

## GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>

**You are the creator of the cosmos, and yet you tend to our every need. With your voice you plant the seed of your will in our hearts, where Christ waters it with an unending flow of love and the Spirit tends it as we grow ever stronger in your ways. We pray that, like a seedling, we might reach for the light and stretch our roots deep into the soil of your blessed foundation. Amen.**

THE CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>2</sup> (*Responsively*)

We come together in the sure knowledge:

**God does not pass us by.**

We gather to worship knowing this truth:

**God fulfills His covenantal promises.**

Even when we cannot muster belief:

**God is faithful to us,**

**Let us worship God**

\* HYMN#

CALL TO CONFESSIONS:

*2 Cor. 5:20*

In the name of Christ, I urge you, return and be reconciled to God.

Knowing that God will listen, let us confess.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (*Responsively*)

**In the season of Lent, O God, we say lofty words about renewing our spiritual disciplines, journeying with you to the cross, or denying ourselves material wants for the good of the soul.**

**Forgive us, O God, if our actions are in vain:**

**if we are concerned with the good of the soul**

**rather than the good of your people;**

**if we have twisted this season of penitence**

**into a reason for praise or judgment;**

**if we are so preoccupied with the sins of the world**

**that we cannot recognize and confess the sins of our own lives.**

**Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy.**

**Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again.**

**Amen (silent Prayer)**



## First Sunday in Lent

February 18, 2024

**EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
200 North Center Street, P.O. Box 327  
Ebensburg, Pennsylvania 15931

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### Mission Statement

“Ebensburg Presbyterians  
are Christians giving help  
and hope to all by sharing God’s love

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<sup>1</sup> CTW 571B

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: *(Responsibly)*

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us and reconciled us to us.

And by his wounds we are healed!

**Praise be to God for this abounding love! Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST *(responsively)*

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also, with you.**  
*(Please share the peace of Christ with those around.)*

CHOIR ANTHEM

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: *(in unison)*

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

SCRIPTURES

FIRST READING:            Isaiah 58: 1-14            Pages 600-601

SECOND READING:        Genesis 9:8-17            Pages 6-7

The Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God!**

SERMON                    The Session of Fasting

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD :**

\*HYMN# 46 (red) O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21*

**The reconciling work of Jesus**

**was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.**

**His cross and resurrection become personal crisis**

**and present hope for women and men**

**when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.**

**In this experience,**

**the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,**

**moves people to respond in faith,**

**repentance, and obedience,**

**and initiates the new life in Christ.**

**PRAYER 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 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.**

**INVITATION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

### **SENDING**

\*HYMN# 70 (red) O Day of Rest and Gladness

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

2 Cor. 13:13

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,

the love of God our Father

and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen**

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**WORSHIP SERVICE** starts at 11:00 AM & Facebook Live

**SESSION MEETING**, Monday, Mar 11, 2024

**FAREWELL DINNER FOR PASTOR OWAR & FAMILY** join us for a covered-dish dinner February 25<sup>th</sup> at 5 PM. We will supply the main dish, please bring a salad, side, or dessert to share. Sign up at church or call or email the office.

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

February 1	Max Magley
February 3	Susan Makosy
February 3	Marsha Krug
February 7	Tim Forberger
February 17	Eva Vietmier
February 23	Laurel Lyons
February 25	Amy Brulia
February 28	Jani McKenrick Stratton

Happy Anniversary to Jim & Laurel Lyons February 13

**PRAYER LIST**

**Year 2024** New Prayer Lists begins. If you have any names to add to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920, send email to [ebgpresby@gmail.com](mailto:ebgpresby@gmail.com) or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Eva Tomb	Phil Brulia
Jim Estep	the O'Brien and Jeffers Families
Walter Feath	Ar & Bill McKim

A Collection will be taken for the local Food Pantry February 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>

The Mission Committee will offer half-camperships for Pine Springs Camp again this year. See Amy Brulia or Martha O'Brien if you have questions.