

MERRITT ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Leading in Worship: Rev. Christina Greenawalt and Mary Lou Tipton

February 18, 2024

In Person and Facebook Live

10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Lent



Silent Meditation: May God's glory fill our eyes, our hearts, and our lives as we worship this week.

Gathering Music

"Return to You" video

Words of Welcome

Pastor Christina

Prelude:

Amazing Grace

Maryrose Beerman & Joyce Walker

Call to Worship (**responsive**):

Liturgist

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.

One: Come in.

Feel your feet on the floor.

Settle your worries.

Take a deep breath.

Dust the cobwebs from your ears.

Relax the tension in your jaw,

All: for Christ is here.

God never stops seeking us.

One: We have been found.

All: Let us find God in return.

One: Let us worship the God of deep waters. Amen.

Congregational Hymn # 475:

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!*

*Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.*

*O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.*

Time with the Young and Young at 

Call to Confession

Liturgist

Prayer of Confession (unison):

Loving God, You call us by name. You join us in the deep waters of life. You invite us to drop our nets and follow you, and yet, more often than we'd like to admit, we are like Peter. Over and over again, we stand slack jawed and surprised to find you in our midst. Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own. Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves. Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat. Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you, for you are the Lord our God, and it is in your name that we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness (responsive):

Liturgist

One: Friends, Peter didn't exactly make a good first impression when Jesus got into his boat. He questioned dropping his nets, as they hadn't caught any fish all night. He was oblivious to who Christ was for quite some time, and once he realized the Divinity standing in his boat, he quickly deemed himself unworthy. And even still, Jesus called Peter a disciple and a friend. Church family, hear and believe this good news: You can make a thousand bad impressions. You can make every mistake in the book, roll your eyes, and assume you know better. And even still, Christ will forgive you, claim you, and continue to seek your heart. That is the good news of the gospel. Rest, celebrate, and trust in that. Amen.

All: Glory to God! Amen!

Response to Assurance:

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Hymn # 582

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist

First Reading:

Psalms 25:1-10

Page 618, OT

One: The Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music:

Heart of Worship

Jeana Lutz, soloist

Second Reading:

Luke 5:1-11

Page 76, NT

One: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message:

Wandering Heart: "Jesus Sought Me"

Rev. Christina Greenawalt

Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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 the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to Live Generously:

The offering basket is near the back door of the sanctuary.

You may also give online at www.merrittislandpc.org

Response:

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn # 721:

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore (verses 1 & 4)

*Lord, you have come to the lakeshore looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;
you only asked me to follow humbly.*

*O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling have spoken my name;
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me. By your side I will seek other seas.*

*You, who have fished other oceans, ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me:*

*O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling have spoken my name;
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me. By your side I will seek other seas.*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Ushers: Frances Fernald, Lynn Pemberton, Lorrie Peek

Attendance Last Week: In Person: 45, On Line: 11

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! Thank you for joining us today, whether you are here in person or online! We gather together as a church family, from wherever we may be. If you would like to know more about MIPC, how you can be more involved, or to speak to the pastor, please contact the church office at the number/email below.

Lenten Series: We will be using the Sanctified Art series *Wandering Heart*, which focuses on Jesus' disciple Peter. By following Peter's journey, we watch the story of Jesus unfold through the eyes of a very normal human trying to figure it all out—just like us. There are devotionals in the Narthex; watch for our daily Facebook posts throughout Lent as we prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of the Resurrection.

Ways to Serve

Family Promise's Emerald City 5K fundraiser is this Friday, February 23rd at 6 PM at Church of Viera. If you would like to participate please think of the Wizard of Oz and "There's no place like home..." and all the Brevard families this group helps. Go online for more info: familypromiseofbrevard.org, or see the flyers in the Narthex.

Ways to Connect

Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Narthex after worship. Thank you Craig & Marilyn Smoot, for providing today's food! If you'd like to bring snacks one week, there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Thank you, Betsy Heenan, for last week's goodies and cute birthday cake for Pastor Christina!

Adult Faith Enrichment Class: Join us for Adult Faith Formation at 9:00 a.m. in the Session Room or on Zoom. Our Lent study begins this week: *Pause: Spending Lent with the Psalms* with Milt Seapker. All are welcome at any time!

Women's Ministry: Fabulous Fridays! Come and join us in the Activities Room every other Friday @ 2:00 p.m. for our Women's Bible Study Group. (Our next gathering is Feb. 23.) Our study, led by Julie Hill, is titled "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts." Please contact Julie for more information and questions. cj2hill@bellsouth.net or 321-431-5333.

Celebrations & Concerns

Happy Birthday to:

February 18: Ted Beerman
February 19: Elaine Kicklighter
February 19: Marilyn Smoot
February 21: Al Sams
February 22: Betty Pothoff
February 24: Ronny Gould

Happy Anniversary to:

February 22: Lorrie & Larry Peek

Our Prayers are with:* Sis Beckman, Cindy Bottomley, Dot Corbett, Carolyn Crockett, Andre Koodie, Janet Post, Kelly Shephard, and George Wilcox.

** Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless otherwise requested.*

If you would like your prayer concern to be shared on our Prayer Chain Email (or if you'd like to be on the email distribution list), contact Jill Franklin at mipcprayerchain600@gmail.com, or make a note on the Prayer Request card in the pew.

Thank you, Maryrose Beerman, Joyce Walker, and Jeana Lutz, for the beautiful music today!

THIS WEEK AT MIPC:

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| Monday, Feb. 19 | President's Day; Office closed |
| Monday, Feb. 19, 4:30 PM | Deacons, Session Room |
| Tuesday, Feb. 20, 3:00 PM: | Kids Klub |
| Tuesday, Feb. 20, 8:00 PM: | AA, Fellowship Hall |
| Wednesday, Feb. 21, 3:30 PM: | One Purpose |
| Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:00 PM: | Square Dancers, Fellowship Hall |
| Thursday, Feb. 22, 7:00 PM | Session (Zoom) |
| Friday, Feb. 23, 12:00 PM | Women's Retreat meeting |
| Friday, Feb. 23: 2:00 PM | Fabulous Friday, Activities Room |
| Saturday, Feb. 24 | Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet, Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday, Feb. 25, 9:00 AM: | Adult Faith Formation, Session Room |
| Sunday, Feb. 25, 10:00 AM: | Worship Service |
| Sunday, Feb. 25, 11:00 AM: | Prayer Walk/Anointing |

For more information on any of these events, check with the church office.

Rev. Christina Greenawalt, Pastor

Maryrose Beerman, Acting Music Director
Tammy Lewis, Preschool Director
Leslie Mitchell, Financial Secretary
James Neihouse, Live Feed Director/Producer
www.merrittislandpc.org

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