

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MORGANTON, NC



Series: Tough Questions

March 1—April 12

Lent consists of 40-days dedicated to prayer, fasting, and reflection in preparation for the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter. "40 Days" has all sorts of biblical connections - the flood in Genesis, Moses' journey at Mt. Sinai, Elijah's journey to Mt. Horeb, Jonah's call to Nineveh, and Jesus' time in the wilderness. During the next seven Sundays, we will journey to the cross by engaging with conversations Jesus had with people in the gospels. These conversations invite us to ask hard questions about our faith. As we come face-to-face with our own mortality we will experience the depth of meaning in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, and connect more deeply with the fullness of life he has come to provide.

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)
Organized Prior to 1797

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020

*Indicates an invitation to rise in body or spirit.

Bold type indicates congregational reading or singing.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

“Kyrie, God the Father Everlasting”

J. S. Bach

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. John Hagmann

Please pass the black folder found at the end of the pew, with both guests and members filling in information. Then please pass the folder back to its starting point, noting names and welcoming those near you.

***Call to Worship** (*Psalm 121*)

Lynn Garrett

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord will not let your foot be moved nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

Behold, the keeper of Israel will neither slumber nor sleep;

The Lord watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.

The Lord will watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

***Opening Hymn #403**

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

Pew Bible OT, p. 12

“The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**”

Call to Confession

Rev. Lynn Webber

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Time of Silent Prayer

Sung Prayer #551

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Assurance of Pardon

...Thanks be to God.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

***Greeting**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Rev. John Hagmann

Second Reading

John 3:1-17

Pew Bible NT, p. 114

“The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**”

Sermon

“What Will You Risk?”

Hymn of Response #738

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayers of the People ending with The Lord's Prayer (using “debts” and “debtors”)

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 Offering

Lynn Garrett

Offertory

“God So Loved the World”

words: John 3:16
music: John Stainer

***Doxology #606**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Tune: Old Hundredth

**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**

... Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn of Sending #719**

“Come, Labor On”

***Charge and Blessing**

Rev. John Hagmann

***Benediction Response**

“Multifold Amen”

Schubert

***Postlude**

“Canzon in C”

Buxtehude

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*Congregational love and sympathy are extended to Charles Kirksey and family,
at the death of his mother, Lena Kirksey on February 29, 2020.*

OUR CONGREGATION CARES

We are a congregation that believes God hears and answers prayer.

To add names to the list, fill out the prayer request card found in the pew back and place it in the offering plate, or email fpc@firstpresmorganton.org. Each week, we pray for members of FPC and our ministry partners, local churches and pastors simply because it's their turn to receive prayer. We are #ForMorganton. We want the people of Burke County to know that we are for them, God is for them, and the gospel is still good news!

FPC Members: Greg, Teresa, Peyton, Carly Carpenter; Libby Childress; Alan, Monica, Ava, Emme Clark, and Elias Wakefield; Cathy Clark; Larry and Patricia Clark

FPC Ministry Partner: Good Samaritan Clinic, Sherri T. Fisher, Executive Director and Todd Carswell, Chairman of the Board

Local Church: Quaker Meadows Presbyterian, Morganton, Yvonne Thurmond, Pastor

Homebound: Nancy Collett; Anne Ervin; Shannon Hodges

Grace Ridge Health Care: Marty Brenneman; Betty Ervin; Will Kenan; Helen Patton; Mildred Plaster; Betty Sasser; Boyd Smith; Sam Tate; Mary Turner; LeRoy Wall

Trinity Ridge: Joan Dickison

Hope Ridge: Betsy Rader

Asheville Specialty Hospital: David Rader

We Lift Prayers for the Following:

Cheryl Pitts Folk, sister of Lynn Garrett; Sgt. Mitchell McGlamery, son of Donna and Joey McGlamery; Scott and Sandra Wade, friends of Jonathan and Catherine Lowry; Elaine Carpenter, mother of Greg Carpenter; Bill Nagy, brother of Barbara Nagy; Sally Riddle, mother of Jim Best; Bill Buff, brother-in-law of Bill and Linda Harris' neighbor; Donna Smith, former member; Dave Vaught, brother-in-law of Mike and Anita Hodges; Revonda Maltba, nursery employee; Richard Wackerbarth, cousin of Roy Garrett

Reverend John Hagmann, Pastor | Reverend Lynn Webber, Parish Associate
Reverend Janice Krouskop, Parish Associate | Mr. Robert A. Smith, Director of Music

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