

January 28, 2024



**First Presbyterian
Church**
of Pittsburgh

WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am

We Gather Around the Word

Prelude: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
arr. by Victor Labenske

Sean Baran and Ruth Ann Reamer, *piano duet*

Time of Welcome

Rev. Ernest L. Gardner III, *Transitional Pastor*

Moment for Mission

Roni Milich, *Community Engagement Coordinator for Refuge for Women*

***Responsive Call to Worship (From Psalm 111)**

Judy Shipley

Leader: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

People: He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

Leader: He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!

People: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.

ALL: The LORD’s praise endures forever!

***Hymn:** “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High” (*located in this bulletin*)

Verse 1, 2, 3, 6 only

Prayer of Confession

Judy Shipley

Eternal God, our judge, and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong against you, against our neighbors, and ourselves. We have been deaf to the concerns of our others, and allowed ourselves to be held captive by our fears. In your great mercy release us of our sins and free us from fear and selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through the authority of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Hear us now, we pray, as we continue our confession with you in silence...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Children's Message

Donald Larter

(Children of ages preschool – 1st grade are invited to attend Children's Worship on the 3rd floor balcony at this time. Children are to be picked up immediately after service in the chapel behind the high pulpit.)

***Hymn:** "Ancient Words" (located in this bulletin)

We Listen for the Word

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Judy Shipley

¹⁵ "The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— ¹⁶ just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' ¹⁷ And the Lord said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. ¹⁸ I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. ¹⁹ And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. ²⁰ But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'

The Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

²¹ And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. ²² And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. ²³ And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, ²⁴ "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." ²⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶ And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷ And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸ And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "The Authority To Release and Restore"

Rev. Gardner

We Respond to the Word

Pastoral Prayer 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

***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 Spirit, 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 sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there 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 the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering (*Online giving available, scan code on back*)

Judy Shipley

Anthem: "Change My Heart, O God"

Eddie Espinosa, arr. by Joel Raney

Alex Policicchio, *soloist*
Ruth Ann Reamer, *piano*

*Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
You are the Potter, I am the clay;
mold me and make me, this is what I pray.*

*Search me, O God, and know my heart today;
try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray.
Take all my will, my passion, self, and pride;
I now surrender, Lord, in me a bide.*

*You are the Potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God, may I be life you*

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Judy Shipley

***Hymn: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"** (*located in this bulletin*)

Verses 1, 3, 4, 5, 8 only

***Invitation and Charge**

***Benediction**

Rev. Gardner

Postlude: "DEO GRACIAS"

Grand Plein Jeu – Mary Beth Bennett

Sean Baran, *organ*

*The rose placed on the low pulpit is in honor of the birth of **Silas Paul Kobulnicky**, born on January 18, 2024,
son of **Greg and Matti Kobulnicky***

111 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

Cm E^b F Gm Cm

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his
 4 For us to e - vil power be - trayed, scourged, mocked, in

Fm Cm Gm7 Cm B^b A^b

thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion
 dai - ly works he wrought: by words and signs and
 pu - ple robe ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful

E^b Fm Cm Gm Fm A^b B^b Cm

God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
 sharp he knew, for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.
 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.

5 For us he rose from death again;
 for us he went on high to reign;
 for us he sent his Spirit here
 to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

6 All glory to our Lord and God
 for love so deep, so high, so broad—
 the Trinity, whom we adore
 forever and forevermore.

Ancient Words

F B \flat C

1 Ho - ly words long pre-served for our walk in this world, they re -
Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope. In this

2 Ho - ly words of our faith hand-ed down to this age came to
Ho - ly words long pre-served for our walk in this world, they re -

Dm C F B \flat F/C C 1,3 F D.C.

sound with God's own heart, O let the an - cient words im-part.
world wher - e'er we roam ; an-cient words will guide us

us through sac - ri - fice. O heed the faith - ful words of Christ.
sound with God's own heart. O let the an - cient words im -

2,4 F Refrain C Gm F

home.

An - cient words, ev-er true, chang-ing me and chang-ing

part.

B \flat C Dm C F B \flat F/C C F

you. We have come with o-pen hearts, O let the an-cient words im - part.

590

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: D, G, D, G, D, G, D7 in the first system, and G, C, G/D, D7, G in the second system. The lyrics are printed below the staff, with line numbers 1 through 4 corresponding to the first system and 5 through 8 corresponding to the second system.

1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease;
 4 He breaks the power of can-celed sin, he sets the pri-soner free;

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
 'tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 his blood can make the foul-est clean; his blood a-vailed for me.

