Shelter Island Presbyterian Church

Est. 1743
Today’s Texts:

- Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
- Psalm 27  
- Philippians 3:17-4:1  

(The worship service begins with the prelude. Let us silently prepare our hearts and allow others the same opportunity.)  
*We invite you to rise in body or in spirit

Chimes

Prelude:  “How Blessed is this Place”  O Waly Waly, arr. James Biery

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Introit:  “Be Still, For the Spirit of the Lord”  David Evans

*Call to Worship

Lent is a time of waiting for life.  
And yet there is living to do in the meantime.  
Abraham and Sarah waited long for a child.  
Gen. 15

They longed for a son, an heir, a continuation of their lineage.  
God called Abraham and Sarah to be patient;
Like they were, Lent calls us to sit in a place of patient trust.  
While we wait, we remember the words of the Psalmist:  
Ps. 27

- The Lord is our light and our salvation.  
- Whom shall we fear?  
- The Lord is the stronghold of our life.  
- Of whom shall we be afraid?  
Come, the Lenten journey continues…

*Prayer of the Day

God of Life Present and Life to Come,  
as we continue this Lenten path,  
remind us that our citizenship does not belong to earthly things  
but to your everlasting Kingdom.  
Philippians 3:20

When we are tempted to believe  
that we belong to hardships and tribulations,  
remind us that we belong in your faithful and welcoming embrace.  
Even amid the penitent journey of Lent,  
even amid the confession, the honesty, the regret,  
even there, especially there, you are our Lord  
and we wait for you.  Amen.
*Hymn No. 35  “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”  LOBE DEN HERREN

*Invitation to Confession
Come, children of God, and join me in confessing our faults to our faithful Lord.

*Prayer of Confession
Jerusalem is where you are leading us. 
Jerusalem - the city that kills prophets.
You call us to take part in your work but it is scary work, work that might upset people because it upsets the status quo.
We often choose easier tasks, tasks that do not upset the water, because we are fearful and do not trust your care.
“Give us easier things to do,” we ask.
“Don’t make us sacrifice,” we beg.
“Call someone else,” we plea.
Gracious God, hear our confession and erase these questions from our hearts.
Give us questions that ask what lies ahead in your paths of justice and righteousness.

*Sung Kyrie  
Glory to God, No. 575

Lord, have mercy upon us;  
Christ, have mercy upon us;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Assurance of Forgiveness
Friends, the journey of confession, though tricky and dismal, always ends in mercy.
God has heard our confession and has forgiven our sins. Amen.

*Gloria Patri  
Glory to God, No. 581

*The Peace
Since God has forgiven us in Christ, we also ought to forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

— Please greet those around you —
Prayer for Illumination  
Ps. 27

One thing we ask, Lord:
to live in the beauty of your Word
and to be transformed by its wisdom and wonder.
Send your Spirit that we might abide within your presence
and live in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives.
Amen.

First Reading  
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
pew Bible pg. 13
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Anthem  
“A Call to Silence”  
Craig Courtney

Second Reading  
Psalm 27  
pew Bible pg. 555
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Sermon  
“A Messy Psalm”  
Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

*Hymn  
“The Lord, the Stronghold of Our Life”  
ELLACOMBE
Paraphrase of Psalm 27
Text: Stephen M. Fearing, 2014

The Lord, the stronghold of our life, removes our cause for fear.
God shelters us in troubled times and saves when strife is near.
When light is dim and hope is thin we listen for God’s Word.
Our trust is found, God’s grace is sound, we sing and praise the Lord!

One thing I ask, to seek your home and dwell forevermore.
There beauty lives and comfort gives; your temple I adore.
Upon this place you show your face and fill my heart with mirth.
This song I’ll sing as my God brings each day a new rebirth.

The reason for my strong desire to have you make me whole
Is all around me evil things that test this wearied soul.
The armies shout, their taunts cry out, their threats against me stand,
But by your word, my prayer you’ve heard, they fall at your command.

Be strong, take heart, for God is good and goodness shall prevail.
Our hope is in the Lord, our Light, and God will never fail.
God’s love is pure, our faith is sure, with courage we live on
For we will stand on living land with God, our hopeful song.
*Affirmation of Faith

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.

