



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22, 2020

11 o'clock

VISION

Nourished by God's Word and Sacraments,

All: Connecting lives to Christ.

PRELUDE

INTROIT

“Holy Spirit, Come to Us”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 40:1-4

In times of trouble, when all seems hopeless, I cry out to God.

And the Lord hears my pleas and answers me.

When I feel lost and alone, I look for God.

And the Lord finds me and lifts me up from the depths.

God has given my life a new song of praise!

Those who trust in God are truly happy!

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Holy God, who has promised resurrection, open our hearts to the presence of Jesus Christ.

Erase our excuses for unbelief, and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN #829

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

When we remember all the mistakes we have made, all the careless words we have spoken, all the contempt we have given to those around us, we have trouble meeting God. But God gazes at us with mercy and love, waiting to forgive us, even as we hesitate to speak of the brokenness of our hearts. With trusting hearts, let us confess our sins.

We confess, O God, our struggles to be faithful disciples. Entrusted with all your gifts, we become fearful and misuse them for our own comfort and benefit, missing the chance to be a blessing to others. Invited to dance in the light of your love, we stand still, afraid to act or move. Called to be emptied for those who struggle in life, we instead fill ourselves with scorn.

**Please stand as you are able.*

Have mercy, loving God. Open our eyes to your kingdom already in our midst, so we might discover that your day of hope and grace has already come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silent Prayer

Have mercy on us, O God. Amen.

KYRIE

(Hymn #576)

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

Water is poured into the font.

This is the good news:

Rev. Wes Pitts

*God intends for us to have life, to embrace hope, to receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Lord. The end of our journey is not rejection and emptiness, but resurrection in the fullness of grace and hope in our God. Thanks be to God! **We are forgiven! Amen.***

*GLORIA PATRI

(Hymn #581)

***Glory be to 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.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (p. 1440)

Luke 24:36-49 (p. 1288)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

“I Believe”

SERMON

“The Resurrection of the Body”

Rev. Wes Pitts

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Invitation to silent prayer, a meditation with music, then intercessions are offered;

... We join our voices in the prayer Christ taught us to pray:

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 #804

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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.

GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn #606)

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...Therefore, we join our voices in singing: (Hymn #552)

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

...for great is the mystery of faith: (Hymn #560)

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

...

PREPARING THE BREAD AND CUP

...The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

We share in the Lord's table at 2 stations, receiving the bread and dipping it into the cup.

Please raise your hand if you wish to receive communion at your seat.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*RESPONSE AFTER COMMUNION

Let us sing of our faith: (Hymn #405)

*Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.
Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! God's goodness is eternal.*

*HYMN #634 "To God Be the Glory"

*BENEDICTION

*CLOSING RESPONSE "The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

4 – Ben Covington	16 – Keira Breanna Lawson	22 – Patrick Murray
4 – John Harris	16 – Brandon Thompson	23 – Ann Michael Donovan
4 – Faye Pierce	17 – Pat Morgan	26 – James Webster
7 – Ellen Donovan	17 – Chris Trent	28 – Ron Byers
8 – Mark Cresenzo	18 – Marie Hedges	29 – Nelson Cole
9 – Lynn Wilkins	21 – Tom Callicutt	29 – Scott Greene
13 – Ellis Fulton	21 – Ed Deaton	29 – Rex Inman

SERVING IN MARCH

Communion Servers

Skip Balsley, Tilda Balsley,
Jim Harrell, Kate Harrell
Rose McMichael

Ushers

Ron Byers, Nelson Cole,
Jim Harrell, Kate Harrell,

Greeters

Cynthia Cresenzo, Calvert Smith

Door Keepers

Mark Cresenzo, Pat Smith

LOCAL MISSION OFFERINGS

Pennies for Hunger:	March	Year-To-Date
	\$95.98	\$378.96

The Pennies for Hunger offering, collected on the first Sunday of each month, supports feeding ministries throughout central North Carolina, with 50% of our collection staying in Rockingham County and supporting the Reidsville Outreach Center. The other 50% is distributed by Salem Presbytery through grants to non-profit organizations that work to alleviate hunger in their communities.

Habitat for Humanity:	March	Year-To-Date
	\$0.00	\$182.61

The Habitat offering, collected on the third Sunday of each month, supports the Greater Reidsville chapter of Habitat for Humanity in its mission to build and improve homes in the Reidsville area so that all may have access to safe and affordable housing.

SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Wes Pitts

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Mark Cresenzo <i>Mission</i>	Tilda Balsley <i>Grounds</i>	Ed Conroy <i>Clerk</i>
Joyce Crutchfield <i>Newcomers/Communication</i>	Tom Callicutt <i>Montreat</i>	Scott Greene <i>Personnel</i>
Rick McKinney <i>Property</i>	Phil Neal <i>Fellowship</i>	Jane Harrill <i>Caregivers</i>
	Becky Norman <i>Worship</i>	Jim Murray <i>Christian Education</i>
	Thomas Thompson <i>Finance</i>	

Upcoming Session Meeting: TBA

CAREGIVERS TEAM

Jane Harrill – Chair

Class of 2020: Anne Covington, Mary Fagan, Sallie Trent

Class of 2021: Susie Cole, Jenny Farver, Denice Whitley

Class of 2022: Susan McLeod, Pat Gates & Robert Moreno, Lynn Wilkins

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please be in prayer for the following:

Church members: Lucy Byers, Sandra Craig, the Crutchfield family, Anne Dell Hardingham, Betty Jones, Bob Mullings, Faye Pierce, Debbie Robbins, Claire Smothers, Fred & Lynn Wilkins, Brad Young

Family and friends of the congregation: Carl Wayne Adams, Steve Banks, Guy Barnes, Waddell Bullock, Evelyn Cogan, Chad Davis, Talea Dillard, Don Ella Drew, Cindy Farrand, Treva Garrison, Carole Hendrix Grady, Dwight Hall, C. J. Harrill, Charlotte Kearns, Madeline McDowell, Jillian McInnis, Joe Mountjoy, Bobbie Nauman, Geoff Peoples, Jimmy Rayburn, Mary Glenn Roberson, Si Rothrock, Michael Serra, Junior Setliff, Dana Smith, Hailey Vega, Jimmy Waynick, Joan Young, family of Joan Zdanski

Military service: Seth Brooks, Don Pierce

If you have submitted names for our prayer list, and know of their recovery, please contact us with the good news!

What is Coronavirus or COVID-19 ?

COVID-19 is a new disease that first appeared in late 2019 in Wuhan, China. COVID-19 is caused by a novel member of the coronavirus family — SARS-CoV-2 — that's a close cousin to the SARS and MERS viruses that have caused outbreaks in the past.

There is still much to learn about the disease. Globally, about 3.4% of people infected with COVID-19 have died. At greater risk are people with chronic health conditions and the elderly. For perspective, flu cases currently dwarf the number of COVID-19 cases, although the death rate is less than .1%.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms of COVID-19, caused by novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, include respiratory illness with fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. In more severe cases, it can cause pneumonia and severe acute respiratory syndrome.

Can COVID-19 be treated?

Like the common cold, there is no specific medicine recommended to prevent or treat COVID-19. But people infected should receive appropriate care to relieve and treat symptoms, and those with severe illness should receive medical care.

How can I protect myself and my loved ones?

The World Health Organization has the following recommendations for the general public to reduce exposure to and transmission of a range of illnesses:

- Frequently clean your hands by using an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a flexed elbow or tissue. Then throw the tissue away immediately and wash your hands.
- Avoid close contact with anyone who has a fever and cough.
- If you have a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early and share your travel history with your healthcare provider.
- Avoid the consumption of raw or undercooked animal products. Handle raw meat, milk, and animal organs with care to avoid cross-contamination with uncooked foods, per good food safety practices.

Today's Announcements

Elder on Call: Ed Conroy is available for congregational needs this week.

Sermon Series: On January 12, we began taking an in depth look at one of the most central elements of our worship service – The Apostles' Creed. Each week we'll explore its scriptural roots and what we really mean when we stand and recite this ancient creed.

Soup Kitchen: Closed for the next 2-2 ½ weeks.

Church Yard Workday: Saturday, March 28, has been cancelled. If anyone is interested in working for an hour or so on their own, please call Tilda @ 336-347-0972. She will be glad to let you know what needs to be done.

FPCCDC sponsored book fair in the fellowship hall has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date. You are welcome to shop online at <https://r8635.myubam.com/1497981>. They are also hosting a digital one: <https://m.facebook.com/events/2687135278069848>.

Wes Pitts, Pastor 678-409-5060
pastor@fpcreidsville.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. **Office Phone & Email:** 336-349-3474
Monday – Friday office@fpcreidsville.org
www.fpcreidsville.org

