

**McKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WORSHIP SERVICE**

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 3, 2024

WE ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD

PRELUDE

"Lamb of God"

**Candice Holsinger, Organist
Arr. Paris**

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

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

(L) On this the third 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 deeper into 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**

"What Wondrous Love is This" (Vv. 1 & 2)

No. 314, brown

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

Merciful Lord,

We confess that we have sinned against You and others.

You have given Yourself fully to us. We have withheld ourselves from You. You have given us the narrow Way to abundant life; we have chased idols down the wide road to emptiness instead.

In pride and arrogance, we have dishonored our heritage and our blessings. In insecurity, we have envied what others have. In fear, we have stolen what is not ours, we have taken what we don't need.

Afflicted people that we are!

Who will rescue us from this body of death?

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (Romans 7: 25a, 8: 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 children & youth to the front of the sanctuary.

ANTHEM

"Jesus Paid It All"

(Chancel Choir)

Arr. Grape

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mark 8: 31-38

Exodus 20: 1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words, ²"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me. ⁴"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. ⁷"You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. ⁸"Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your

livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³ "You shall not murder. ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

SERMON

" Alternate Way to Live "

Rev. Michael Stanton

THE RESPONSE
WE COMMIT TO THE WORK OF GOD

OFFERTORY

Candice Holsinger, Organist

***DOXOLOGY**

***HYMN**

"What a Wondrous Love is This" (Vv. 3, & 4)

No. 314, brown

THE EXIT

WE ENGAGE THE WORLD OF GOD

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

"Hallelujah, What a Savior"

Candice Holsinger, Organist
Arr. Bliss

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 3, 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.

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 THIS SUNDAY

REFRESH:

Join us for "Refresh", a multigenerational gathering in the Church Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, March 6 starting at 6 PM. (dinner is provided). This is open to everyone, bring your friends!

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.

POPCORN SALE:

The Mission Committee is having a popcorn sale in March. Orders can be made March 1 until March 31; all orders and money must be in by then. We will be available to take orders after Fellowship on Sundays.

The fundraiser is to help with the cost of making Welcome Bags for the Malawi/South Sudan visitors this May.

The popcorn will be distributed at church on May 5.

If anyone would like to help by selling popcorn, please let Joanna Stettmier or Carol Lasch know. It would be greatly welcomed.

MCKEESPORT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor-Rev. Michael Stanton

Director of Music-Edward R. Moore

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

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