

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
2nd Sunday of Easter / Holy Humor Sunday
Star Date 98875.85

GATHER THIS MOTLEY CREW

- Opening Proclamation
- Music for Calisthenics
"Take Time to be Funny"
words author unknown, music George C. Stebbins,
Nathaniel Worrell, soloist

- Are You Concerned About Church?

- Call to Worship

This is the day the Lord has made.

***This is the day
we should have stayed home.***

We are glad you are here.

***After 13 months of a pandemic,
you are glad ANYBODY is here!***

Lo, how we have waited for this day!

My name isn't Lo. But I am really glad to get out of the house.

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands.

Clap! Clap!

- * Music to Watch, with Bodily Actions Encouraged

- * Telling the Truth

***Lord of life, as we rejoice in the gift of laughter,
we confess the ways we have abused the gift.***

***We fall short of your glory
when we use laughter as a weapon,
when we laugh at the expense of another,
when we use humor to tear others down,
or to excuse hateful beliefs and harmful stereotypes.***

Lord, forgive us and grant us wisdom.

***Teach us to take ourselves lightly,
to giggle, guffaw, and howl when the moment is right,
to diffuse tension with an injection of grace,
to distinguish between that which builds up or tears down.***

- * The Forgiveness Sequence

- Shh! I'm Praying. You'd Better, As Well

- Are We Off the Hook Yet?

- Passing the Peas of God



HUSH! GOD'S TALKING

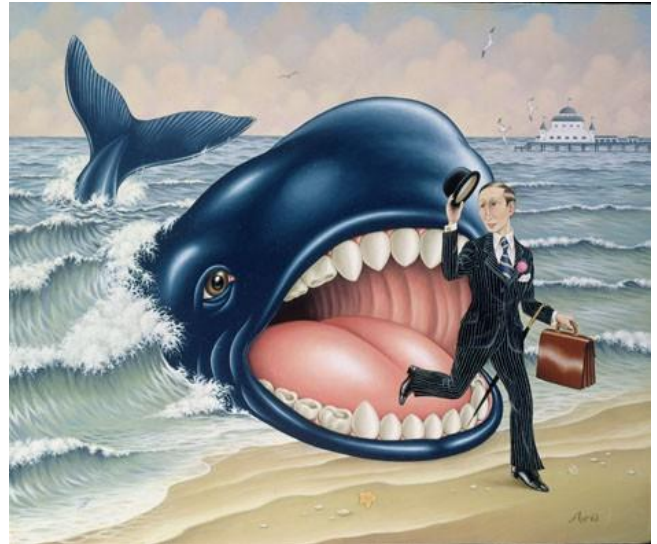
- Prayer for Comprehending Obscure Bible Texts
- Bible Story #1 John 20:19-31 assisted by our Anger Translator
- A Time with Young Buckaroos

□ Bible Story #2 Selections from Jonah 1, 3, 4 (not 2, mostly)

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, **saying**¹, “Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.” But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

But the LORD **provided** a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Then the LORD **spoke** to the fish, and it **spewed** Jonah out upon the dry land.



The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, **saying**, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.” When God **saw** what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God **changed his mind** about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD **said**, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God **appointed** a bush, and **made it come up** over Jonah, to **give shade** over his head, to **save** him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God **appointed** a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God **prepared** a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.” But God **said** to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” Then the LORD **said**, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

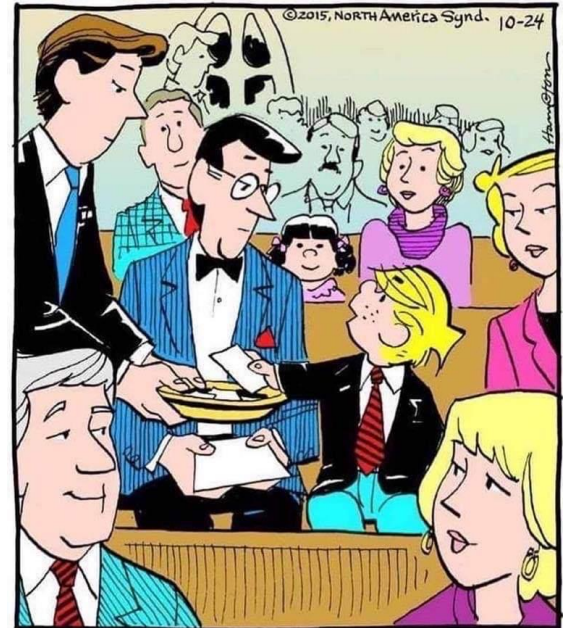
¹ Editor's Note: God's activity is **highlighted**.

- ❑ Sermon: "Jonah, Don't Ya Blow"
(2 Revs Are Better Than One. Especially Ours)

SO WHAT CHA GOING TO DO?

- * ❑ Watch Franconia Sing
"There is a Wildness in God's Mercy"
(adapted J. "Curly" Thyren)

1. There's a wildness in God's mercy,
Ask a Prophet lost at sea.
There's a danger in attempting
From a task of God to flee.
There is time to pause and ponder,
Time to pray and time to shout!
There is hope that God will listen;
Tell the fish to spit you out.
2. There's no limit to God's patience. Ask poor Thomas, he should know!
There's a pardon for the stubborn, who demand a private show.
There is time to watch and wonder, time to touch and time to see.
There is time for faith's fair dawning; a believer you can be!
3. For the wildness of God's mercy is a gift to heart and mind.
There is grace and there's forgiveness from a parent who is kind.
Though we turn our backs on guidance; stray and stumble while we roam,
There's a warm embrace awaiting when we turn and head for home.



