

## OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### Offering Music

#### \*The Doxology # 606

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

### Prayer of Dedication

### Communion

Rev. Melick

#### *Invitation to the Table*

#### *Great Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Melick

**Pastor:** Lord, in your mercy: **All:** *hear our 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.*

### Installation of Officer

Marie Hayes, Elder

\*Sending Hymn #724 *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

\*Charge and Benediction

Rev. Melick

\*Congregational Response Threefold Amen Hymn #601

\*Postlude

## This Week at FPC

March 10 – 9:30am, Coffee Discussion group

March 12 – 9:00am, Moms Group

March 13 – 10:00am, Miriam Circle

March 13 – 5-7:00pm, LOGOS St. Patrick's Day

March 13 – 7:00pm, Choir practice

March 13 – 7:00pm, Confirmation Class meeting

March 14 – 6:30pm, Elizabeth Circle

March 17 – New member class following worship, please RSVP

## Mark Your Calendars

March 20 – 5-7:00pm, LOGOS Aloha Luau, end of LOGOS

March 21 – 6:30pm, Elizabeth Circle

March 23 – 9:00am, Men's Breakfast

March 23 – 11:00am, Children's Easter Egg Hunt at Benges

**Brunch Church Mission Project** We will be making personal hygiene bags for the homeless shelter. We are looking for donations of Travel Size products.

**Miriam Circle** will meet on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. They will begin the new book "Life Lessons from John". If you have any questions, please contact Arthella Pollock.

**Domestic Violence Shelter** They are asking for donations of Plus Size Clothing, Hair care products (blow dryers, straighteners, etc.), personal care supplies, phone chargers, laundry soap, and cleaning supplies.

**Easter Candy** – Donations needed by March 17. See Insert

**Women's Spiritual Retreat** – See Insert



The flowers this morning are given by Jack & Carmel Mann in loving memory of Audrey Mann.

***Prayers of First Presbyterian Church Family and Friends***

*"Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you"*

*~Jeremiah 29:12*

**In our continuing prayers:**

Countries at War

Sarah Gregg - continuing cancer treatment, Cy Acheson's granddaughter

Cy & Flossy Acheson – pray for strength and healing

Logan Eifort – tumor is shrinking, Keith & Chris Jones grandson

Zoe Barnes – home but still needs a lot of care, Kelly Smith's cousin

Carol Becker – home recovering from hip surgery

Stella Davidson – recovering from a fall, at Vancrest

**Remember and Uphold:**

Betty Stewart-Greenbriar

Betty Bourne –Vancrest (Vickie Volkerding's mother)

**Our at Home Shut-ins**

Doris Barker

Marge Jordan

Julia Withrow

Elaine Hawley

For our Nation and those who serve

**Church Members & Friends In The Service**

Mac Altom/U.S. Army

Addam Moore/ U.S. Marines

Tanner Crabtree/ Army

Caleb Cosmi / Air Force

Nicholas Rife / U.S. Navy

Grant Davis / Army Reserve

Alex Trogon/ Navy

Allen Trogon/ Navy

Ryan Hall / Army

Miguel Martinez/Army Reserve- Active now

Zack Pool/ Air Force

Jeremy Barnes/ Navy

Brett Barnes / Navy

Cameron Rife / U.S. Navy

Laura Soper/ Air Force Reserve

Cliff Garey / Navy

Ryan Kiracofe / Air Force

Grace Wagner/Basic Training

Drew Roach / Navy

Please contact our prayer chain coordinator, Ann Murray, 937-336-0116,  
email: [annmurray916@yahoo.com](mailto:annmurray916@yahoo.com), call the church office, 937-456-3754,  
[office@eatonfpc.org](mailto:office@eatonfpc.org), or drop a note in the offering plate with updates.

**Declaration of Forgiveness and the Passing of the Peace**

**Liturgist:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** *And also with you.*

**\*Our Response of Praise – #581** *Gloria Patri*

***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. Amen.***

**Children's Message** *Jesus and Bartimaeus*

Rev. Melick

**Prayer for Illumination**

Jake Schaurer

**Old Testament Scripture Reading**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 PB 541 LP 536

**Gospel Scripture Reading**

Matthew 16:21-24 PB 868 LP 17

**Response**

**Liturgist:** This is the Word of the Lord

**People:** *Thanks be to God*

**Sermon** *Wandering Heart: "I'm Fixed Upon It"*

Rev. Melick

**\*Reflection Song #833** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

**Affirmation of Faith**

***I believe in a God of second chances, a God who sees through my stubbornness and holds my fear with tenderness. I believe that this God of second chances uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world. Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too. I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible. I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds. This change is holy and important work, although challenging. When fear and scarcity plague me, or when the impossible feels out of reach, I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.***

**First Presbyterian Church**

**March 10, 2024**

**Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith With Peter**

**Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Melick

**Prelude** *Return To You* (lyrics: Sarah Speed, composition: Can Olgun)  
Music video recorded by FAPC Chapel Church Music.

