

**Third Sunday in Lent  
ORDER OF WORSHIP  
10:00 a.m.**

Sunday, March 12, 2023

Seasonal Color: Purple

**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

PRE-SERVICE: "As the Deer" Martin Nystrom/arr. Lloyd Larson  
(Sam Choate and Taylor Rhinehart, Flugelhorn; Susan Strickland, Piano)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Lamb of God" Twila Paris/arr. Lloyd Larson  
(Sam Choate and Taylor Rhinehart, Flugelhorn; Susan Strickland, Piano)

*(Please stand in body or spirit and let us join together in the Call to Worship)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**We shall come into your presence with thanksgiving and make a joyful noise unto you with our songs of praise!**

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker!

**For we are your people, the flock that you shepherd. We will know of your power as we listen for your voice!**

Let us worship God!

**\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION**

**You keep your eye upon us, O God; you protect us as a shield. You give us hope in spite of the disquiet that lingers within us. You lift our spirits and make us glad. All creation sings your praise; we your people laud your name. Hear us as we worship, and speak to us as we gather. For we seek to be filled with your Spirit and made alive by your abiding Word. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN: "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" GTG # 81**

*(During the singing of the hymn, worshipers are invited to bring their Daily Change offering forward as an act of worship, and place them in the containers in front of the sanctuary.)*

**WE ARE RENEWED IN GRACE**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**You call us to become pilgrims, to follow you in a journey of faith. We would find it easier to follow when not so much is at stake. But you promise that you will be with us and that our needs will be met. We cling to our possessions, trusting in them for security. You lead us into unfamiliar places, asking that we trust in your will. O God, your way is**

**challenging when we choose to be complacent. You make great demands; we are anxious and uncertain. Have mercy upon us and forgive our hesitant steps toward the promise. Amen.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:**

"Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us"

GTG # 575

**Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out upon us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to know the things that pertain to life and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 17:1-7

pg. 64

ANTHEM: "A Lenten Meditation"

Douglas E. Wagner

Jesus, in Thy dying woes, even while Thy lifeblood flows,

Craving pardon for Thy foes; hear us, Holy Jesus.

May our hearts to Thee incline, looking from our cross to Thine;

Cheer our souls with hope divine; hear us, Holy Jesus.

When we seem in vain to pray, and our hope seems far away,

In the darkness be our stay; hear us, Holy Jesus.

May we thirst Thy love to know; lead us in our sin and woe

Where the healing waters flow; hear us, Holy Jesus.

Brighten all our heav'nward way with an ever holier ray

Till we pass to perfect day; hear us, Holy Jesus.

May Thy life and death supply grace to live and grace to die,

Grace to reach our home on high; hear us, Holy Jesus.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES:

Laura Sparks

SECOND LESSON: John 4:5-30, 39-42

pg. 94

SERMON: "From Bearing Water to Bearing Christ"

Rev. David Roquemore

**\*HYMN: "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"**

GTG #494

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles' 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.**

**\*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,**

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

OFFERTORY: "You Are My All In All" Dennis Jernigan/arr, Lloyd Larson

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:**

"Great God of Every Blessing" (vs-1)

GTG # 694

**Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,**

**You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.**

**How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:**

**Sincerely and completely, I offer you my heart.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**O God, you have sent your Son into the world, that we may have life. As we go forth from your sanctuary, may we offer that life in Christ's name to our neighbor. Use our talents to build up Christ's body. Use the money that we give to bring healing for his sake. All that we give is in response to your benevolent care. Amen.**

**WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

GTG #475

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE: "Great Is the Lord"**

Michael W. Smith/arr. Lloyd Larson

(Sam Choate and Taylor Rhinehart, Trumpet; Susan Strickland, Piano)

*(\*Please stand in body or spirit)*

Lay Leader for this morning Brenda Eckard.

Elder on Call this week is Suzanne Rhinehart.

Copyright information for today's service music:

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"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken", text John Newton, music Franz Joseph Haydn. "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts", text Latin, 12<sup>th</sup> cen. Trans. Ray Palmer, music Henry Baker; "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing", text Robert Robinson, music Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*.

Above pieces held in public domain

**WELCOME NEWCOMERS – THERE ARE NO STRANGERS WITHIN THIS SANCTUARY: If you would like more information about the church and our programs, please stop by the visitor's table in the narthex.**

1. You are in God's House. We want you to feel God's presence.
2. All around you are Christian people. They will want to shake your hand and greet you in the name of Christ. Won't you meet them with a friendly smile? We would not have you leave this place without a warm welcome and a feeling that you want to come back.
3. Please sign the Friendship Book.
4. Those interested in membership information or who desire to join are asked to speak to David Roquemore, Pastor, call the church office, or check the Friendship Book.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** (10:00am) Worship bags for children are located in the entryway. In addition, children (ages 3 yrs. old – 2nd grade) are welcome to stay with their families for the entire service, or they may attend B.L.A.S.T. Children's Church following the *Time for Young Disciples*, when children will be led from the Sanctuary to our Children's Church room and they will return to the sanctuary before the closing hymn.

