

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

2nd Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

10:30 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude "Prelude based on Aberstwyth" (Young) Rita Harmon

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 22:23-31) Dean Wyatt

You who know the Lord should also praise the Lord.

Because God's face is not hidden from us when we cry out.

Let us praise God in the great congregation.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord.

All the families of the nations shall worship God.

Dominion belongs to the Lord. God rules over the nations.

Everyone who sleeps in the earth shall bow down to God.

All who go down to the dust shall bow to God, but I will live for him.

Future generations will be told about the Lord.

We will proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn.

***Hymn of Praise #39** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
~~Please bring your Lenten Prayer Slips forward during this hymn~~

***Call to Confession** Dean Wyatt

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God,
For our sake you became human And lived among us.
You showed us what it meant to give ourselves fully
For others.

You called us to be the hands and heart of Jesus

Here on earth.

Yet we would rather be self-contained individuals,

And not part of this wounded world.

Forgive us, we pray, when we won't let go

Of our own plans and join in your plan to redeem this world.

Forgive us when we choose to follow our ego

Rather than our soul.

Forgive us, we pray, when we are unwilling to pour ourselves out,

Fearing that the world might pour in.

Help us accept our brokenness, loving God,

And reach out to you for the love and grace you have promised us.

And forgive, we pray, the sins we now name silently...

***Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

***Assurance of Pardon Response #437**

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

You are the Christ, giver of mercy!

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon on the Steps Carrie Wyatt

Hymn #649 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

First Reading Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (Pew Bible OT p.13)

Second Reading Mark 8:31-38 (Pew Bible NT p.44)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit "I Have a Cross... You, Too?" Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Affirmation of Faith (A Declaration of Faith, 4.2)

Jesus was what we are.

**He grew up in a family and a society
troubled by the common problems of the world.**

**His knowledge was limited
by his time and place in history.**

**He felt deeply the joy of friendship
and the hurt of being rejected.**

**Jesus prayed,
struggled with temptation,
knew anger,
and was subject to suffering and death.**

He was like us in every way except sin.

Jesus was what we should be.

**He served God with complete trust
and unwavering obedience.**

**He loved all kinds of people
and accepted their love.**

**In constant dependence upon the Holy Spirit,
Jesus allowed no temptation or threat to keep him
from loving God with his whole being
and his neighbor as himself.**

We recognize in Jesus what God created us to be.

He exposes our failure to live as he lived.

He demonstrates the new humanity

God promises to give us through him.

***Affirmation of Faith Response #582**

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen*

Prayers of the People concluding with the Lord's Prayer (page 35 in hymnal)

Service of Giving

Offertory "There Is a Green Hill Far Away" (Glyncannon) Rita Harmon

***Doxology #606**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn #216** "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

