

Ask 

a Lenten series



# FOURTH SUNDAY

*In Lent*

**MARCH 19, 2023**  
**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**



248-349-0911 • [www.fpcnorthville.org](http://www.fpcnorthville.org)

# ***Welcome***

## **to First Presbyterian Church of Northville**

***Thank you for worshipping with us!***

We invite you to write your name and contact information on the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew for others to sign.

If you would like a children's folder, large print bulletin, *wireless hearing assistance device* or back pillow, the ushers will be happy to assist you. We currently offer two types of hearing assistance devices: one with earphones, and one which works with "T" coil hearing aids.

If you are visiting with us, and don't have a Bible you can read and understand, please take one from your pew as our gift to you!

Please join us for coffee and tea in Boll Hall after the service.

# ***We Believe***

We believe relationships are key to understanding God and enjoying life together.

We seek to create a community that mirrors God's unconditional acceptance and love.

We value and are centered in scripture.

We honor and worship a God who is constantly at work for the good of every person in every place.

We welcome all regardless of politics, gender, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction.

We are called to love as God loves.

***We're glad you're here!***



## Order of Worship

~ The prelude is to be a time of reflection and preparation for worship ~

### Welcome

#### Prelude

*Andante*

Josephine Boulay

### Announcements

**Introit**     *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*     arr. Kevin McChesney  
Te Deum Handbell Choir

#### **\*Call to Worship**     (read responsively)

One: The Lord is our Shepherd.

**All: God leads us by still waters.**

One: Christ restores our souls.

**All: The Spirit leads us in right paths.**

One: Let us worship God, who is always with us.

**All: We will praise our God, trusting in God's goodness and mercy!**

#### **\*Opening Prayer**

#### **\*Hymn**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

**#39**

### Call to Confession

#### **Prayer of Confession**     (unison)

Holy Jesus, we confess that we fail to question our own sightlessness. Being so sure that we “see,” we miss the truths you would teach us. With your love, cure this blindness. Open our eyes to our own misunderstandings, our own failures and our own faults. Make our “shadow side” known to us and help us to diminish it with the light of your grace. For it is only when we see ourselves clearly that we can worship you truly.

*(Silent Confession)*

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

# **Assurance of Forgiveness**

## **Children's Message**

**Jenn Zibbell**

## **Prayer for Illumination**

## **Scripture Readings:**

### **First Reading: John 9: 1-41**

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called

the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

## **Second Reading: John 10:1-21**

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

Again the Jews were divided because of these words. Many of them were saying, “He has a demon and is out of his mind. Why listen to him?” Others were saying, “These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Meditation**      “Questions of Sight”      **Rev. Jacqueline Spycher**

## **Call for the Offering**

### **Offertory**

*God's Peace*  
Te Deum Handbell Choir

arr. Adams / Austin

**\*Doxology**    Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Christ, all people here below  
Praise Holy Spirit ever more;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

### **\*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 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.

**\*Sending Hymn**    *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*    **#314**

### **\*Benediction**

**\*Sung Response**    *Surely It Is God Who Saves Me (refrain)*    **#71**

### **Postlude**

*Toccata*  
Pour grand orgue Op. 97

Mel Bonis

*After the benediction response, you may depart from the sanctuary, or  
stay to enjoy the postlude.*

---

***To The Glory of God...***  
*The flowers in the chancel are given by*  
*Beth Jones*  
*in thanks to God for Spring!*



## ***Worship Leaders and Staff:***

### Senior Pastor

Rev. Jacqueline Spycher

### Liturgist

Art Bakewell

### Guest Organist

YeMee Kim

### Music Ministry

Dr. Jerry Custer, Vocal Music Director

Nancy Plumley, Te Deum Handbell Choir Director

Dr. Dave Wagner, Organist/Accompanist

### Youth Ministry

Jenn Zibbell, Children & Youth Director

Ying Zhang, Sunday Morning Nursery Assistant

### Preschool

Lisa Higley, Director

Cynthia Korpela, Assistant Director

### Technology

Daryl Bean, AV Tech Associate

### Office Staff

Kelly Sartorius, Church Administrator

Kelly Clarke, Accounting Clerk

Judy Phillips, Communications Associate

### Sextons

Paige Poinsett, Daytime Sexton

Steven Aron, Evening Sexton

All hymns used with permission: CCLI License #2509486



**‘New Faces’ Reception—Today** during fellowship time after worship we will recognize and welcome (again) new people who have become part of our church family over the past two years, whether by joining as members, being baptized, or getting married. Please plan to greet these individuals and families in Boll Hall after worship—they will be wearing a flower!

