

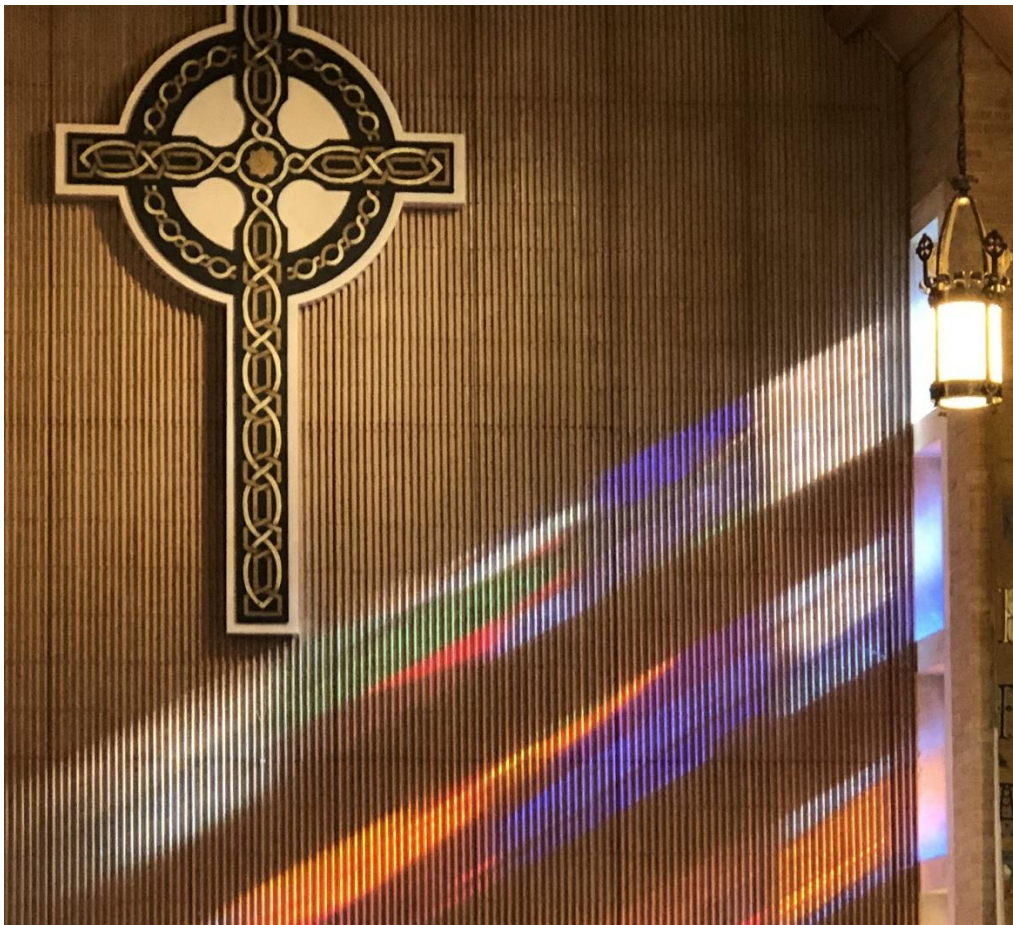
BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

MARCH 10, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

We are a community that welcomes all.
We are committed to experiencing beautiful worship,
nurturing lifelong growth,
and pursuing justice and love in the world.



Pastor - Rev. Sarah Wiles
Director of Music & Organist - Alice Brooks Sanders
Director of Children & Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter
Coordinator of Church Life - Sarah Windes
Office Manager - Rhonda Waller
Parish Associate - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

✠ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ✠

Thought for Meditation: “A thing of beauty is a joy forever.”

— John Keats

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

Celebrating Discipleship

Dan Bowling

Prelude: “My Jesus, I Love Thee”

set by Stephen Nielson

❖ **Call to Worship**

Grace and peace be with you.

And also with you.

This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Anne Campbell

❖ **Psalm of the Day**

Psalm 103, adapted

Bless God, O my soul,

and all that is within me,

bles the breath that is life.

Bless God, O my soul,

and remember your awakening

to the power that frees,

the love that reconciles,

the touch that heals,

the mercy that consoles,

the good that uplifts,

the justice that satisfies the deepest longing.

From everlasting to everlasting,

God is.

Our time is brief.

From our startled awakening

until the day we return Home,

we walk in wonder.

Beauty and bounty meet waste and want;

praise and pain keep a tender balance

(if we are lucky).

The heart knows:

All of life is holy.

So let us live to bless:

Bless the earth and each other,

bles the rain and the sun,

bles the broken-hearted and the hungry,

bles the singer and the song,

bles the seeking and the finding,

bles in living and in dying.

Bless.

