

FONDREN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 7, 2019

11 AM

Welcome to Fondren Presbyterian Church! We're so glad you're with us this morning for worship and fellowship. If you're a first-time visitor, welcome to our church home. If you're a return visitor, welcome back! Fondren is an inclusive faith community where everyone is welcome to come and grow in Christ. If you would like to learn more about Fondren, please seek out an usher or greeter or join us at the communion table after worship where one of our elders will be happy to share more about life at Fondren Presbyterian.

Again, welcome! We hope this time of worship will renew and uplift your spirit.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

**Those able may stand. Bold type indicates a unison response*

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Dr. Rob Lowry

PRELUDE

WE LIFT UP OUR HEARTS

Stacy Clark

We come, for God gathers us here, with that community called faith:

**where the hungry are served first,
where the thirsty drink life's water.**

We come, for God welcomes us here into that home called grace:

**where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;
where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

We come, for God reunites us here, sisters and brothers in that family called love:

**where the imprisoned model justice,
where the sick are cradled in God's peace.**

We come, for God transforms us here from the hypocrisy of our fears to the boldness of discipleship:

**where the faithful live the hope of Christ,
where the promises of Christ are made manifest in the world.**

*HYMN #268

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIDEMATA

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION OF OUR SINFULNESS

God of the people, you have called us to walk humbly before you and to share in the struggle with the least of these, yet we have failed to live up to this call.

You have called us to give more than lip service to the calls for justice in our world, yet we fail to match our daily actions to our bold words.

You have called us to see the value and worth in one another, yet we more often assume the worst about our neighbors.

Today, we come before you asking your Spirit to empower us to be agents of transformation for the world. We come before you realizing that before we can change the world we must be changed ourselves.

Make us a community where our words match our deeds.

Make us a church where what we preach is what we practice.

Make us a chalice from which all the oppressed can find the living waters of God, who calls us to live a life of service, of humility, and of reconciliation with you, with creation, with one another, and with the world. Amen.

Silence

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy!

You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, which passes all understanding, be with you all.

And also with you.

Please turn to those nearby and extend a hand of friendship and a word of greeting.

*Children are invited to join volunteers in the back of the church
to go upstairs to the Children's Pray-ground balcony.
To learn more about our Pray-ground, see Worship Notes.*

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46

ANTHEM

Poor Wayfaring Stranger from BOUND FOR GLORY

arr. John Leavitt

*I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger, a-trav'ling through this world of woe.
But there's no sickness toil or danger, in that bright land to which I go.
I'm going there to see my father, I'm going there no more to roam.
I'm just a-going over Jordan, I'm just a-going over home.
I know dark clouds will gather round me. I know the way is rough and steep,
But beauteous fields lie just beyond me where souls redeemed their vigil keep.
I'm going there to meet my mother. She said she'd meet me when I come.
I'm just a-going over Jordan, I'm just a-going over home.
I want to wear a crown of glory when I get home to that bright land;
I want to shout Salvation's story in concert with that blood-washed band.
I'm going there to meet my Savior, to sing His praise forevermore.
I'm just a-going over Jordan, I'm just a-going over home.*

SERMON

“Making Your Insides Match Your Outsides **or** Hypocrites Need Not Apply”

Dr. Lowry

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #773

Heaven Shall Not Wait

HEAVEN SHALL NOT WAIT

*WHAT WE BELIEVE

A Lenten Creed (Patmos Abbey)

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.

We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts.

We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine.

We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.

This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*SUNG THANKSGIVING

Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;

praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

WE GATHER AT GOD'S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE DEPART IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN #166

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST.FLAVIAN

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES

WORSHIP LEADERS AND VOLUNTEERS TODAY Carol Brasfield, John Huntington, Jill Upton, Carolyn White (Ushers), Stacy Clark (Liturgist), Jill Upton (Communion Preparation) Jamie Pitts & Beverly Ray (Childcare).

