

"Things that cause people to stumble are bound to come... Be careful." Luke 17:1



**Third Sunday in Lent  
March 12, 2023**

**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

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

**God Most High,**

**lead us now on the road to the cross, with Christ Jesus.  
May we humble ourselves and follow with faithfulness  
and joy in this wilderness of life through  
Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsively)*

Come into God's presence with thanksgiving!

**Let us sing to the rock of our salvation.**

Even in the deserts of our lives,

**God is among us.**

Come, let us worship and bow down;

**let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

\* HYMN#485 To God Be the Glory

CALL TO CONFESSIONS:

With confidence in God's redeeming love,  
let us confess our sin.

*Isaiah 50:7-9*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(Responsively)*

**Jesus, friend of all,**

**once again, we come to you knowing**

**our words have stung,**

**our actions have harmed,**

**and our indifference has let evil have its day.**

**Our hearts yearn for you,**

**our souls thirst for you,**

**yet we do not imitate you in our lives.**

**We scorn those who are different from us,**

**and relish our own comfort.**

Once again, forgive us, O God.  
Give us your living water,  
that we might tell the world  
all you have done for us. Amen (*silent Prayer*)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (*Responsibly*)  
We know that God is with us even in our sufferings,  
for suffering produces endurance,  
endurance produces character,  
character produces hope,  
and hope does not disappoint us,  
because God's love has been poured into our hearts.

*Romans 5:1-6*

\*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.*)

ANTHEM

### THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: (*in unison*)  
O Lord of light and salvation,  
let these words of Scripture  
live not only in our mouths,  
but in our hearts,  
that we will embody your truth  
and confess with our lives that Jesus is Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURES

FIRST READING:	Luke	17:20-27	Page 852
SECOND READING:	Luke	16:19-31	Page 851-2

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

SERMON

FACING **your** SPIRITUAL HURDLES

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMNS#409 Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (*Adapted from the Confession of 1967*)  
**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.**

INVITATION AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Matt. 6:21*)

God of grace,  
you have gifted us with life in Christ. Today we bring the gifts of our work  
and the gifts of our hearts. May all that we bring and all that we are  
be your means of grace in the world, that all people may encounter your  
good news. **Amen.**

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, a  
s 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.**

### SENDING

\*HYMNS #383 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

May the LORD bless you and keep you.  
May the LORD show you his kindness  
and have mercy on you.  
May the LORD watch over you  
and give you peace. **Amen**

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**One Great Hour Of Sharing**

Please take your fish bank today for Special offerings on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

**Session Meeting**

Monday, March 13@7pm

**Bible Study Program**

Please join us for a Bible Study on Wednesday @7pm. In-person or/zoom

**Young Disciples**

Youth Program and Confirmation Class—Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

**Birthday and Announcements**

James Estep, Jr.	March 13
Leif Vietmeir,	March 15
Debra Shamble	March 20
Mara Vermillion	March 21
Samuel Wheeler	March 22
Gregory Stratton	March 27

**Bell Choir Practice**

We will start bell choir practices this Sunday February 5th. Practice starts at 12:00 immediately following the service.

**Pastoral Care** – Pastor Owar will be on a study leave and will be out of the office between *March 14 thru, March 21, 2023*. Please contact Jim Stratton or one of the Elders for pastoral need while Rev. Ojulu is away.

**You may join our church in one of three ways:**

1. **Transfer** from another congregation.
2. **Reaffirm** your faith if you have not been an active church member recently.
3. **Profess** Jesus as Savior and Lord.  
*Please talk to the pastor or one of the leaders*

PRAYER LIST

**Year 2023** 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  
Ray McKim  
Jim Estep  
Ramona McKim  
Candi Elam  
Ben & Patricia Tuchi  
Peter & Margaret Funch  
Albie  
Tom R.  
Joe P  
Erin M.  
Marty F.  
Claudette Segear  
John Fedora  
Sharon Westrick  
Ruthan Noderer  
Gloria P.  
Mary R.  
Father Pat Kirsch  
Bob & Mary Clare Stofko  
Richard McKim