

Worship Participants:
Nancy Hardy, Guest Speaker
Jennifer White, Organist
Mike Doll, Worship Assistant
Ernie & Joan Botto, Greeters
Eugeniu Grigorescu, Technical Director



The First Presbyterian Church

*Glimpse of
Glory*

· MARK 9:2-13 ·

Berwick, PA
The Order of Worship Sunday February 11, 2024

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Berwick!
We are glad that you are worshipping with us today. If you are visiting for the first time today, we invite you to sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary or scan the QR code to fill it out digitally. Throughout the service, the People make the responses in **bold print**.



TIME OF PREPARATION

Wherever you turn your eyes the world can shine like transfiguration. You don't have to bring a thing to it except a little willingness to see. Only, who could have the courage to see it?

~Marilyn Robinson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Be Thou My Vision *arr. Paul Manz*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 111:1-3)

On this day when Christ revealed his glory to his disciples;

May that glory be revealed to us.

As we gaze on the splendor of Christ's love;

May we come to love Christ and our neighbors around us.

Emmanuel, Everlasting God, Prince of Peace,

We worship you today, with all our hearts and our minds.

Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE #454 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

OPENING PRAYER

O glorious God, we are a people who love the light of your face. We come again this morning to experience your radiance. Look upon us with the glow of your life-healing countenance and shine us into wholeness. On this Transfiguration Sunday, help us to see you in all your glory, the Word made flesh, and may this glory, through the Holy Spirit, transform our lives. In a world filled with hate, and injustice, inspire us to build the tabernacles of justice, peace and love, until the earth is full of your glory, as the waters cover the seas. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

The luminous God shines in our places of shadow. Let us confess

LENT 2024: ROOTED IN GOD'S LOVE

Lent starts this year on Valentine's Day, February 14th. Though Valentine's Day isn't a religious holiday, the convergence is significant. Lent is a time of dedication to the Lord. What does it mean to anchor yourself in love and in God this Lent? As we think of lenten *discipline* we might naturally associate it with shadows, emptiness, and suffering. Yes, these are elements of the lenten journey, to be sure, but so is *love*. How will you take on a lenten practice that is rooted in love this year? Here are three ideas for you.

1. **Lovingkindness Meditation** -

You can do a simple search to find many scripts for this, but the basic idea is to think warmly first toward yourself, then toward someone you love, and finally toward an enemy. A few minutes per day makes a significant difference.

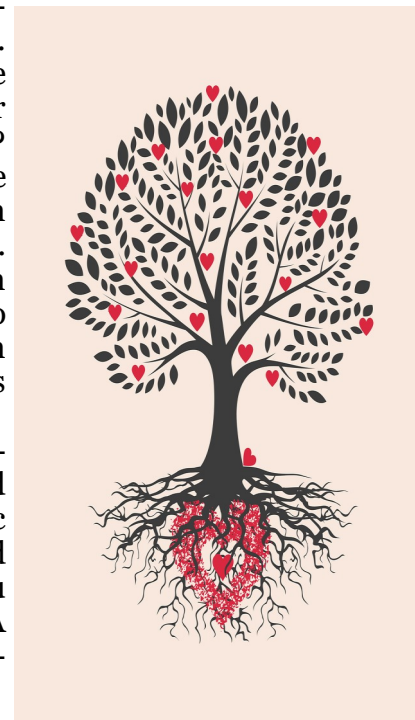
2. **Practicing Self-Compassion** -

Every morning say to yourself "I am God's beloved child. God loves me unconditionally." — Sounds simple, but how often do we neglect to extend love and hospitality to ourselves? Children seem to be better at this, though they too can struggle. If we are to remind them of their worth, we must see it in ourselves first.

3. **Scripture Memorization** -

Many of us know the beautiful and familiar words of 1 Corinthians 13 that begins "Love is patient. Love is kind." This love is not referring, specifically, to romantic love, but rather God's perfect love. Perhaps you'll want to memorize the whole chapter this Lent? How would that change your spiritual practice?