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP Fondren welcomes children of all ages to participate in the worship service. During the passing of the peace, all children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to move with the adult volunteers to the pray-ground, the children's worship area in the balcony, where they can work and play with worship-related activities and games. An adult will bring all children back to the sanctuary during the offertory to rejoin their families for the remainder of the worship service. Parents, you are welcome to join us in the balcony any time—especially if you think it might make your child's transition smoother.

For parents and children who might be happier with a nursery, it is open to those from birth through age 3, and supervised by adult volunteers and staff.

Anyone who has any questions or who wants to volunteer for pray-ground or nursery time, please contact Beverly Ray at 601.842.3415 or bray65@comcast.net

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY continues this week with our in-depth study of the book of Romans. Lenten soup supper begins at 6:15 and bible study begins at 7 pm.

CLEAN-UP BUCKET AND HYGIENE KITS may be brought to the church and added to those from other PC(USA) congregations. These supplies are used by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Church World Service in the wake of natural and man-made disasters. Lists of items for each may be found on the Ministry Opportunities Board outside the finance office.

THE MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY BOARD located outside the finance office has sign-up sheets for church activities and volunteer opportunities.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL/PARTNERS IN EDUCATION is up and running in our new partnership with Galloway Elementary School and we need all willing souls to join us. Be on the lookout for ways you can join in making a difference in the life of a JPS student. Supplies for the P.I.E Store for teachers may be left by the stairs between the men's and women's restrooms just inside the door. Items currently needed are posted on the Ministry Opportunities Board outside the finance office.

CONGREGATIONAL AND COMMUNITY CARE

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER Julie Dees, Edna Dreher, **Lillian Magruder**, Mary Robinson, Elizabeth Sutton (Carolyn Burch's mother), Jane Welch, and Stan Wilkinson.

BE SURE TO SIGN THE PRAYER NOTES on the table in the Narthex. They will be sent to those on our prayer list.

TO ADD A NAME to the prayer list, please email or call the church office (fondrenpcusa@comcast.net or 601-982-3232). Unless otherwise instructed, names are included in the eNews and bulletin for four weeks.

THE CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 7, Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m. – Handbell Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Fellowship Time

11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

12:00 a.m. - Christian Education Meeting

Worship Committee

5:30 p.m. – Youth Program

5:45 p.m. – *The 5:45 Service*

Monday, April 8

10:00 a.m. – Stitchery Guild

Tuesday, April 9

5:30 p.m. – Property Meeting

7:00 p.m. – The Compassionate Friends

Wednesday, April 10

5:30 p.m. – Adult Choir

Children's Fellowship

6:15 p.m. – Fellowship Supper

7:00 p.m. – Program

Saturday, April 13

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Workday

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – League of Women Voters Meeting

Sunday, April 14, Palm Sunday

9:00 a.m. – Handbell Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal

Fellowship Time

11:00 a.m. – Morning Worship

12:00 p.m. – 2nd Sunday Lunch

Christian Education Committee

Children & Youth Committee

5:30 p.m. – Youth Program

5:45 p.m. – *The 5:45 Service*

OUR MISSION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Living into our shared calling, Fondren Presbyterian Church welcomes and nurtures all children of God into the work of justice, reconciliation, and transformation of the world in the name of Jesus Christ.

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
And with all of your soul and with all your mind . . .
and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.*
—Matthew 22:37-39

*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*
—Micah 6:8

FONDREN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Rob Lowry, Pastor/Head of Staff
The Reverend Dr. Rims Barber, Parish Associate
Dr. Nell Adams, Music Director
Jeff Hardy, Organist
Ann Phelps, Director of Spiritual Engagement
Audie Dodson, Administrative Assistant
Christel Howell, Interim Financial Administrator
Terry Longino, Sexton
Jeannette Blockman, Kitchen Assistant
Wendy Edwards, Nursery Worker



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