

First Presbyterian Church IN VICTOR

WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.



First Presbyterian Church

70 East Main Street
Victor, NY 14564
585-924-2289
www.victorpres.org

Pastor: Rev. Michael McNamara

Organist: Ayn Patrowicz

AV: Bill Martz

Greeters: Clay Girouard

Liturgist: Jan Astles

Fellowship: Amy & Mike Reinhardt

Communion Preparers: Bruce & Nancy Fisher

Cover Art: Ivanov, Aleksandr Andreevich, 1806-1858. Christ and Nicodemus, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

Order of Worship 4th Sunday in Lent

March 10, 2024, 10am

**Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude

“Prelude in A minor” by J.S. Bach

Welcome & Announcements

***Litany for Lent**

Lord Jesus Christ,
you are always faithful,
even when we betray you.

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus Christ,
you claim us as your own,
even when we deny you,

Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

***Opening Hymn** GTG No. 774 (vs. 1, 2, 4)

“There is Now a New Creation”

Psalm 107 1-6, 15-22

Refrain: “God is Our Refuge, God is Our Strength”

Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;
for God’s mercy endures forever.

**Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**
gathering them in from the lands—
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

**Some wandered in desert wastes;
they found no path to a city where they might dwell.**

They were hungry and thirsty;
their spirits languished within them.

**Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord;
and you delivered them from their distress.**

R: “God is Our Refuge, God is Our Strength”

Let them give thanks to you, Lord,
for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.

**For you shatter the doors of bronze
and break the iron bars in two.**

Some were fools and took rebellious paths;
through their sins they were afflicted.

**They loathed all manner of food
And grew near to death’s door.**

Then in their trouble they cried to the Lord;
and you delivered them from their distress.

You sent forth your word and healed them;

Let them give thanks to you, Lord,
for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.
**Let them offer sacrifices of Thanksgiving
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.**

R: “God is Our Refuge, God is Our Strength”

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have Mercy, O God, forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our savior.

Hymn *GTG No. 423 (v.1)* “Create In Me A Clean Heart, O God”

Assurance of Pardon

***Passing the Peace**

Anthem “I Will Bow”, arr. by Frederick Chatfield
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Time with Children

Prayer of Illumination

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us, by your Word, through these 40 days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Scripture Readings

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom, but the people became discouraged on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned, but those who do not believe are condemned already because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Sermon

“Overcoming Guilt”

***Hymn of Response** *GTG No. 215* “What Wondrous Love is This”
or PH No. 85 (vs. 1, 3, 4)

Offering

***Doxology**

Communion Hymn *GTG No. 525* “Let Us Break Bread Together”
or PH No. 513

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord’s Prayer

Breaking of the Bread

Communion

Prayer after Communion

***Closing Hymn** *GTG No. 749*

“We Are Called”

Benediction

Postlude “The Glory of These Forty Days” arr. by Simon Andrews



Upcoming Church & Community events to add to your calendars:

Sunday, March 10 4th Sunday in Lent

Daylight Savings

- 10 am Sunday Worship
- 11:15 am Fellowship & Lent Book Study
- 11:30-1:00 pm Confirmation Class
- 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon Meetings

Tuesday, March 12

- 9:30 am Panera
- 7 pm Session Meeting

Saturday, March 16

- 5-6:30 pm Community Dinner

Sunday, March 17 5th Sunday in Lent

St. Patrick's Day

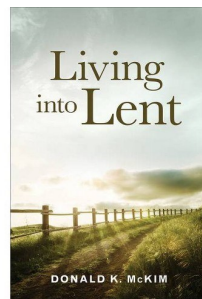
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- 11:30-1:00 pm Confirmation Class
- 7:30 pm AA & Al-Anon Meetings

Lenten Book Study

February 18-March 31,

following Sunday worship

Living into Lent by Donald K. McKim
Join us for this 7-week Lenten Journey together. We will meet in the Library after worship service. Grab some coffee & a snack in Corey Hall on your way to the Library.



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Photo Release

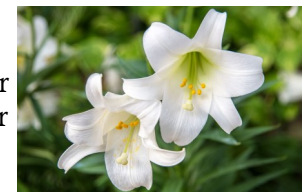
We will be taking photos of our church community for our website, Facebook, brochures, and other publicity related outlets. We are seeking permission from members for use of any photos containing their images, and will be sharing a *photo release form* for individual review and signature for those willing to do so, as we take photos at upcoming events.



Come celebrate Palm Sunday at church on **March 24 at 9:00am** with an amazing *Palm Sunday Breakfast!* We will be serving Danish, fruit, pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, coffee, and juice!

Please contact Rich Cromwell if you would like to setup or help cooking starting at 8:15. We will be doing a Free Will Offering at each of the tables to help offset the cost of the breakfast!

We are offering lilies at \$11 each to decorate the sanctuary for Easter worship. Proceeds from lily sales will be used for our church mission activities. Please place your order by **March 24th**. ***Order forms are at the back of the Sanctuary.**





Family Promise host “week”: in lieu of hosting families in our church to support Family Promise, they are requesting during the month of March, we supply them with food or gas gift cards, or monetary donations. In 2023, FPOC served a total of 192 families, with 253 adults and 371

children. The need for support seems to be increasing and our churches offerings are much appreciated! *Donations and cards can be mailed to: 185 North Main Street Canandaigua, NY 14424 attn Kate; or give them to Rich Cromwell at church.*

Ways you can SERVE



Volunteering is a great way to get plugged into our church, feel like part of a community, and serve Jesus at the same time. God has uniquely equipped every person in the Church with specific skills and gifts. As Christians, we are tasked with utilizing these gifts in our community and within our local church. Using your God-given skills as a volunteer is a fantastic way to serve the church while simultaneously lightening the load of a church’s staff.

Each Sunday we need support with:

- Greeters
- Liturgists
- Coffee hour
- Communion prep (once a month)
- AV

Please utilize the sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center where you are able. Thank you!



Welcome Visitors!

Thank you for the gift of your presence here this morning. We are so glad you have chosen to spend this time in this space. Please know you are invited to participate in any way that is most helpful for you. You are not expected to announce your presence, but you are most welcome to reach out to anyone here. You are invited to fellowship following worship downstairs in Corey Hall and we would love to share a coffee and a chat. If you would like to have us reach out to you in the days ahead, please fill out the Visitor Card in the pew and drop it in the Offering plate or use the *QR code below*.

If you are here with children, that is wonderful, and they are welcome too. Sunday School is offered *during the school year* during the worship service for youth ages 4 through grade 6, following the Children’s Time. The Infant Care Room (equipped so users can hear and watch the service) is located at the top of the eastern stairs in the back of the sanctuary, or feel free to use the nursery through the door to the left at the front of the sanctuary at any point during the service. It is good to have you here. Welcome.

**Interested in becoming a member?
Please call or email our pastor,
Rev. Michael McNamara
585-924-2289, pastor@victorpres.org**