❖ **Hymn 395:** “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

LIEBSTER JESU

1 Blessed Jesus, at your word

we have come again to hear you;

let our thoughts and hearts be stirred

and in glowing faith be near you.

By your gospel true and holy,

teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night,
filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.

3 Glorious Lord, yourself impart,
Light of Light, from God proceeding.
Touch our lips and ears and heart;
help us by your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
hear, and bless our prayers and praises.

Call to Confession

Eternal God, Maker of the skies above,
lowly Christ, Lover of the earth and its people,
unfettered Spirit, Giver of gracious gifts,
you are present among us.

O hidden mystery,
sun behind all suns,
soul within all souls,
in all we touch, in all we meet,
you are present among us.

As bearers of your image,
we come to be reshaped;
dependent on your mercy,
we ask to be made new.

Prayer of Confession

For the right roads we avoided travelling,
and the kindly words we didn't share;
for the false gods who received our worship
and the true selves we have starved of love,
God, by your grace,
forgive us.

For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly,
and the promises we never kept;
for the careless use of our time and money
and the excuses we never should have made,
God, by your grace,
forgive us.

(Silent prayer)

Scroll down for more . . .

Hymn 577: "Lord, Have Mercy"

KYRIE ELEISON

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
 Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

Note: Lower voices may hum.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
 Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

For all we should be and all we can amend,
God, in your love, **renew us.**

For all you have in store for us and all you may demand of us,
God, in your love, **prepare us.**

For the life of the world and the love of its people,
God, in your love, **commit us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear and trust these words of Jesus:

Don't be afraid.

Your sins are forgiven.

Come and follow me.

Amen.

❖ **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace, and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

❖ HEARING THE WORD ❖

Sharing Faith with Children

Rev. Sarah Wiles

(Children in 1st grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Children in kindergarten or younger may stay in the sanctuary or go downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurturing and care.)

Prayer for Illumination

(Silent Prayer)

Scripture

John 12:1-8, CEB

Sermon: Beauty for Beauty's Sake

Rev. Sarah Wiles

❖ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ❖

❖ **Hymn 650: "O Beauty Ever Ancient"**

ANCIENT BEAUTY

1 O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new,
divine and Holy Presence, my being sings to you,
in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!

2 O beauty in creation, in world of sound and sight,
O beauty in the silence, in darkness as in light,
in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!

3 O beauty that is movement in liquid line of grace,
O beauty that is stillness in lovely form or face,
in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!

4 O beauty of the Spirit where love is shining through,
O beauty ever ancient, O beauty ever new,
in gratitude, in worship my being sings to you!

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.	Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.
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Call to Offering

Offertory: "My Shepherd Shall Supply My Need"

arr. Austin Lovelace

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death thy presence is my stay;
one word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows; thy oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

❖ **Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

OLD HUNDREDTH
Hymn 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.**

❖ **Prayer of Dedication**

Scroll down for more . . .

❖ Hymn 630: "Fairest Lord Jesus"

1 Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O thou of God to earth come down,
thee will I cherish,
thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer;
Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host.
Jesus shines brighter;
Jesus shines purer,
than all the angels heaven can boast.

4 Beautiful Savior,
Ruler of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

❖ Benediction

Postlude: "Short Prelude and Fugue in G Minor"

J.S. Bach



Citations: Psalm of the Day adapted by Carla A. Grosch-Miller. Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Assurance of Forgiveness from *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, rev. ed. Offertory text: Isaac Watts, 1719. Photo: Courtesy of Todd Lowe, 02/04/24. Music: used with permission under One License #A-701634. All rights reserved.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This is a space for everyone. No matter who you are, no matter what your story is, no matter what--you are welcome here. May this be a time where your breathing slows, your heart opens, and you connect with the Holy One. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore some of what happens in the life of this community.

Serving: Church Opener: Anne and Greg Campbell
Ushers: Darrell Bosch, Gillian Lowe, Natasha Lowe, Todd Lowe
Elder Serving Refreshments: Mary Lee Hendricks

Headsets for the hard of hearing are available. Speak to an usher to use them for the worship service.

You can send prayer requests for Prayers of the People in Sunday worship and/or to be added to the *Midweek Update* and website prayer list to Rhonda at rhonda@blacksburgpres.org.

Text or QR Code to Give: To give by text, send keyword **bpcva** and an amount to phone number **77977** (e.g., bpcva 20). If it is your first time, there will be a brief registration process. To give via QR code, use the camera app on your phone and follow instructions. Thank you for your support of BPC's ministry.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Loving Lent continues tonight and next Sunday! Come for some of it or come for all of it. There is something for everyone and every schedule. Make intergenerational community your practice for Lent.

