

**McKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WORSHIP SERVICE**

1st Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2024

WE ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

"You Are My Hiding Place"

**Candice Holsinger, Organist
Ar. Ledner**

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 139)**

(L) On this the first Sunday of our 40-day Lenten Journey, we invite you, O God, to search us – without restrictions - and know our hearts

(C) Test us and know our deepest thoughts

(L) Search us, our Lord, and see if there is any wicked way in us

(C) Lead us back to the way of everlasting Life

(L) Return us to Yourself, O God, for You are gracious

(C) You are merciful

(L) You are slow to anger, quick to relent

(C) You abound in steadfast love

(ALL) Search us, O Lord, and lead us deeper into You.

***HYMN**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (Vv. 1 & 2)

No. 320, brown

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Romans 7:24)**

Merciful Lord,

We confess that we have sinned against you.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength.

Nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have failed to trust You. We have resisted following you into the dry, barren places of our lives and confronting our "wild beasts".

We confess that we fear loss and death more than we trust the abundant and eternal life that You promise.

Wretched people that we are!

Who will rescue us from this body of death?

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (Romans 7: 25a, *: 1-2)**

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

There is therefore now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus
has set us free from the law of sin and of death.

In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

(ALL) Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

No. 813, brown

**Glory be the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

JOYS

Leader: "For (joy), Gracious God..."

All: "we give you thanks"

CONCERNS

Leader: "For (concern), Merciful Lord ..."

All: "hear our prayer."

Let's pray together 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Please contact the church by email or phone with your prayer requests during the week.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Please welcome the youth to the front of the sanctuary.

ANTHEM

"And Can It Be?"

**(Chancel Choir)
Arr Campbell**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mark 1: 9-15

Mark 1: 9-15

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness forty days, tested by Satan, and he was with the wild beasts, and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

SERMON

"Where the Wild Things Are"

Rev. Michael Stanton

**THE RESPONSE
WE COMMIT TO THE WORK OF GOD**

OFFERTORY

Candice Holsinger, Organist

***DOXOLOGY**

***HYMN**

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus" (Vv. 3, & 4)

No. 320, brown

THE EXIT

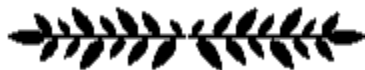
WE ENGAGE THE WORLD OF GOD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Candice Holsinger, Organist

**All those who are able, please stand"*



ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 18, 2024

FELLOWSHIP II:

Please join together for friendship and fellowship after today's service.

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF PASTORAL CARE, please contact the church office.

TAKE CARE, THE FLU AND COLD SEASON IS UPON US:

Please help keep everyone healthy. If you have a cold or flu, please consider joining us virtually or utilizing the masks available at the entrances. We all thank you.

ORDER YOUR EASTER FLOWERS:

The Order forms for the Easter Flowers are available in the Chapel and at the church entrance. Please give your orders to Kim Moore or turn them in at the church office. DEADLINE is Sunday March 3, 2024.

HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES AND SOCKS:

We have been collecting hats, scarves, gloves and socks in all sizes, for our community for the winter. If you have any extras of these items please drop them off at the church office. Thank you.

EYEGASSES, HEARING AIDS:

Lions Club of White Oak is collecting old eyeglasses, hearing aids, and used, clean, non-labeled prescription bottles. If you would like to dispose of any of these items, please give them to Carol Lasch or drop them off at the church office.

FOOD TRUCK:

The Food Truck will be at the church on February 22, 2024 at 10:30 am.

NAACP PANCAKE BREAKFAST:

Saturday February 24, 8:00 Am to Noon. Come in for a Pancake Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Buttermilk or Blueberry Pancakes, Sausage and Beverage. \$10 Adults and \$5 children 10 or younger. Vendors, Entertainment, and Student Presentations

MCKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor-Rev. Michael Stanton

Director of Music-Edward R. Moore

Organists- Millie Kistler, Candice Holsinger, & Faye D'Ippolito

Office/Financial Assistant- Robin Enright

Maintenance Manager -Brock Cochran

412-678-2000

www.mckpres.com

mckeesportpresbyterian@gmail.com