

First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

11:00 a.m.

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bolded words indicate unison responses from the congregation.

REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

The following scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary and reflection are provided for meditation as we prepare for worship.

Acts 3:12-19, Psalm 4, 1 John 3:1-7, and Luke 24:36b-48

Reflection on Acts 3:12-19: *In this pericope, one notes the piling up of Christological terms. In spite of human ignorance and malfeasance, God again visited his people through God's servant, the Holy and Righteous One, the Author of life. The crucified man from Galilee was indeed God's Messiah, raised from the dead and alive in the healing power of the disciples. In words that echo Israel's prophets, Peter implores his hearers to "repent" (metanoia) – literally "to change their minds" about Jesus of Nazareth. These Jerusalem Israelites are challenged to "turn around" (epistrephō) in their thinking about Jesus, so that they, like the prodigal son, might return to a joyfully waiting God.*

- Paul W. Walaskay, on the Third Sunday of Easter
in *Daily Feast: Meditations from Feasting on the Word, Year B*

WE GATHER

Piano Prelude: *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* Hans Leo Hassler, arr. by Mark Hayes

"What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend, for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?"

Welcome and Announcements

Karen Cooper

WE PRAISE

*Call to Worship

The Lord hears us when we call:

Come, let us put our trust in God.

The Lord fills our hearts with gladness:

Come, let us sing God's praises with shouts of joy!

The Lord grants peace to our weary souls:

Come, let us rest by the quiet waters of God's grace.

*Hymn #218

Ah, Holy Jesus

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

WE CONFESS

Call to Confession

To repent is to turn away from sin and turn toward Christ Jesus. Scripture promises that when we confess, God hears our cries and wipes away our sin (Acts 3:19). Trusting in God's promises of new life, let us confess our sins and the sin of this world.

Prayer of Confession

Risen Christ, we are often troubled by our doubts. But you are not troubled by them. You do not require perfect understanding. Instead, you reveal yourself to us again and again that we might come to know you. Forgive us when our doubts keep us stuck, when fear prevents us from loving all creation as you call us to do. Help us to accept the peace you so graciously offer to us. Have mercy on us when we hoard or hide it, when we fail to offer it to others. Renew us and make us whole that in this world of strife we may be bearers of your peace. In resurrection hope we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

“See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are” (1 John 3:1). Children of God, we are claimed by God, forgiven of our sins, and set free for love. Alleluia! Amen.

*Gloria #581

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

**“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.”**

*Sharing the Paschal (or Easter) Greeting:

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!

WE LISTEN

Prayer of Illumination:

Redeeming God, as we hear your Word spoken to us, open our eyes to see the risen Christ, open our ears to hear the good news of his salvation for all the world, and open our minds to understand the mysteries of your love. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

New Testament Lesson

Luke 24:36b-48

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

1 John 3:1-7

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalter:

Psalm 4

Pam Root, Cantor

Helen L. Wright



In the night I can take my rest; you a-lone keep my life se-cure.

Copyright 1986 The Westminster Press.

The Acts of the Apostles

Acts 3:12-19

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Acts of Faith: Then and Now,
How were we to know?

Rev. Payne Warner

*Affirmation of Faith (Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39)

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

WE DEDICATE

Call for the Offering

In response to God’s abundant grace at work in our lives, let us present with gratitude our gifts of time, talent and treasure, for the building up of God’s kingdom.

Offertory Anthem:

Jesus, Lover of My Soul
The Motet Choir

Simeon B. Marsh

***Response of Thanksgiving #221, vs. 3**

O Sacred Head

PASSION CHORALE

*What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
Lord, let me never, never outlive my love for thee. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

Living Lord, we give you thanks for the bounty of your grace: you create us in your image, shower us with your love, forgive us when we turn away from you, and give us a future with hope. Bless these gifts we offer you today, and make us good stewards of the resources you have entrusted to us. May our gifts bring joy and peace in our church and in our community. In Christ’s holy name we pray, Amen.

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

***Hymn #247**

Now the Green Blade Rises

NOËL NOUVELET

***Benediction**

Organ Postlude:

Improvisation on “Noël Nouvelet”

**WE SCATTER TO CONTINUE OUR WORSHIP
IN SERVING OTHERS**

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.
may the gift of worship we offer honor God and serve as a blessing to you.



WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Payne Warner

Karen Cooper

THE MUSIC TODAY

Prof. Larry Harris, Director of Music/Organist

The Motet Choir

THE VISUAL WORSHIP

Chris Soller

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Ushers: John Einfalt, Wilma Miller

Facilities Staff: Fran Comstock

WORSHIP NOTES

Most of our liturgy today was written for *The Presbyterian Outlook* by Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Weekly Reminders:

- We are still collecting items for **Rahab Ministries**. Please place donations in the box in the Narthex.
- Please submit **prayer requests** on the cards in the pew racks or by emailing pastor@fpcyo.org.
- Remember to sign the **Friendship pads**. They help keep track of people who may need assistance.
- Coin offerings go to support the **Red Door Café** at **St. John's Episcopal Church**.
- We will next celebrate **Communion** on **Sunday, May 5**.

Community Events

- **Correction: The Sacred Music Fest** is **next** Sunday, 4/21 from 4-6pm at New Bethel Baptist Church.
- **Taste of the Faiths** will be on Sunday, May 16 from 5:30-7pm at St. Charles Parish Hall in Boardman.

Prayer Requests:

- Bob Fitch
- Leeann Comstock
- Martin Goss
- Terry Murray
- Rick Benson
- Bridget Benson
- Cindy Milicich
- Barb Altman