



## Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 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.”

## GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR  
PRELUDE  
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>

**Eternal God, in this season of Lent, we are passionate for your house. May the Holy Spirit examine us by the power of your word, the righteousness of your law, and the awareness of our sin. The zeal for your house consumes us. May we find it to be a place of prayer and peace. Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Responsively)                      Psalm 15

Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

**We come to worship the one true God. Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love**

**Come and abide in God’s tent and in God’s heart, now and forever.**

**We’re here, ready to listen, open to change, and expecting to be blessed by our time together.**

\* HYMN# 376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

\*CALL TO CONFESSIONS:

The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (*in unison*)

**Forgiving God, far too often, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world. We’ve not spoken the truth with our heart. We’ve said and done hurtful things to our friends and neighbors. We’ve forgotten who we are, and lost what true discipleship really is. Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you called us to be. May we be disciples for Christ, embracing our true identity, even in the face of the world’s scorn and ridicule. Amen.**

**(Moment of Silent Prayer)**

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Responsively):

Blessings abound for the people of God! In spite of persecution and slander, gladness and joy are proclaimed.

**Christ intercedes on our behalf and our sins are forgiven.**

\*GLORIA PATRI

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<sup>1</sup> CTW 571B

\*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 (Unison)

**Almighty God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen**

SCRIPTURES

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 15:1-5

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 5:1-12

SERMON: "WE ARE BLESSED"

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD :

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Invitation to Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, we pray that the gifts we offer in worship and throughout the week might be used in Your name. Help us to be generous with our money, but also with our talents and time. Strengthen us to recognize Your blessings, to be grateful, and to respond accordingly. Amen.

#### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

The Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

*Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in

one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

\*HYMN Penpark (see insert)

### THE TABLE

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation: The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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. **It is right to give thanks to the Lord.**

The Words of Institution and Prayer

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, our creator. You have given us life and second birth in your Spirit. Once we were not a people, but now we are your people. You claimed Israel as your chosen nation and raised up the church as a witness to the resurrection, breathing into it your life and power. From worlds apart, you gathered us together. When we go astray, you welcome us home. Always, your love has been steadfast. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to yje glory of your name saying together:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. In great love with you and in compassion for all, Jesus healed and taught, challenged and comforted, welcomed and saved. He formed a community, promising to be with his disciples wherever two or three were gathered, and sending them on his mission of hope and healing in the world. Jesus trusted his life to you, and went freely to his death, so the world might be set free from suffering and sin. You raised him from death and raise us also to live a new life with him. In the power of the Holy Spirit, you send us out to make disciples as he commanded. Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the

communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Give us strength to serve you until the promised day of the resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen

As Christ our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray: **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.**

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## SENDING

\*HYMN Diadem (insert)

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope and love. 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

*You are invited to the study “The Practice of Forgiveness” during 4 Thursdays in Lent, beginning February 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Much of the time will be spent in discussion and activities. Topics to include: Our Need for Forgiveness, Why Should We Forgive, No Simple Formula, Forgiving Involves Courage, and Forgiving Involves Restoring Relationships. Thank you to Ebensburg Presbyterian Church for hosting “the churches on the mountain” for this study. To learn more, contact Rev. Alice Tondora at [revatondora@gmail.com](mailto:revatondora@gmail.com) or 814-243-2995.*

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

March 5	Jeff Vietmeier
March 13	James Estep, Jr.
March 15	Leif Vietmeier
March 20	Debra Shamble
March 21	Mara Vermillion
March 25	Samuel Wheeler
March 27	J. Gregory Stratton

**PRAYER LIST**

**Year 2024** Prayer List. 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
Tom R	Claudette Segear

One Great Hour of Sharing -Palm Sunday, bring your fish banks, or place an envelope in the offering.

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.