**THE PEACE CANDLE:** The smaller, glass candle on the Communion table is a *peace candle*, and here is the candle's story and meaning.

In 1986, a group of Americans attended a Russian Orthodox worship service. At the close of the service, an elderly woman pressed a three-ruble note into the hand of a Presbyterian pastor (only about \$5 in American dollars, but a significant gift for this elderly woman). The woman asked him to buy a *candle* with it, and light that candle in his church as a symbol for *peace*. That Presbyterian pastor purchased a *candle* with the money, placed it on the Communion table in his sanctuary, and lit it during each worship service. Then the church bought other candles, in glass containers, and sent them to other churches with the request that they be lit during their worship services, as a symbol of our common hope for *peace*.

These *peace candles* have since spread across our world and across denominations. Our congregation received our *peace candle* on Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014. And, we have shared a *candle* with our sister church of El Redentor in Guatemala. Together with sisters and brothers in Guatemala and around the world, we light our candles every time we worship to remind us to pray for peace in our lives, in our communities, and in our world.

## THE MINISTERS

All Members of First Presbyterian Church

## THE MINISTRY STAFF

Laura Sparks – Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry

[lsparks@fpnewton.com](mailto:lsparks@fpnewton.com)

Catherine C. Murdock – Music Director

Susan A. Strickland – Organist

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kim J. Berry – Office Manager

[kberry@fpnewton.com](mailto:kberry@fpnewton.com)

Jim Ten Kate - Treasurer

Bill Inscoe - Treasurer Emeritus

## MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH

Lawrence & Inge Sthreshley – Congo

Rev. Dr. John McCall - Taiwan



## THE SESSION

### Class of 2023

Brenda Eckard (5)  
Debby Reynolds (2)  
Suzanne Rhinehart (2)  
Randy Williams (4)

### Class of 2024

Gary McDougal (1)  
Charles Moody (3)  
Amy Owensby (1)  
Amy Yenderusiak(3)

### Class of 2025

Lynette Inscoe (2)  
David McCart (3)  
Mimi Michael (4)  
Randy Miller (4)

(1) Council on Discipleship  
(2) Council on Caring  
(3) Council on Administration

(4) Council on Sharing  
(5) Council on Praise

Suzanne Rhinehart - Clerk of Session

## PASTOR

Rev. Dr. David Roquemore

### Pastor David Roquemore may be reached at:

828-464-06485 (Church)

[droquemore@fpnewton.com](mailto:droquemore@fpnewton.com)

704-325-3916 (Home)

717-512-2779 (Cell)

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

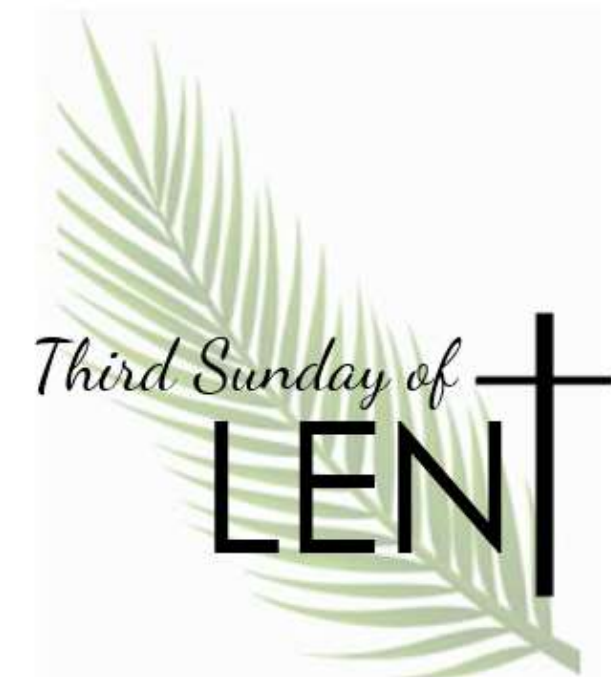
Serving the Newton-Conover area since 1858

Partners with Iglesia El Redentor, Guatemala

Sunday, March 12, 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m.



701 N. Main Avenue  
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Newton, NC 28658  
[www.fpcnewton.org](http://www.fpcnewton.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT:

*Following Christ together in witness, love, and service.*