

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

10:15 a.m.

PRELUDE

Fantasia in C-dur & Adagio, from 'Concerto in a-moll'

J. S. Bach

Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME

Reverend Dick Wereley

*CALL TO WORSHIP +

Joan Firmin

One: At one time darkness was all about us, but in the Lord we are children of Light.

All: Everything exposed by the Light becomes visible.

One: For everything that becomes visible is in the Light.

**All: May Christ's Light in us so shine that everyone may see good works
and give glory to God in heaven.**

One: Praise the Lord!

All: The Lord's name be praised.

*HYMN 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

CONFESSON +

One: O God in Christ, out of your bounty have we all received blessing upon blessing.
Forgive us where we have misused those blessings for selfish or destructive purposes.

All: Be merciful with us, Eternal God of Love.

One: O God, for the forgiveness of sin, your son was obedient unto death,
even death on a cross.

All: In the Spirit of the Christ, be our comfort, our guide, our peace.

One: O God, you are the fountain of all life, the source of all goodness,
let your forgiving love wash over us.

**All: Save us, good Lord, restore us and send us out renewed and refreshed
for a new and better week before us.**

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

**All: God of love, as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us, so we would give ourselves
to you, living according to your holy will. May our feet firmly follow in the way
wherein Christ leads. May our mouths speak the compassionate truth that Christ
teaches. May our behavior reflect the life of Christ within us.
In his holy name, we pray. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

God was in Christ enlisting us in the work of reconciliation to which we are called as a people exonerated of all sin through the love and sacrifice of Christ on the cross.
Friends in Christ, believe this Good News of the Gospel: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

**To God whose boundless love has won Salvation for us through the Son,
To God all praise and glory be Both now and through eternity.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE *Please take care to maintain some physical distance as we share the Peace*
The Peace of Christ be with you . . . **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

Following the Children's Moment, children are invited to go with Amy to Joy Worship.

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 5:8-14

Pew Bible page 183

SERMON

Our Living Reveals Our True Belief

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

Through our monetary gifts, we offer something of our work and ourselves to God.

OFFERTORY

Preludes in c-minor & C-major

Johann Sebastian Bach

*DOXOLOGY 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

*HYMN (back of bulletin) *When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son*

PSALM 22

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata in d-moll ('Dorian')

J. S. Bach

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand. + Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God's love through worship, study, social justice, outreach, and fellowship.

Hymn 86 (from the Blue Hymnal) “When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son”
will be printed on this page.