Prayers of the People

Call to Offering

The Offertory    “My Song is Love Unknown”    arr. Charles Callahan

*The Doxology

Glory to God, No. 606

*Prayer of Dedication

*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 the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn No. 182    “I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”    KINGSFOLD

*Charge & Benediction
Choral Benediction: “Grant Us Thy Peace” Edna Bruner

Postlude “Fanfare in D minor” Albert Zabel

Questions for Reflection
In Luke 13:35 Jesus says, “and I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”
To what sort of “seeing” does Jesus refer? Is Jesus calling for more than a verbal declaration that he is the Messiah? How might I live so that I become a testimony that Jesus is truly the one who comes in the name of God?

Household Prayer: Morning
Dear God,
I do not know all of the challenges that face me this day, but I still pray:
if I should be tempted by desire for earthly gain, remind me of my citizenship in heaven.
If I should be distracted by hunger, satisfy me with your Holy Spirit until I hunger no more.
Let me walk in the way of Christ so that my life testifies in deed and word, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.” Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening
Dear God,
great is your mercy to me, even when I have not remembered you.
Where I have strayed from your path, forgive my sins and show me the way to salvation.
Grant me rest this night that I may rise refreshed in my commitment to the way of my Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.
Information About Today’s Worship Service

Today’s liturgy is reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. Copyright 2015.

Thank you to our worship and fellowship leaders this morning!
Assisting: Laura Nelsen
Greeter: Deb Speeches
Usher: Lee Anne Bastille
Coffee Hour Host: UPW

Today’s flowers are given by Webster Schott in memory of Susan Schott

A very special welcome to our guests! Worship bags with activities for children are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher and we’ll be happy to help you. Please join us for light refreshments and fellowship after worship today in Fellowship Hall.

This week at Shelter Island Presbyterian Church:

**Sunday, February 21**
- Book Discussion
- Worship
- Soupy Sunday Chili by Sharon Morgan

**Monday, February 22**
- Engaging the Text

**Tuesday, February 23**
- Lenten Prayer Service

**Wednesday, February 24**
- Celebrity Chef Dinner

**Friday, February 19**
- AA

Looking Ahead:

**Sunday, February 28**
- Worship
- Linda Bonaccorso Concert

February bulletins are being donated by Karin Bennett in loving memory of her sister Gretchen Lochner
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Administrative Assistant Karen Tudor works on
Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Leadership Team of SIPC
Rev. Stephen M. Fearing, Pastor
Linda Betjeman, Minister of Music
Karen Tudor, Administrative Assistant & Clerk of Session
Karin Bennett, Sexton

Session
Class of 2016  Class of 2017  Class of 2018
Clarissa Tybaert  Hap Bowditch  Lynn Franklin
Ellen Gove  Lee Anne Bastible  William Anderson
Laura Dickerson  Laura Nelsen  Chris Lewis

Deacons
Class of 2016  Class of 2017  Class of 2018
Doreen McNemar  Rachel Brigham  Lynn Thomson
Colleen Smith  Dana Hallman  Alison Binder
Charlotte Hannabury  Mark Switzer  Peter Vielbig

Congregational Nominating Committee
Lee Anne Bastible, Carol Gray, Heather Reylek, Peter Vielbig

SIPC Prayer List
The nations in the Middle East, our planet, the men and women in the Armed Forces and our leaders. For Ashley Sanderson, Lindsay Ehrlich, Lisa Armour, Melissa Insinga, Audrey Trotman, Tara Chituk, Jill Tuttle Albiani, Sue Speeches-Caddle, Tara Connolly, Michael Murphy, Zackery Nubs Paben, Don Zabel, Stetson Hall, Carolyn Sargent, Bill Anderson, Janet Hansen, Scott Taplin and Gasper Caro.

We will gladly list the names of any individuals in need of our prayers. You may share names with us by turning in a note from the pew or by calling the church office prior to Friday a.m. We will continue to list these names for 4 weeks and then they will be removed unless a specific request is made.