(Source: www.tracismith.com)



Jeff Knouse
Jackie Brown
Bob Feick Family
Pastor Steve Engelhardt
Paul Moskaluk
Nancy Raber
Matt Gabel
Martha Yost
Lauren Sadock
Joann Magners
Wilhelmina Hoover
Amanda Carroll

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Our Ash Wednesday service will be held **Wednesday February 14th at 7pm.**

our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Transfiguring God, we are a people who fear the light of your face. We offer only reasoned hopes and measured faith. We build a shrine of isolation around your justice. We serve the spirit of timidity that shades your possibilities for ourselves and others. Turn us around to see your light transfiguring us into bold new images of your face.

Silence

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Through the light of Christ we experience one of Christ's most amazing miracles. We can see ourselves fully---and we see ourselves forgiven. Thanks be to God!

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 50:1-6; Mark 9:2-9

*GLORIA PATRI

SERMON IN THE PLACE OF SHINING

*HYMN #74 Jesus on the Mountain Peak

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Our hope is God, our holy Parent,
who makes all things and from whom all blessings flow.
God's faithfulness is the anchor of our hope.
Our trust is in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
More than a teacher,
His life, death, and resurrection giving meaning to our
existence.**

**Christ's faithfulness tethers us to holy mystery.
Our trust is in the Holy Spirit.
Blowing over and through creation, unexpected and un-
tamed,
The Spirit stirs forgiveness, fruitfulness, and creates
families.
The Spirit's faithfulness ties together past, present, and
future.**

Holy Trinity, One God, we believe you transfigure our faith. Amen.

~ Rev. Julia Seymour, Lutheran Church of Hope, Anchorage, AK

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN #425 Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining
vss. 1-3

*BENEDICTION

*MUSICAL BENEDICTION #425 Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining

Portions of this service were taken from on-line resources of the Presbyterian Church of Canada as well as from An Improbable Gift of Blessing, Maren C. Tirabassi and Joan Jordan Grant, United Church Press, Cleveland, 1998.

*Please stand if you are able

OGHS

Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need.

From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Received during the season of Lent (February 14 – March 31), 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.

PRAYERS

Please keep Doug Orbaker in prayer for continued healing following his knee surgery.

IN THE PULPIT

February 11 Nancy Hardy
February 14 Steve Engelhardt
February 18 Tracy Fetzer
February 25 John Polhill

COMMUNION

February 11
February 14
March 28
March 31
May 19
July 14
October 6
November 24
December 24

PRAYER LIST

Matthew Boggs
Clio Strausser
Tom & Barb Huntington
Alison Powlus
Jason Seltzer
Kathleen Knouse

FLOOD BUCKETS

We will once again be packing flood buckets in preparation to help those who experience the after effects of natural disasters in our area and around the country. Because the list is specific we are making it easy to donate to this mission. **Please send your monetary donation to the office by February 12th.** Supplies will be purchased, packed and sent to Presbytery where they will be picked up and be on standby for families in need. Thank you in advance for your continued support to this mission!

EASTER PLANTS

It is that time. Time to think spring and order your Easter plants! Plants are \$10 each and **orders must be received in the office by February 25th.** Please use your order form in your bulletin to place your order.

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

Registration is now opened for the 2024 Equipping the Saints on March 16, 2024. There is no cost for this training. The training this year will be at Grove Presbyterian Church in Danville. **Registration is due by March 5.** Registration forms can be found on the back table of the sanctuary and can be returned to the Presbytery Office – PO Box 334, Montoursville, PA 17754.

LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

Our Lenten devotionals will be available via email beginning on Ash Wednesday. Be on the lookout for an email with the link! If you would prefer a printed copy please notify the office.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Don't forget, men's breakfast is held **EVERY Wednesday** at 7:30am downstairs in the kitchen. All men are welcome to attend, fill up on hot cooked grub, join in fellowship and do whatever it is that men do.

