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
 cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

**WELCOMING ALL
AS A LOVING COMMUNITY
CENTERED IN CHRIST,
GROWING IN FAITH,
SERVING IN JOY, AND
LIVING IN GRATITUDE**

Staff

Jacqui Van Vliet
Pastor

Christine Antico
Bookkeeper

Alexandra Argiris
Office Assistant

Michael Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Anna D'Achille
Director of Music

Worship
Sunday Service 10:15 am

Session

Jim Burnet
Becky Moody, Clerk

Stephanie Haedrich
Megan Peterson

Mary-Anna Holden
Giorgios Vlamis

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination
pcusa.org



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