**NO Blood Drive in March**— Due to a scheduling mishap, the Red Cross Blood Drive will **not** be held at our church Friday, March 24. The next one at FPC is June 30. Additionally, there is a drive at the Northville Public Library on March 29, if you wish to donate locally this month. You may make your appointment on-line and choose your location at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.

**Euchre Tournament March 26** — St. James Catholic Church on 10 Mile Road will host another opportunity to play euchre on Sunday, March 26 at 2:00 p.m. There is no need to bring a partner, or to make a reservation. You don't even need to know how to play euchre very well! Just show up with some quarters so that you can donate 25 cents to the Salvation Cup. Proceeds are donated to Gleaners Food Bank at the end of the season. Come join other members of First Pres as we engage in friendly competition with



members of St. James Catholic Church and Holy Cross Episcopal Church of Novi. Contact Diane Lahiff with questions, either at [dlahiffnv@yahoo.com](mailto:dlahiffnv@yahoo.com) or (734) 678-4164.

**Popcorn Theology** — Enjoy a 'matinee' movie at 1:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room and stay for discussion afterward. **Thursday, March 30: "Departures"**, PG-13, 2009, Japanese with subtitles. Soon after buying an expensive cello, Daigo Kobayashi learns that his orchestra is disbanding. Daigo and his wife move back to his hometown in northern Japan, where he answers an ad for what he thinks is a travel agency but is, in actuality, a mortuary. As he learns and carries out the rituals used in preparing the dead for their final rest, Daigo finds his true calling in life.

(movies shown with permission of producer and/or via CVLI license # 504322933)

**EASTER LILIES** — Order your Easter lilies in honor or memory of someone in your life. The flowers will decorate the church for Easter Sunday and you may take your plant home after the worship service. Forms are on the Welcome Desk, our website and in the Friday ENews. Due Date: March 26.



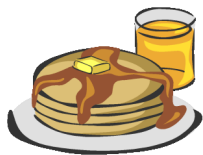
Hop on over for some fun at the FPCN Annual **Easter-Eggstravaganza on Saturday, April 8 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon!** We have egg-stra special games with prizes, crafts, an Easter Egg Hunt and even the Easter Bunny waiting for you! All families are welcome and no reservations are needed for this free community event. Enter through the Welcome Center on Hutton St.

For questions please contact Jenn Zibbell, Director of Children & Youth, at [jenniferzibbell@fpcnorthville.org](mailto:jenniferzibbell@fpcnorthville.org). Join us for an egg-citing time! ***See today's bulletin insert for a list of ways to help with this event or other Children & Youth events coming up!***

**Job Posting—Parish Associate:** FPCN is seeking a part time parish associate. Qualified candidates may send their resume' and letter of interest to [hr.firstpresby@gmail.com](mailto:hr.firstpresby@gmail.com). The position description may be found on our website or in our Friday ENews.

**Summer Camp Registration**—FPCN will offer two separate weeks of summer camp this year (half days Monday—Friday). For children ages 4 to 12 years. **Early registration runs through May 1**—plan ahead and register now for the best rate! The themes are 'Love your Neighbors' (June 19-23) and 'Do Justice Love Kindness' (July 17-21). See our website page 'Summer Camp' for all the information and the link to the online registration form. Contact Jenn Zibbell with any questions. Email: [jenniferzibbell@fpcnorthville.org](mailto:jenniferzibbell@fpcnorthville.org)

We have a new **Lost & Found** collection box in the Coat Room adjacent to Boll Hall. Please check there for any of your misplaced items.



Don't miss the annual **Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, April 2** after worship in the CLC. For a free will donation, you will enjoy a delicious breakfast of pancakes, sausage, fruit, juice and coffee served by the Youth. The funds will help their mission work this summer.



**Weekly Worship:** Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

**Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday, April 2** at 10:00 a.m.

**Pancake Breakfast, April 2** at 11:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday** with communion:

April 6 at 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday:** April 7 at 7:00 p.m.