JOIN THE BLUE OUT

The first Sunday in Lent (**February 18th**) every year is designated "Wear your blue t-shirt to church Sunday" as a testament of one of the ways *One Great Hour of Sharing* makes a difference. Will you be a part of this joyful manifestation of hope? Help us remind others that gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing support disaster recovery efforts in the United States and around the world. **Together let's tell the story of hope out of chaos.**

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

¹ Blessèd Jesus, at Your word
We are gathered all to hear You;
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear You;
By Your teachings true and holy,
Drawn from earth to love You solely.

² All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
Till Your Spirit breaks our night
With the beams of truth unclouded;
You alone to God can win us,
You must work all good within us.

³ Glorious Lord, Yourself impart!
Light of light, from God proceeding,
Open now our ears and heart,
Help us by Your Spirit's pleading;
Hear the cry that we are raising;
Hear, and bless our prayers and praising.

Jesus on the Mountain Peak

¹ Jesus on the mountain peak
Stands alone in glory blazing;
Let us, if we dare to speak,
Join the saints and angels praising.
Alleluia!

² Trembling at His feet we saw
Moses and Elijah speaking.
All the prophets and the law
Shout through them their joyful greeting:
Alleluia!

³ Swift the cloud of glory came,
God proclaiming, in its thunder,
Jesus as the Son by name!
Nations, cry aloud in wonder.
Alleluia!

⁴ This is God's beloved Son!

Law and prophets sing before Him,
First and last and only One.
All creation shall adore Him!
Alleluia!

Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining

¹Lord of light, Your name outshining
All the stars and suns of space,
Use our talents in Your kingdom
As the servants of Your grace;
Use us to fulfill Your purpose
In the gift of Christ Thy Son:

Refrain

Abba, as in highest heaven,
So on earth Your will be done.

²By the toil of faithful workers
In some far outlying field;
By the courage where the radiance
Of the cross is still revealed;
By the victories of meekness,
Through reproach and suffering won.
Refrain

³Grant that knowledge, still increasing,
At Your feet may lowly kneel;
With Your grace our triumphs hallow,
With Your charity our zeal;
Lift the nations from the shadows
To the gladness of the sun:

Refrain

⁴By the prayers of faithful watchers,
Never silent day or night;
By the cross of Jesus, bringing
Peace to all, and healing light;
By the love that passes knowledge,
Making all Your children one.

Refrain

Announcements

THANK YOU!

This morning we welcome back Nancy Hardy to the pulpit. Welcome back Nancy and thank you for leading us in worship this morning!

ANNUAL SOUPER BOWL DAY OF CARING COOKOFF TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

The Annual Souper Bowl Day of Caring Cookoff will once again be held immediately after the worship service **today!** Don't worry, there will be plenty of time to get home and watch the eight hours of pre-game festivities.

If you're a "seasoned veteran" you know that we ask for volunteers to cook up their finest soup, chowder, or chili recipes to be submitted for judging by the harshest critics we can find, our members! Everyone will sample the submissions and have the chance to vote for their favorite. The "chef" who is responsible for the winning submission will receive, among other things, the much-coveted and very valuable Souper Bowl Day of Caring trophy, enshrinement in the Berwick Presbyterian Soup Hall of Fame (joining two-time champion Nancy Dietterick, Alison Hause, the Deacons, and the Youth Group), and bragging rights for the next year.

So dig out your favorite recipes! Other soups not in the cookoff will be available for purchase, and monetary donations will be gladly accepted. All monies received will be donated to our local Food Pantries.

If you're not into making soup, chowder, or chili we would gladly welcome a dessert.

Finally, show that you're a true fan that day by donning the gear/apparel/colors of your favorite team (NFL, college, or high school) even if they're not in the big game that day. There will be free admission for anyone who dresses the part! Okay, just kidding, it's all free anyway, but you get the point!!!

This is a fun annual event—let's keep it going! Bring your friends, family, or anyone else you don't care for! Again, just kidding!!! The more the merrier! P.S. Tums will be available!