**Call to Worship**

Jake Schaurer

**Liturgist:** On our worst days,

**All: God is good.**

**Liturgist:** On our best days,

**All: God is good.**

**Liturgist:** When life is consistent,

**All: God is good.**

**Liturgist:** And when life turns on its head,

**All: God is good.**

**Liturgist:** Day and night, Monday through Sunday,

**All: God is good. God is here. God is love.**

**Liturgist:** Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

**\*Opening Hymn** #450 *Be Thou My Vision*

**Prayer of Confession & Passing of the Peace** Jake Schaurer

**Prayer of Confession**

**Holy God,**

***We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.***

***Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!"***

***We want to control scenarios beyond our reach.***

***We want to hold your world in our hands.***

***Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.***

***Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.***

***Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many.***

***Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen. With hope in our hearts we pray, Amen.***

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Wandering Heart: "I'm Fixed Upon It"**

**Open Hands**

**We are born with the ability  
to wrap our fingers around another,  
to hold tight to what we know.**

**Maybe that's where the instinct comes from—**

**this clinging,**

**this sinking,**

**this holding on.**

**Maybe that's why Peter cries, "Never!"**

**when Jesus must leave.**

**From the very beginning  
we've known how to hold tight.**

**So I pray:**

**open up my hands.**

**Uncurl my fingers**

**one by one.**

**Loosen the grip**

**that I hold unyielding.**

**Remind me that birds must fly**

**and children must grow**

**and leaves must fall.**

**And even though**

**we are born with the ability**

**to hold tight,**

**we can learn how to love**

**with open hands.**

## Church Contact Information

123 West Decatur Street / P.O. Box 125 Website [www.eatonfpc.org](http://www.eatonfpc.org)  
Phone (937) 456-3754 Email [office@eatonfpc.org](mailto:office@eatonfpc.org) Office Hours 10-2, Mon.–Thurs.  
Worship – Sunday's at 10:30am Adult Sunday School starts at 9:30am

### Church Staff

**Pastor:** Rev. Annie Melick [pastorannie@eatonfpc.org](mailto:pastorannie@eatonfpc.org) (440)-308-7664  
**Director of Youth Ministries:** Beth Pool [eatonfpcyouth@gmail.com](mailto:eatonfpcyouth@gmail.com) (937) 248-1671  
**Office Administrator:** Ann Murray [office@eatonfpc.org](mailto:office@eatonfpc.org) (937) 336-0116

### Committees and Officers 2024

**Moderator of Session:** Pastor Annie Melick

**Clerk of Session:** Marie Hayes

**Finance and Congregational Care:**

\*Bill Clayton, Bill Brower, Mary Neavin, David Sikora

**Worship and Fellowship Committee:**

\*Carmel Mann, Keith Jones, Susan Schaurer, Marie Hayes

**Christian Education and Mission Committee:**

\*Shelley Moore, Margie Bengé, Jillian Ditmer, Luke Pool, Molly Hurd, Amber Fogle

**Personnel Committee:** \*Susan Schaurer, David Sikora, Margie Bengé

**Presbytery Commissioners:** Bill Clayton, Molly Hurd, Amber Fogle, Carmel Mann, Keith Jones, Shelley Moore, Jillian Ditmer

**Memorial Committee:** \*Guy Bengé, Tonna Ditmer, Brian Pool, Bill Clayton, Carmel Mann, Shelley Moore

**Nominating Committee:** \*Mary Neavin, Bill Brower, Luke Pool, Teresa Schmidt, Jack Mann

**Treasurer:** Doug Moore, [treasurer@eatonfpc.org](mailto:treasurer@eatonfpc.org)

**Financial Agent:** Anne Grim

\*Chairperson

## *First Presbyterian Church*



*March 10, 2024*

*Our Mission:  
Listening to Gods call, following in the way of Jesus  
and serving neighbors through the Spirit.*

~Approved by Session November 2016



123 W. Decatur St., Eaton, Ohio 45320