***Postlude** "Adoration" (Rinck) Rita Harmon

~~~~~  
*\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.*

The flowers in worship today are given for the glory of God  
and in honor of Bill Wheeler's birthday from Eli, Liam, and River;  
and in honor of Patricia Lynn Miller's birthday from her appreciative  
congregation.

**Please remember in prayer:**

Sara Setzer; Butch & Barbara Jarman; Lynda; Matt; Karen Lydon; Tracy;  
Barbara Grinter; Patsy Spires; Kathy Miller Evans; Trish Tong; Hugh Fincher;  
Fran Ross; Buck Jolley; Justina Eddy.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Next week's lectionary readings are:**

Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22.

**Monthly Giving Opportunity**

The February giving opportunity is Souper Bowl. You may mark your check  
"Souper Bowl" or put it in the MGO box in the worship space.

**Spring Bible Study**

Last week we looked at two similar stories in Daniel -- the fiery furnace and  
the lions' den. This week we'll be considering chapters 4 and 5 of Daniel's story.  
This will conclude the narrative section of the book. Next we'll tackle the  
apocalyptic section. Join us at 6 p.m. in the Family Life Center on Tuesday.

**CE on Wednesday: The Lord's Prayer**

*Give us this day our daily bread.* That seems to be a straightforward petition.  
But it's worth a closer look. There are "Take Away" sheets for each week. These  
sheets ask questions on which you can reflect during the week. Extra sheets  
are available on the table in the FLC.

**The Visible Lord's Prayer**

Where on earth do you see the Lord's Prayer? Is it in your daily bread? Do you  
see signs of God's kingdom on earth? When you see something that reminds  
you of the Lord's Prayer, grab your phone and take a picture of it. Then either  
post your photo to the Wakelet (see last week's LimeLight for that information)  
or send it to Lynn with the part of the prayer that you captured and she will  
post it. We'll be using some of your photos for bulletin covers during Lent.

**She did it!**

No surprise, but Robin Morris was a rock star as she was examined by Foothills  
Presbytery on Tuesday, February 20. Robin was unanimously approved to serve  
as a Commissioned Ruling Elder for Foothills Presbytery. She will be  
commissioned in a service here at Limestone in the not-too-distant future.

## THIS WEEK IN CHURCH HISTORY

**February 27, 1706:** Death of John Evelyn. Like Samuel Pepys, Evelyn was a diarist, though his diary shows him much more mindful of the presence of God than Pepys' diary attests. Evelyn was witness to the fire that destroyed London in 1666. "God grant that mine eyes may never behold the like, who now saw above ten thousand houses all ablaze! The noise and cracking and thunder of the impetuous flames; the shrieking of women and children; the hurry of people; the crash of towers and spires was like a hideous storm! The air was so hot that no one could approach it, so that we were forced to stand still and let the flames burn on unchecked, the mass of fire being about two miles long and one mile broad."

**March 1, 1843:** Fidelia Fiske sailed from Boston to Persia. Two years before Fiske had contracted typhoid and her weak health caused her to give up her goal of becoming a missionary. When the person slated to take her place was unable to travel, Fiske determined to follow her call to make a mark in the world for Christ. She founded a girls' boarding school in Iran and managed it for fifteen years before health issues caused her to return to the U.S.

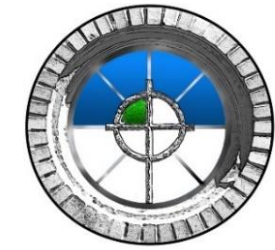
## CALENDAR of EVENTS

**Sunday, February 25**  
 9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
 10:30 AM Worship - Sanctuary & via Facebook Live

**Tuesday, February 27**  
 6:00 PM Bible Study - FLC

**Wednesday, February 28**  
 6:00 PM Wednesday Night Supper - FLC

**Sunday, March 3**  
 9:45 AM Lectionary Bites – Parlor  
 9:45 AM Chancel Choir Practice – Choir Room  
 10:30 AM Worship - Sanctuary & via Facebook Live  
 4:00 PM Yoga - FLC



**LIMESTONE**  
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF A LOVING GOD,  
 GATHERING, GROWING, GIVING, AND GOING TO SERVE,  
 TOGETHER

## NEXT STEPS

- Pick up a hard copy of the LIMELight
- Mark May 18, 2024 on your calendar. We will host Foothills Presbytery that day!
- RSVP for Wednesday night supper.

## Praying for Our Congregation

We are praying for every member of our church family.  
 Each week we invite you to pray for particular members.  
 This week we are praying for:

Julie Sossamon  
 Mimi McCully  
 Lynn Miller  
 Landon Wyatt

## MEMBERS OF THE SESSION

| Class of 2024 | Class of 2025 | Class of 2026 |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Teresa Spires | Nancy McElroy | Robin Morris  |
| Dean Wyatt    | Mimi McCully  | Barbara Cope  |

## STAFF

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20 Once Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God was coming, and he answered, "The kingdom of God is not coming with things that can be observed, 21 nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There it is!' For, in fact, the kingdom of God is among you." Luke 17:20-21, NRSVUE



Thy kingdom come,  
 thy will be done  
 on earth  
 as it is  
 in heaven.