

# First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro

March 11, 2018 Fourth Sunday in Lent

Music Director: Jean Gómez Elder of the Month: James Graham

Guest Preacher Rev. Dr. Ford G'Segner

Guest Pianist Sally Wickland

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

### \* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

INTROIT *We Are Standing On Holy Ground* (insert)

\* CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (The Message)

Oh, thank God—he's so good! His love never runs out.

All of you set free by God, tell the world!

**Tell how He freed you from oppression, then rounded you up from all over the place, from the four winds, from the seven seas.**

Some of you were sick because you'd lived a bad life, your bodies feeling the effects of your sin; you couldn't stand the sight of food, so miserable you thought you'd be better off dead.

**Then you called out to God in your desperate condition; He got you out in the nick of time. He spoke the word that healed you, that pulled you back from the brink of death.**

**So thank God for His marvelous love, for His miracle mercy to the children He loves;**

Offer thanksgiving sacrifices, tell the world what He's done—sing it out! Let us pray!

\* PRAYER OF ADORATION O God, You are light to the lost, bread to the hungry, deliverance to the captive, healing to the sick, eternal vision to the dying, and harbor to every soul in peril. Gather the wanderers from every corner of the world into the community of Your mercy and grace, that we may eternally praise You for our salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

\* HYMN # 2 *Come, Thou Almighty King*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

The word itself sounds so heavy; so much more heavy than the burdens we carry. And yet, here we are in Lent, Lord. So we offer up to You the remembrance of times when we have been less than our best.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgive us, O God, if we have preferred the old to the new, half life to full life, and our own achievements to Your gift of life. Forgive us if we have ignored Jesus' teachings, slighted His gracious love and tried to discover the meaning of our life apart from our Teacher. Forgive us if we have run away from the difficult decisions of life, evading the cross and missing the mark. Forgive us if we have used the church to support and strengthen privilege and to safeguard a willful way of life, if we have lived on memory and nostalgia rather than on experience and hope. Forgive us if we have**

\*Those who are able, please stand.

**failed to see the signs of Your presence in our common life. Forgive us if we have refused to work in cooperation with Your Spirit. Have mercy on us, O God, and enable us to lay hold of the life that is life indeed. Restore to us the joy of our salvation and uphold us with Your gracious Spirit. Accept us, O God, and deliver us from all our sin, through Jesus, our Christ. Hear our Prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Spirit of the Living God* (insert)

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Listen my friends to this good news: God loves us no matter what. Take heart in the knowledge that God's grace is ours. Arise therefore in the knowledge that you are forgiven of your shortcomings and granted new life through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\* GLORIA PATRI (insert)

### PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination

James Graham

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10 pew Bbile p. 192

Anthem

*Nearer My God To Thee*

Sally Wickland

Sermon

Saved For The Work

Rev. Dr. Ford G'Segner

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *A Brief Statement of Faith PC(USA)* (insert)

\* HYMN # 310 *I Love Thy Kingdom Lord*

### OFFERING

Invitation to give

Offertory

\* Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (insert)

Leader: Join me as we pray for our community and the world.

**People: Comfort and relieve, O Lord, all who are in trouble, sorrow, poverty, sickness, or grief, especially those known to us, whom we name before you in silence . . . (A moment of silence while we each call to mind the names of those for whom we pray)**

**For those who have lost hope, Lord, we ask Your mercy and we pray together, Our Father which art in Heaven ....**

\* HYMN # 353 vs 1,2 *My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less*

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

And all God's children said: Alleluia! Amen!

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 353 vs 4

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME:** This morning we welcome Rev. Dr. Ford G'Segner to our pulpit.

If you are visiting us today, we extend a warm welcome in the name of Christ. We are delighted you have chosen to join us. Please fill out a visitor's card so that we can welcome you personally. To learn more about us please check our website at [fpog.org](http://fpog.org). Large print hymnals and audio devices are available at the rear of the church.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** will meet in the Fellowship Hall on March 18 at 2:30.

**FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** Please join us at 9:45 in the Fellowship Building. Our Lenten study is "The Path to the Cross", by Ray Vanderlaan. No homework, no stress.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Contact Susie Pressley at [jimmiepressley@yahoo.com](mailto:jimmiepressley@yahoo.com)

**MEN OF THE CHURCH** will meet for lunch on March 27 at 11:30 at the Pickle Barrel. James Graham will be our host.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** Join us as we crochet and knit prayer shawls to give to those who need our prayers and remembrance. Contact Brooke Hinds for more information.

## SHORTER CATECHISM

We come today to the final portion of the Westminster catechism, Questions 100-107, The Means of Grace and An Exposition of the Lord's Prayer.

**Q. 100.** What does the preface of the Lord's Prayer teach us?

The preface of the Lord's Prayer (which is, *Our Father in heaven*) teaches us firstly to draw near to God with all holy reverence and confidence as children to a father, able and ready to help us; and secondly, that we should pray with and for others.

*Our Father includes others in the family of God. The church of Jesus Christ is a community not a mere collection of individuals. We are members of Christ's Body. While there is a real sense in which all men are children of God their Creator, yet we are rebellious, estranged children until we become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ. As children by adoption, Father has a special meaning. God cannot be confined to any place, but heaven is where His glory is specially present where Christ now is.*

**Q. 101.** What do we pray for in the first request?

In the first request (which is, *Hallowed be your name*) we pray that God may enable us and others to glorify Him in all in which He makes himself known; and that He would overrule all things for His own glory.

*To hallow God's name means to honor and praise God and His word and works. In praying in this way we are praying for eyes to see and hearts to appreciate His glory – for ourselves and others.*

## SERVICE MUSIC AND LITURGY

### *We Are Standing On Holy Ground*

*We are standing on Holy Ground, For I know that there are angels all around  
Let us praise Jesus now, For we are standing in His presence on holy ground. (repeat)*

### *Spirit of the Living God*

*Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.*

### *Brief Statement of Faith*

#### *A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.*

*In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.*

*We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.*

*Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.*

*We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. . . .*

*We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. . . .*

*With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

### *Doxology*

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

### *Gloria Patri*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, it is now and ever shall be; World without end. Amen, Amen*

### *The Lord's Prayer*

*Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.*

*God will only give you what you would have asked for if you knew everything He knows.*  
Rev Tim Keller

FOR YOUR PRAYERS:

Veterans and military personnel	Doris Birdsong, Andrew Boswell's sister
Dell Boettger, Jane Epps's cousin	David Blough, cancer recovery
Scotty Brazier	Nancy Jo Durham, Judy Boswell's sister
Lanie Epps Whitt	Becky Dennis
Lindsey Walker	Lucy Lathrop, Vivian Ferland's sister
Orphan Aid Liberia	Adair Moore, Jimmy Moore's brother
Johnnie Satterfield	The Owens family (friends of Linda Fowler)
Mildred Tietjen	Nancy Gloege
Ed Lewis	Stephen Jackson
Chris Penna	Bill Corry
Susie Pressley	Nick Thomas

Chris Sandoval, Beth Lewis's son-in-law  
Dylan Webb, a friend of the Hinds, who has a brain tumor  
Our Session members: Jan Brazier, Cherie Moore, Johnny Satterfield, Brooke Hinds,  
Noble Usherwood, James Graham,  
Pastor Search Committee: Beth Lewis, Duane Blough, Hap Tietjen, Jane Epps, Spencer Hinds

*Beware in your prayers, above everything else, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do.* Andrew Murray

*Faith expects from God what is beyond all expectation.* Anonymous

*He that loveth little prayeth little, he that loveth much prayeth much.* St Augustine

*Have you heard this saying? "The church is not a warehouse for saints, it's a clinic for sinners." The main trouble with the Christian Church today is that she is too much like a clinic, too much like a hospital; that is why the great world is going to hell outside! Look at the great campaign, look at it objectively, look at it from God's standpoint. Forget yourself and your temporary troubles and ills for the moment; fight in the army. It is not a clinic you need; you must realize that we are in a barracks, and that we are involved in a mighty campaign.* Martyn Loyd Jones

*Churches don't need new members half so much as they need the old bunch made over.* Billy Sunday

Best corny joke of the day: *God answers knee mail.*

Best billboard: *Don't make me come down there. God*

Best church sign: *What's missing from ch ch? U R*

*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.* Proverbs