- * **4:30-5:30pm: activities for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade** (nursery care provided)
 - * **5:30-6:30pm: dinner for all** provided by **BPC Scout Troop 44**. (Donations accepted to defray expenses.)
 - * **6:30-7:30pm: youth group & adult education** (childcare provided for kids up through 5th grade)
- The Loving Lent series includes these topics (Sundays at 6:30, Fellowship Hall):
- * **Tonight: *Loving One Another*** - interacting with people holding differing theological and political opinions
 - * **03/17: *Loving the Church*** by learning more about UKirk at VT featuring a spirited game of trivia during dinner!



Easter Lily and One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

Please see order forms in the Gathering Space window to order Easter lilies (**deadline to order is today**) and/or make a donation to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering in honor or loving memory of someone.



BPC Presbyterian Women Sunday, March. 17: Our worship liturgy on March 17 will be led by members of Presbyterian Women. Also, on that day, we will repeat the annual PW Birthday Offering. Celebrating PW's history of giving, a Birthday Offering is received every year during this service. The offering funds mission projects impacting people in the U.S. and around the world. BPC's support of the offering in 2024 will ensure that grants are provided for projects in two communities. One grant will help provide appropriate and affordable housing for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Marthasville, MO. The second grant will make possible for Shawnee Presbyterian Church to renovate their kitchen and expand capacity to provide dine-in meals to members of their community experiencing food insecurity in Louisville, KY. The Birthday Offering was born in 1922 when each member of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S. was challenged to give a penny for each year of her life as a birthday gift to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the organization.

A donation can be made two ways: place cash or a check made out to BPC with "Birthday Offering" in the memo line in the offering plate (envelopes are in the pews) or go to BPC's Give page (blacksburgpres.org/give) and choose "PW Birthday Offering" from the dropdown menu.

THIS WEEK

FH-Fellowship Hall, **HCR**-Hatcher Conference Room,
WM-Westminster, **SNC**-Sanctuary, **GS**-Gathering Space

All activities are open to everyone.

Contact Rhonda at rhonda@blacksburgpres.org for more information.

Sun., Mar. 10: Fourth Sunday of Lent

- 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
- 9:00: Adult Sunday School, WM
- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- 3:00 pm: Interfaith Reading Group, Jewish Community Center. New book: *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor
- 4:30-7:30 pm: A Loving Lent, FH. See announcements for details.
- 5:30-7:30: Youth Group, FH
- 6:30: Sunday Night Discussion Group, HCR. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*, a Great Courses video lecture by Luke Timothy Johnson, followed by discussion facilitated by Russell Gregory (russellgregor@gmail.com) and Jack Call (jcall@radford.edu).

Mon., Mar. 11:

- 12:00-1:30 pm: Deacons meeting, HCR
- 6:00: Hildegard Circle meeting, Paula Stith's home (2410 Woodland Hills Dr.)

Tues., Mar. 12:

- 7:30-9:00 am: Morningstars Bible Study, Zoom. Contact Pastor Sarah for link.
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, HCR

Scroll down for more . . .

Wed., Mar. 13:

- 5:30 pm: Handbell choir rehearsal, FH
- 7:00: Choir rehearsal, choir room

Thur., Mar. 14: 3:30 pm: AIM meeting, Zoom

Sun., Mar. 17: Fifth Sunday of Lent & Presbyterian Women Sunday

- Cents-Ability Sunday
- 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
- 9:00: Adult Sunday School, WM
- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- 11:45 am: Art Forum by Judy Crowgey, WM
- 4:30-7:30 pm: A Loving Lent, FH. See announcements for details.
- 5:30-7:30: Youth Group, FH
- 6:30: Sunday Night Discussion Group, HCR. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*, a video lecture, with Russell and Jack (see 03/10 above for details).
- (note change in start time of 7:30 this month) - 7:30: Session meeting, HCR
- 7:30: Session meeting, HCR (note different meeting time)

UPCOMING and HOLY WEEK CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fri., Mar. 22: 7:30-8:30 pm: Blacksburg Master Chorale concert: *Songs of Resistance and Transcendence*, SNC. Created and conducted by Dr. Larry Wyatt. See the [BMC website](#) for details and ticket information.

Sun., Mar. 24: Palm Sunday

- 10:30 am: Worship service
- 11:45: Montgomery County African American Legacy Driving Tour. Meet in Fellowship Hall for a brief program and lunch before the tour.

Thur., Mar. 28: 6:00 pm: Maundy Thursday, congregational meal & communion, FH

Fri., Mar. 29: Good Friday

- 7:00 pm: Worship service, SNC

Sun., Mar. 31: Easter Sunday

- 9:00 am: Breakfast for all, provided by Men of the Church, FH
 - 10:00 Easter egg hunt, BPC grounds. Bring a basket!
 - 10:30: Worship service. Bring flowers for flowering the cross
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