

First Presbyterian Church
Service for the Lord's Day
Transfiguration of the Lord / Mardi Gras Sunday

February 14, 2021

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

"Basin Street Blues"

Spencer Williams

Call to Worship

God spoke, calling light out of darkness.

God's glory shines in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn 835

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

- 1 Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
- 2 I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
- 3 Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
- 4 When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Lord our God,

you call us to proclaim the gospel,

but we remain silent in the presence of evil.

You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,

but we are content to live in separation.

You call us to seek the good of all,

but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.

You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,

but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.

Forgive us, O Lord.

Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,

and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others;

through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: Mark 9:2-9

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

A Time with Children

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Sermon: "Never Ends"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 649

"Amazing Grace"

1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Musical Interlude

3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

Musical Interlude

5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Affirmation of Faith: 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.**

A Minute for Camp Lackawanna

Offering

Offertory

"Jelly Roll Blues"

Jelly Roll Morton

Prayers of the People and 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.**

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn

"When the Saints Go Marching In"

Spiritual

- 1. Oh when the saints go marching in... Oh Lord, I want to be in that number...**
- 2. Oh when the drums begin to bang ...**
- 3. Oh when the stars fall from the sky ...**
- 4. Oh when the trumpet sounds its call ...**
- 5. Oh when the saints go marching in ...**

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"This Little Light of Mine"

Spiritual

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Wayne Griffiths
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Guest Musician	Tony Marino
Director, Camp Lackawanna	Mykela Bricka

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Church Family Announcements

We will take a break from Sunday (virtual) coffee hour. Please watch our announcement page, web page and/or weekly "Light From the Hill."

The March/April Upper Room devotional booklets have arrived. You are welcome to stop by the church office to get one. (Call first, please, if we get more snow!)

CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION

Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to camplackawanna.org to see what programs are being offered this summer and sign your children up for camp! Family Camp registration is also open! **Our church provides scholarships** for all young people who want to go.

This morning, Mykela Bricka, the new camp director, will take part in our worship service We look forward to hearing about the new developments at our church camp. If you have any questions, please email camplackwanna.director@gmail.com.

DATES	CAMP	AGE GROUP
June 24-27	Family Camp	All Ages
June 28-30	Mini Camp	Ages 6-10
July 4-10	Wet n' Wild	Ages 7-16
July 11-17	Music, Arts and Drama	Ages 7-16
July 11-24	JH/SR 2-week	Completed grades 6-11
July 18-24	Adventure Camp	Completed grades 6-10
July 25-31	Night Owls	Completed grades 3-10
August 1-7	Camp Olympics	Ages 7-16

Our building is bustling -- one person at a time! Feel free to read a book or check out a DVD from our church library, pray or play the piano in the sanctuary, or have a free cup of coffee with the pastor (who will keep six feet away). No groups, please, but Masked Individuals are welcome in limited numbers whenever the building is open. **Stir-Crazy People** are especially invited.

Year-end pledge statements have been mailed. If you haven't received yours yet, please notify the church office (570-586-6306).

Most of the **2021 offering boxes** have been distributed. If you haven't received a box, and would like one, please notify the church office (570-586-6306).

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17.

- **Drive-By Ashes** - Rev. Carter and one of our Deacons will be on the School Street sidewalk to offer ashes from 12:00 noon until 1:00 pm, and from 5:00 pm until 6:00 pm.
- **A live Ash Wednesday service** will be broadcast from our church at 7:00 p.m. on February 17. You can find the link on our website or check next Wednesday's email for a specific link.

Study with us during Lent

- Rev. Carter will offer a Bible study at 10 a.m. on the Wednesday mornings of Lent, beginning Wednesday, February 17. It will be held live on Zoom, with a small group meeting simultaneously in Room 206 (Session Room). Would you like to be physically present? [Contact the church office](#) (586-6306) to make a reservation. Masks and safety rules apply!
- The study will be "**Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament**," which is the PW/Horizons study for this year.
- We have ordered a small number of study books, which will be available from the church office for \$10. The introduction and first chapter are available to download for free at www.PresbyterianWomen.org/downloads. Select "Resources," then "Into the Light Preview."



During the pandemic, Rev. Carter has acquired a grant to provide a series of three **online concerts of uplifting music** for the public.

The next concert is called, "**Valentines from Vienna: An Afternoon of Chamber Music.**" Scheduled to be broadcast live from the sanctuary on **February 14 at 4:00 p.m.**, it will feature Dr. Katie Morell's chamber group performing Beethoven's "[Gassenhauer](#)" Trio in Bb and Zemlinsky's [Trio in D minor](#).