



CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 6300 Trinity Drive, Pine Bluff, Arkansas Sunday, March 4, 2024 Third Sunday of Lent

GREET THOSE AROUND YOU IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND RITUALS OF FRIENDSHIP

LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY

Rev. Jai Kwak

PRELUDE

Organ/Piano Young Ju Oh

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 19)

Rose: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

People: The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple,

Rose: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;,

People: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

Rose: The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

People: They are more desirable than gold and sweeter than honey.

Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN #65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but Thou art mighty. Hold me with Thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more

2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, be Thou still my Strength and Shield; be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside. Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee I will ever give to Thee.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Christ calls us to live lives in harmony with our God and our neighbors. Even our best efforts fall short. Yet our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Trusting that abundant mercy, let us confess our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of righteousness, we confess that have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community. (Silent Prayer) Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON: "Lord, Have Mercy"

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us

Pastor: "God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength." The grace of Christ is sufficient for us

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI Hymnal #581 "Glory Be to the Father"

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.

ANTHEM Central Choir

The Old Rugged Cross

1 On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

(Refrain) So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

2 O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
has a wondrous attraction for me; for the dear Lamb of God left his
glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. (Refrain)

3 In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see, for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me. (Refrain)

4 To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear; then he'll call me some day to my
home far away, where his glory forever I'll share. (Refrain)

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Rose VonTungeln

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 6:16-18 (ESV)

16 "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Colossians 3:23–25 (ESV)

23 Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. 25 For the wrongdoer will be paid back for the wrong he has done, and there is no partiality.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Beware!"

Rev. Jai D. Kwak

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN # 216 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

- 1 Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand, the shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day..
- 2 Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of One who suffered there for me: and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess, the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness.
- 3 I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place: I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face; content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss; my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

* Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Hymnal #606

"Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You each are encouraged to give voice to your concerns or to name those for whom you love and pray.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 721 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

1 Lord, you have come to the lakeshore looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones; you only asked me to follow humbly.

(Refrain) O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling have spoken my name; now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me. By your side I will seek other seas.

- 2 You know so well my possessions; my boat carries no gold no weapons; you will find there my nets and labor.
- 3 You need my hands, full of caring, through my labors to give others rest and constant love that keeps on loving.
- 4 You, who have finished other oceans, ever longed for by souls who are waiting, my loving friend, as thus you call me.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE

EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Go forth into the world rejoicing. Love and serve the Lord.

*Those who are able, please stand.

** Please be seated and remain for the postlude if you can.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Emil & Carol Brown
Jemmie Moseley
Munn Family
Karen Perdue
Laura Hayes
Mike & Lan Kelly
Linda Vick

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Name Name Max Zeng Mike and Lan Kelly's son Rebecca & Earl Friends of Karen Perdue **Phillips** Wife of Dan Festa Dr. Laura Festa Luis Sanchez Father of Lizabeth Sanchez Friend of the Church Haley Chandler Bernice Collins Friend of the Church Friends of Denise Mosley Pat Mosley Mother of George Mosley Allie Cooper & Carol Taylor

Mary Owens Friend of Rose VonTungeln Helen King Friend of the Church

Family of Casey Relative of Bubba
Hardin VonTungeln

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FELLOW PRESBYTERIANS:

Church Secretaries and Treasurers

Holiday Island Presbyterian

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

AROUND THE WORLD

Welcome to Central Presbyterian Church, where we come together to celebrate God's love, nurture growth, share our faith and serve the needs of others. This congregation opens wide its doors and hearts and welcomes all in the name of Jesus Christ.

PastorPianist/OrganistRev. Jai D. KwakYoung Ju Oh

Treasurer Sound Board Operator

Rose VonTungeln Zac Cosner

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Session

George Mosley

Kay Cromwell

(Clerk)
Pat Drewett

Lan Kelley

Jane Judkins

Suzy VonTungeln

Standing Committee Moderators

Announcements

We are delighted to share the results of our recent congregational meeting, which took place last Sunday, the 25th. During this gathering, we elected three dedicated individuals to serve as session members for a three-year term:

Suzy VonTungeln, Lan Kelley, Kay Cromwell

Additionally, Pat Drewett, Jane Judkins, George Moseley, who were previously elected, will continue their dedicated service. Together, these faithful servants will contribute their wisdom and commitment to our congregation. As they embark on their journey of service, we invite you to support them through prayer and encouraging words.

May our collective faith and unity strengthen our community, and may we continue to grow together in grace.

Worship Schedule during the Lenten Period.

- *Palm Sunday, March 24th
- *Maundy Thursday, March 28th 6PM
- *Good Friday, March 29th 6PM
- *Resurrection Sunday, March 31st