5 He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
 new life the dead receive;
 the mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
 the humble poor believe.

6 Look unto him, your Savior own,
 O fallen human race!
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 be justified by grace!

7 Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
 your loosened tongues employ;
 you blind, behold your Savior come;
 and leap, you lame, for joy!

8 To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever given
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heaven.

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

Hospitality Hour

Join us after worship this morning for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the chapel. If you're visiting with us, we would especially like to get to know you! Join us also with **Roni Milich** to learn more about **Refuge for Women!**

Birthday Blessings to:

Bradley Bradford, Bill Branning, Naomi Davis, Brynne Lee Swann, and Rowen Kukucka!

Join Rev. Ellen Campbell Gardner in the Chapel Next Sunday, February 4 at 9:30 AM!

Next Sunday, Rev. Ellen will be leading the class, "Structure Course" regarding transitional ministry. Please plan to join us for this informative session. We will also welcome her as our guest preacher next Sunday!

Call to Prayer – For 7 minutes at 7 o'clock (AM or PM)

We encourage the congregation to participate in a time for prayer at 7 o'clock for 7 minutes each day!

Legacies of Hope - A Benefit Recital for Pittsburgh's Refuge for Women- TODAY at 3:30 PM at FPCP!

Refuge for Women is a non-profit, faith based organization providing specialized long-term housing and emergency housing for women who have escaped human trafficking or sexual exploitation. January is human trafficking awareness month. Please consider joining us for an afternoon of art song. The program will include female centered works that herald hope in dark times. Classical female composers such as Clara Schumann, Marion Bauer, Florence Price, and Jewel. Reception with complimentary refreshments to follow. BeanThru Coffee is proud to provide refreshments. Freewill offering gratefully accepted. 100% of the proceeds benefit Pittsburgh's Refuge for Women.

The Cellar Needs YOU!

We are praying fervently for this teen outreach that God would provide **volunteers who have a heart to serve teens**. Might He be calling you to join us? The Cellar is making a Kingdom impact with downtown teens each **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3-6 pm**, and you can be a part of it. There are numerous ways to help! Please contact Cellar Director **Joanne Galinowski** at jgalinowski@fpcp.org or **412-952-2972** to find out how!

Ligonier Camp and Conference Center Annual Dinner & Auction - Saturday, April 27, 2024

Save the Date for LCCC annual dinner & auction which will be held on 4/27/24 at Duquesne University. Proceeds benefit camp scholarships and other facility needs. If you are able to help by donating a raffle basket item, services or gift cards, please complete a donation form to send to the camp. Donation forms can be found at the Welcome Table in the Chapel Fellowship Area. Any questions please see **Denice** or **Charlie Claudon**.

Do You Have Musical Gifts to Share with our Congregation?

Our Minister of Music wants to know if anyone in the congregation has instrumental or vocal talents that could be incorporated into Sunday morning worship. We can find opportunities during hymns, prelude/postlude selections, and the offertory anthems. Reach out to Sean Baran if you have any interest to express your faith through your unique musical gifts. Even if you aren't sure that you are up to the task, let's get a conversation started and see what unfolds from there.

A Note about This Morning's Music - - by Sean Baran

The text of **O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High** spans the entire story of Jesus' life on earth. This fifteenth century text originally contained twenty-seven verses! Of particular relevance this morning is verse 3 which describes his teaching and praying. These particular acts of love for God's creation are illuminated in today's Gospel reading, and the hymn uses the phrase "for us" repeatedly to remind us that Jesus was a miracle sent to earth "for us" by God. In 1739, Charles Wesley was inspired by Peter Bohler's statement "If I had a thousand tongues, I would praise Christ with them all." This statement led Wesley to write today's closing hymn, **O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**. The hymn was written by Wesley to commemorate the one-year anniversary of his own conversion. It was originally written with eighteen verses! The final verse we will sing this morning, a doxology, was originally the first verse of the hymn. Verses 3-5 particularly relate to the conversion process, describing how Christ can transform one's soul.

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Our Sanctuary is open to visitors Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm and Fridays, 9:00 am - Noon
Call to Schedule a Tour!

You can reach the Church Office Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Call: 412-471-3436 | Email: info@fpcp.org | www.fpcp.org.

Visiting Us Today?



Scan Code to Connect with Us!

Giving Online?



Scan Code to Give!

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get your parking ticket stamped at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). See the person in the payment booth at Mellon Square, Oliver Avenue or Smithfield Street garage to pay \$1 for parking.

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