

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
5th Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2013

9:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Hymn
Concerns of the Church
Prelude

“By the Babylonian Rivers”

arr. Hobby

Call to Worship

Come, O people, and sing to God!

For the Lord calls his people together for worship and praise.

* Hymn 339 (PH)

“Be Thou My Vision”

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

(silent confession)

Leader: Before God, with the people of God, I confess my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

***People: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in grace.***

Leader: Amen.

***People: Before God, with the people of God, we confess our
brokenness: to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others, and the life of the world.***

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in grace.

People: Amen.

* Lenten Kyrie (Sing 53)

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response (Sing 74)

***Surely it is God who saves me! I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,
And God will be my Savior.***

LISTENING FOR GOD

Prayer for Understanding

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21 (OT, p. 672)

A Time with Children

Anthem

“A Calypso Lord’s Prayer”

Keesecker

Epistle Lesson: Galatians 5:2-26 (NT, p. 190)

Sermon in Two Voices

Rev. Bill Carter and Charles Swisher

Series: Galatians for Lent

RESPONDING TO GOD

* Hymn

“Christ Be Beside Me” (see insert)

* What We Believe and Want to Believe

Patrick of Ireland

***I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity,
the invocation of the same, the Three in One, the One in Three.
I bind this day to me forever, by power of faith, Christ’s incarnation;
his baptism in the Jordan river,
his death in the cross for my salvation,
his bursting from the spiced tomb; his riding up the heavenly way;
his coming at the day of doom, I bind unto myself today.***

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory

“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

arr. Behnke

* Doxology (PH 592)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 171 (PH) "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Postlude

* All who are able shall stand.
PH Presbyterian Hymnal
Sing Sing! A New Creation (green songbook)

The flowers this morning have been given by Judy Cutler to the glory of God and in honor of her daughter, Sarah.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	William Carter
Director of Educational Ministries	Tina Ide
Director of Music	Susan Kelly
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Chapel Choir members
Ushers	Deb Traettino, Chris Spangler



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

First Presbyterian Church
300 School Street
Clarks Summit, PA 18411
570/586-6306
www.fpccs.org



5th Sunday in Lent
9:00 AM

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Galatians 5:2-26

Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law. You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love. You were running well; who prevented you from obeying the truth? Such persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough. I am confident about you in the Lord that you will not think otherwise. But whoever it is that is confusing you will pay the penalty. But my friends, why am I still being persecuted if I am still preaching circumcision? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. I wish those who unsettle you would castrate themselves!

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Isaiah 43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

Galatians 5:2-26

Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law. You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love. You were running well; who prevented you from obeying the truth? Such persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough. I am confident about you in the Lord that you will not think otherwise. But whoever it is that is confusing you will pay the penalty. But my friends, why am I still being persecuted if I am still preaching circumcision? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. I wish those who unsettle you would castrate themselves!

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

