

A Message From Pastor Jay

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

MASK WEARING IS NOW OPTIONAL AS WE FOLLOW THE LATEST CDC UPDATED GUIDELINES. REFRESHMENTS AND FINGER FOODS ARE BACK NOW AFTER WORSHIP IN PERKINS HALL

SUNDAY TOPIC:

This Sunday is the First Sunday in Lent. The temptation of Jesus by Satan is always the focus. Luke's account is this year (Luke 4:1-13). Intellectual well-being is our first path to spiritual wholeness. Our minds tempt us in all kinds of ways. Jesus shows us how to overcome temptation. JJ shows us what happens when he gives in to the temptation of eating too much candy. Tom is liturgist. Two of our youth, Wyatt and Winnie, perform a piano duet.

Lenten Series:

"A Path to Spiritual Wholeness"

(Jesus Grew in Wisdom and Stature; In Favor with God and Others)

During the Lenten Season, we will use a tool produced by the ELCA – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We will look at our spirituality from a holistic approach, culminating in Easter Sunday

Our past worship services are now on the website! Click on the "past worship services" link on the opening page of the website and you will find all the services back to January of 2020! Thanks to Jim for letting us use his YouTube channel for easy access.

ZOOM FAITH FORUM SATURDAY 10AM

ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM

Let us know if you want to be added to these Zoom invitations

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SNACKS NEEDED FOR AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP. IT WOULD HELP TO HAVE NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS TO SHARE AND KEEP FOR FUTURE SUNDAYS. PLEASE BRING THEM SUNDAY!

As we are now resuming our much needed social time this Sunday, we have our first 'hosts' to cover your needs to allow you to catch up, meet new members and enjoy some fellowship time. *Angela Imbierowicz and Lee Danaher* have volunteered their service this Sunday.

Thank you for your quick response.

I will be putting a **sign-up list** in Perkins Hall for Sunday volunteers. This involves setting up the serving table with any treats provided by anyone in the congregation, including the hospitality team for that Sunday. Please provide anything to share as you feel called. As usual, *Tom Macy* will continue to set up coffee, water and juices as available.

Besides this notice in THE CALLER, an email will be sent to individuals who have signed up in the past, new members, and others who have shown interest. Thank you in advance for your service.

WELCOMING/HOSPITALITY
COMMITTEE
Patty Lantrip

UKRAINE CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FRIDAY AT 6PM COURTHOUSE SQUARE

JOHN DAVIDSON 1941-2022

John passed peacefully at home under the care of Good Samaritan Hospice, due to complications of Alzheimer's disease. The family is forever grateful to GSH for their loving care and support.

A Celebration of Life is being planned for March 21, 2022, 11:00 a.m. at the First Congregational Church of Prescott, 216 E. Gurley St. If you feel so moved, donations may be made to PMOW, GSH or the Alzheimer's Association, where hopefully a cure will come for this heartbreaking disease.

A NEW SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE (for Lent)

Beginning Sunday, March 6, twice: 9:30-10:15 and 11:35-12:10, in the Maggie B room downstairs, small groups will be meeting to view and discuss the popular and valuable "Living the Questions" video series.

- Coffee and donuts
- Child care
- With spacing and masks, group of 12 max.

Topics:

March

6 an invitation to journey
13 taking the bible seriously
20 thinking theologically (about God)
27 stories of creation

April

3 lives of Jesus
10 a passion for Christ: Paul

Questions? and child care needs: Pete Norum at handle32pan@gmail.com.

Musical Guests Sunday - Wyatt & Winnie

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

Outside groups are still not able to meet in the church as we come out of COVID spread and seek to adjust.

MARCH MISSION NEWS

Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project/program. For the month of March, our highlighted program is **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity**.

Seeking to put God's love into action, **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity** brings people together to build homes, communities, and hope.

Their inspiring mission:

- demonstrates the love of Jesus Christ;
- focuses on shelter;
- advocates for affordable housing;
- promotes dignity and hope;
- supports sustainable and transformational development.

Christine Mack, Faith Relations Liaison for **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity**, writes that "We are stretched, more than we have been in our 33-year history, to design and implement creative solutions to providing affordable housing in Prescott and our neighboring communities...The housing affordability crisis in the Tri-City area is even more serious than it was a year ago. The cost of land continues to rise, and the cost of actually building on available land continues to rise."

On a positive note, **Prescott Area Habitat for Humanity** family #95 moved into its new house in Chino Valley last May! And Family #97 moved into its Chino Valley remodeled house at the end of July!