"CAN WE GET A REFUND IF THE SERMON ISN'T THAT GOOD?"

- * ❑ What We Believe
***We believe God takes delight in his creation,
that God enjoys his people,
that God laughs at the self-important.
We believe Jesus told jokes that many did not understand,
that he took joy in his saving work,
that people are still astonished to discover he is alive.
We believe that joy is evidence of the Holy Spirit,
that love is stronger than the grave,
that all things will work out well for those who love God.***

- ❑ The Give-Til-It-Feels-Good Sequence
 - ❑ One More Minute for One Great Hour
 - ❑ Fleecing the Flock Without Flinching
 - ❑ Wordless Tune for a Silent Collection "Humoresque" Antonin Dvorak
Nathaniel Worrell, pianist

- * ❑ Doxolololology (to 606)
***Praise God, if stingy ones are here.
Praise God, all generous ones, draw near!
Praise God, all those who burned their toast.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Sit Down, Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat. And It's Time to Pray.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO HOME BUT YOU CAN'T STAY HERE

* Holy Song "Sanctus" St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Mary

***Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts! 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!***

* Gesundheit!

* Organic Music To Talk Over "Bunny Hop" Ray Anthony

* All who are able shall twist and shout

Special checklist boxes are included to keep your place in the service.

Today we continue to celebrate Easter through a gentle observance of Holy Humor Sunday. This is an ancient Easter custom begun in the early centuries of Christian faith, as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection with joy and laughter.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE (Nancy, this heading is off center)

M.C.	Wayne Pennsylvania
Posture	Bishop Billy
Postulator	J. "Curly" Thyren
Media Guru and Singer	Franconia Notch
Organic Muzak Maker	K.10.Yike
Smart Person	Rabbi Red
Usher	Fourth Round Draft Choice
Greeter	R. U. Kidding

First and Only Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit, PA
(570) 586-6306 www.fpccs.org

Today's sermon was written by Donald F. Black and James E. Thyren and stolen from a book called "Do Something Different This Sunday: Biblical Comedies and Dramas for Youth and Adults" (Fairway Press, 1993). Please don't tell them that we have used it.

The text for the second hymn was commissioned by Bishop Billy specifically for this service, who will compensate author J. "Curly" Thyren with a slice of Bingham's pie and something suitable to wash it down with. "Curly" offers his apologies to Frederick Faber, who wrote a similar hymn.

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Church Family Announcements

Thank you for joining us for our 10:00 Virtual Worship Service. We're happy you tuned in, hope that you will find our time together enriching, and look forward to the day we can worship together once again.

Study with us during Lent (and 2 weeks beyond) Rev. Carter will lead the two remaining lessons of the morning Bible study, "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament," at 10 a.m. on **April 14 and 21**. It will be held live on Zoom, with a small group meeting simultaneously in Room 206. Would you like to be physically present? Contact the church office (586-6306) to make a reservation. Masks and safety rules apply!

Have you had your shots? A growing number of folks in our church family have received their vaccinations for covid-19. Bravo!

If you have received the appropriate vaccines and wish to return to the sanctuary for worship, we cordially invite you to contact our office and make a reservation. We also welcome children who have returned to school.

Because the corona virus continues to be contagious, we ask all who attend to wear masks, keep appropriate distances, and refrain from singing. We look forward to the day when ALL of us can be back together. That day is coming. In the meantime, we will respect one another and do what is safe for all.

CAMP LACKAWANNA INFORMATION

Summer Camp 2021 Registration is open! Head on over to camp.lackawanna.org to see what programs are being offered this summer and to register your children for camp! Family Camp registration is also open!

Our church provides scholarships for all young people who want to go. Check with Jana Schillinger for details.

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

Camp Lackawanna is actively seeking staff for Summer Camp. In addition to Counselors, a Cook is also needed. Applications can be filled out at www.camplackawanna.org

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.



Simple Gifts folk duo

Live - Friday, April 16, 2021 7:00 pm

YouTube Broadcast - April 18 4:00 pm

Two women plus twelve instruments equals one good time when **Simple Gifts** takes the stage on **Friday, April 16 at 7 pm**. This award-winning band performs on an impressive array of instruments, including two violins, mandolin, hammered dulcimer, recorders, banjo, and guitar plus some more unusual instruments like the bowed psaltery, baritone fiddle, shruti box, banjolin, guitjo, and dombek.

Simple Gifts presents a wide variety of ethnic folk music, including everything from lively Irish jigs and down-home American reels to hard-driving Klezmer freilachs, haunting Gypsy melodies, and exotic Balkan dance tunes. Throughout their performances, they put their own distinctive stamp on traditional tunes, blending styles from diverse cultures with their American roots.

Those who have been vaccinated are welcome to attend this concert in person with a reservation made through our church website, at www.fpccs.org and on the church's Facebook page.

The event is offered as a gift to the community. The Arts at First Presbyterian series is supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts Program, by a Lackawanna County Community Arts and Culture Grant, and by private contributions. We thank our donors for their support. There is no admission charge for this event, but a free-will offering will be taken. For more information, call the church office at 570-586-6306.