**Easter Eggstravaganza :** April 8, 10 a.m.-noon

**Easter Sunday, April 9**

**Sunrise Worship:** 6:45 a.m.

Church courtyard on the corner of

Church & Cady Sts.; communion served

**Traditional Worship** with brass:

10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

**Daily Devotionals:**

Provided in the weekly Friday e-mail

*All indoor services are in the sanctuary and  
on Facebook Live*



**Congregation:** all caregivers; Jim Atkinson; Bonnie Bakewell; Grant Beringer; Phil & Ginny Cavaretta; Kathy Gricius; Ron Housman; Tom Lahiff; Laura Mitchell; Donald Morgan; Marilyn Overmyer; Georgeann Stringer; Melissa Weiss; Dick Werther; Debbie Wood

**Friends and Family:** Kimberly Atkinson (family of Jim & Marilyn Atkinson); Patricia Bader (mother of Dave Bader); Kathleen Beagan-Miller (friend of John Takacs); Nate Custer (son of Jerry Custer); Rick Custer (brother of Jerry Custer); Donna (neighbor of Kathy Gricius); Brant Doty (brother of Tim Doty); Karen Fink (friend of John Takacs); Jackie Fisher (mother of Louise Fisher); Sally Gillies (sister of Ron Austin); Grandson of friend of Janet Heath-Morgan; Connie Hassaballa (sister of Sandy Robison & Judy Russell); Mark Ivankovics (brother-in-law of Louise Fisher); Radu Marginean (grandson-in-law of Jim & Marilyn Atkinson); Dave Nickel (Son-in-law of Kathy Gricius); Nina & Nikolai (residing in Ukraine; relatives of Marcia Booth); Marc Noga (friend of Jim & Liz Murtfeldt); Barbara Onofrio (friend of Georgeann Stringer); Christine Snell (friend of Kathy Gricius); June Tervo (mother of Curt & Trudy Esch and grandmother of Emily Hamilton); Bob Trombley (husband of Sandy Trombley and brother of Maureen Trombley and Barbara Ulbrich); Terry Wingblad (friend of Darleen Sweeney); Randy Wisner (cousin of Darleen Sweeney).

**All Military Personnel** currently serving here and abroad.

*To add a name to this list, please call your Deacon, or the Church office at 248-349-0911. Please note that names are added to the Prayer Ministry list only with the individual's permission. This list will be purged and reprinted periodically. **Kindly let us know when to remove a name. Thank you.***



## WEEK OF MARCH 19 — MARCH 26, 2023

---

Sunday 3/19

### **Fourth Sunday in Lent**

- 8:45 am Kerygma, Middle School Room
- 10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School, Education Wing
- 11:00 am 'New Faces' Reception, Boll Hall
- 11:15 am Adult Sunday School, Gathering Room
- 11:15 am Confirmation Class, Library
- 11:30 am GAP M.S. Youth Group, Youth Room
- 6:30 pm APEX H.S. Youth Group, Youth Room

Mon. 3/20

*Church Office Closed*

- 6:30 pm Scouts, CLC

Tue. 3/21

- 5:00 pm Pickleball, CLC
- 7:30 pm Session, via Zoom
- 8:00 pm AA Meeting, CLC
- 8:00 pm AL-ANON, Boll Hall

Wed. 3/22

- 8:00 am Men's Morning Small Group, via Zoom
- 9:30 am Living & Learning Team Visit
- 6:00 pm Scouts New Parent Orientation, Boll Hall
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Thur. 3/23

- 6:15 pm Yoga, CLC
- 7:00 pm Handbells Rehearsal, Music Center

Fri. 3/24

- 9:15 am Agape' Women's Study, Boll Hall
- 1:00 pm 4th Friday at Fox Run

Sat. 3/25

Sunday 3/26

### **Fifth Sunday in Lent, Baptism**

- 8:45 am Kerygma, Middle School Room
- 10:00 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live
- 10:15 am Children's Sunday School, Education Wing
- 11:15 am Adult Sunday School, Gathering Room
- 2:00 pm Euchre Tournament, St. James Church, Novi

**NO Confirmation or Youth Groups today**