Your contributions are so helpful for these families in need! If your own family has the ability and desire to provide a donation, checks can be made payable to the church with the memo: **PAHH**.

Undesignated mission donations remain welcome as well, and will be used at the discretion of the Mission Outreach team.

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).*

Mission Outreach Committee members are Gary & Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820 or beckybryant2255@gmail.com.

*Our Mission Outreach Committee for the last many years has been chaired by the beloved Rev. Gary Gard, who has recently stepped down. In Gary's tenure, countless organizations have been touched by his generosity and guiding light. Please do have a thought for Gary whenever you read this closing line, as we will continue to conclude our mission updates with Genesis 12:2 in his honor.

STUDY OPPORTUNITY

ZOOM FAITH FORUM

The new faith forum will allow a variety of faith issues to be explored. Call or email the church office to be added to the weekly Zoom invitation: 928-445-4555; fccprescott@gmail.com.

March 4: Early Celtic Mystics

March 11: Early Celtic Mystics

March 18: Liturgy of Home - Terry Tempest Williams at Harvard Divinity School

SUNDAY BULLETIN

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 6, 2022

10:30 a.m.

**Those who are able may stand*

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Holy One,, we come to you in gladness and expectation to begin our Lenten exploration. You offer steadfast love as our strong refuge; Your boundless grace is our sheltering presence, and we rejoice in the unity of worship, we trust that you will speak to us and through us as we begin this Lenten journey with each other and with Christ. Prepare our hearts to seek you and embrace you, to hear you and follow you, to love you and to serve you. With gladness and expectation, we pray in Jesus' name.

Pre-Worship Music: Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir

Prelude: "Go to Dark Gethsemane" by K. McChesney

The Ringing Bells

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *Passing of the Peace

Gathering Song: "Shepherd Me, O God – Gathering Rite" by Marty Haugen

**Shepherd Me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.**

Opening Prayer

Tom Macy

God, you are our hiding place and our refuge in the time of distress. We turn to you now, seeking comfort from the wounds of the world and power to face all our afflictions. Be present in our struggle, and help us to rest in your eternal

promises, that we might be fed both with the Bread of Life and the nourishment of your Word, strong to resist temptation and faithful in our worship of you. Amen.

*Hymn: "O God, How We Have Wandered"

New Century Hymnal #202

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Confession

Tom Macy

Sisters and Brothers, in our daily lives we need the gift of the season of Lent. These 40 days can help us restore right relationships with God and with others. This is a fine time to focus, clear our hearts and minds of distractions, and re-orient and restore our whole selves. May God be with us. Let us pray:

Creating and Renewing God, in this Lenten season we each need the opportunity to clear our eyes of the glaze of indifference and apathy. Help us get our minds off distractions, obsessions and self-pity so that we don't feel helpless. Help us to start over. Re-orient head and heart so that we may fill our whole selves with life-affirming activities and thoughts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:1-13

Tom Macy

Hymn: "On Eagle's Wings" by Michael Joncas (*please join in singing the refrain*)

**And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.**

Sermon: "Intellectual Well-Being"

Pastor Jay

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "Summertime Waltz" by Faber, played by Wyatt and Winnie Greenwald

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Communion is open to all)

We come to the Lord's Table. All are invited to come forward down the middle aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. We receive communion by intinction – please take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup and partake immediately.

The invitation is simple: come and eat of the feast. Not a meal to nourish the body, but to feed the soul. We receive the bread and wine connected to the ages: to the saint of old who felt unworthy, □to the seeker eager to know God, □to the teenager who wonders what it's all about, to the child who eats with unburdened faith. There is great joy here. No one is turned away for God is the host! Open yourself to the nudging God.

Tender, transforming God, you have invited us to gather at this table, to taste the feast, the same abundant promises offered to our ancestors in faith.

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Pastor Jay

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "Change My Heart, O God" by Eddie Espinosa

Brian Moore

*Prayer of Dedication

Tom Macy

*Hymn: "Forty Days and Forty Nights"

New Century Hymnal #205

*Benediction

Pastor Jay

*Postlude: "Jesus, Keep me Near the Cross" by William Doane

Brian Moore

TREASURER REPORT

Year-to-date income is \$30,594. Expenses are \$25,465. Net gain is \$5,129.

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:30am

Nursery & Sunday School 10:30am

April 14 Maundy Thursday Service 5:30pm

April 15 Good Friday Service Noon

April 17 Easter Worship 10:30am

New Members Received on Easter Sunday

SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: www.fccprescott.org and look for the tab on the front page You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.

Use your credit card and get some points!

Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street,
Prescott, AZ 86301

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United
Church of
Christ

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