



# First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

February 21, 2021

First Sunday of Lent

## **ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP**

This season of Lent is forty-seven days reminding us to follow the life and ministry of Jesus Christ as savior of the world. We focus our own walk of faith on his solemn journey to the cross, his life given in sacrifice for our salvation through his suffering and death. His resurrection is the new life for all of creation. It is the resurrection from the dead. God saves once for all!

The covenant God makes with Noah is different than the ones made with Abraham or Moses. Those are specifically between God and the Israelite people. The promise with Noah is a one-sided agreement, between God and every creature, all flesh on the earth. God saves once for all!

# Gathered As God's People

Introit

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

*Récit de Flûtes*

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Jeff Baxter 8:30

Dwight Fox 10:30

O Lord, in You alone we put our trust.

**Do not let us bow our heads in vanity,  
but lift our hearts in the light of self-reflection.**

Holy One, make Your covenant a sign of remembrance  
and teach us Your ways of mercy.

**Gather us by the promises You have established,  
mark us in beloved dust,  
call us in humble service.**

Join our souls with every living creature,  
**and let us turn to You in worship and praise.**

Opening Hymn #218

*Ah, Holy Jesus*

Johann Crüger, 1640

*Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended,  
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?  
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,  
O most afflicted!*

*Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?  
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.  
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;  
I crucified thee.*

*Lo, the Good Shepherd for the sheep is offered;  
the slave hath sinned, and the Son hath suffered;  
for our atonement, while we nothing heeded,  
God interceded.*

*For me, kind Jesus, was thine incarnation,  
thy mortal sorrow, and thy life's oblation,  
thy death of anguish and thy bitter passion,  
for my salvation.*

*Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,  
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee,  
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,  
not my deserving.*

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,**

**we begin this Lenten journey in confession.**

**Have mercy when we fail to live according to Your ways,  
and insist on the comforts of our own.**

**We condone divisiveness and hate,**

**participate in systems of inequity,**

**and use our power over others**

**to advance our own agendas.**

**Forgive us, O Christ, we pray,**

**when we reject the paths You have set before us.**

**Be for us, God, once more, an ark of safety and new life.** (Silent prayer)

Assurance

The Peace of Christ be with You.

**And also with you.**

## **Proclaiming God's Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 9:8-17

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

Interlude	<i>Basse de Cromorne</i>	Louis-Nicolas Clérambault
Scripture Lesson		1 Peter 3:18-22
Sermon	<i>Once For All</i>	Rev. Len Carrell

## **Responding To God's Word**

\*Affirmation of Faith (The Apostle's 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.**

Offering

Imposition of Ashes *Psalm 51*

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**

Closing Hymn # 424

*Out of the Depths*

Martin Luther, 1524

*Out of the depths I cry to you;  
O Lord God, hear me calling.  
Incline your ear to my distress  
in spite of my rebelling.  
Do not regard my sinful deeds.  
Send me the grace my spirit needs;  
without it I am nothing.*

*All things you send are full of grace;  
you crown our lives with favor.  
All our good works are done in vain  
without our Lord and Savior.  
We praise you for the gift of faith;  
you save us from the grip of death;  
our lives are in your keeping.*

*In you alone, O God, we hope,  
and not in our own merit.  
We rest our fears in your good word;  
uphold our fainting spirit.  
Your promised mercy is my fort,  
my comfort, and my strong support;  
I wait for it with patience.*

*My soul is waiting for you, Lord,  
as one who longs for morning;  
no watcher waits with greater hope  
than I for your returning.  
I hope as Israel in the Lord,  
who sends redemption through the Word.  
Praise God for grace and mercy!*

Benediction

Postlude

*Plein Jeu*

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault



Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a

flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”



For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good

conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

We continue to pray for all of you, and are keeping you lifted in grace and love during this time. As always, we want to be a pastoral presence in your life. If there is anything we can do for you, we would like to know, if there are ways we can pray for you, or if someone you know needs the prayers of the church, please reach out to us.

### Care List

The **Care list** is a list of members and friends who are sick, bereaved, or celebrating a happy occasion. After reading their names, you may want to write a short message to someone on the list.

Our Sympathy...to Dianne Messick in the death of her brother, Douglas Lee.

Our Prayers...

Greg Baxter, Barbara Butler (sister of Mary McClanahan), Lynn Carroll (father of Margaret Piper), Ben Chiles (son of John and Sue Chiles), Sue Chiles, Joe Graham III, Will Green, Waymon Hickman, Cathy Krenz (sister of Mary McClanahan), Tom Lewis, Martha Matthews, Steve and Gary Rampley (brothers of Betty Sloan), Richard and Debbie Welch (our missionaries in Guatemala), Cindy West (sister-in-law of Jennie Grace Jewell).

## On-Line Sunday School

Chapel Class                      Sundays at 9:30 AM-Virtually

Fellowship Class                Sundays at 6:00 PM-Virtually

# Ministers of the Church

## Ruling Elders

### Class of 2021

Jean Mac Ball

Jeff Baxter

Pat Bridges

Don Crichton

Tonjia Potts

### Class of 2022

Jack Baxter

Gloria Dale

Martha Jones

Lee Maddox

Julia West

### Class of 2023

Dorothy Duncan

Dan Garman

Michael McAlister

Jim Ross

Dawn Taylor

## Board of Deacons

### Class of 2021

Julie Crichton

Joe Graham III

Jenny Johns

Janet McAlister

Larry Nickell

### Class of 2022

Erin Hedrick

Raven Martin

Kristi Martin

Alan Phillips

Jenny Sloan

### Class of 2023

Janice English

Houston Jameson

Zack Maddux

Sharon Shaw

## Staff

Susie Baxter, Director of Christian Education; Rev. Len Carrell, Pastor;  
Renea Foster, Administrative Assistant; Carroll Kilgore, Business Administrator;  
James Marshall, Sexton; Dale Nickell, Director of Music Ministry