

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Welcome and Announcements**Prelude** *Jerusalem*

arr. Homer Whitfield

Call to Worship**Centering Prayer****Prayer of Confession****Assurance of Pardon****Prayer for Illumination****Old Testament Reading** Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

New Testament Reading John 3:14-17

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Sermon "Snake Handling"

Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair

Anthem *None Other Lamb*

Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir, Ron Ollis - organ

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer**Benediction****Postlude** *Jesus, Priceless Treasure from Orgel Buechlein*

J. S. Bach



*Thank you for your gifts that support our ministries, year in and year out.
Tithes and offerings may be dropped in the basket by the baptismal font.
To show love for one another, please remember to exit the sanctuary by row from the rear
and maintain six-feet distance from those not in your household.*

Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

Health concerns: Baywood Crossing residents and staff; Mary Knapik; John Rarden, Sr.; Jamie Jamison; Camp Clemmons; Cathy Sydnor; Health care workers and all those struggling with the coronavirus; Donna Gilcrest; Sarah Brady; Jean Johnston; Karen Shimnowski's sister, Denita Logan, Brian Davis.

Loss of loved one: Dean Pogue Family

Upcoming Events @ FPC - *more details at fpcpasadena.org*

Lent Devotionals are emailed/mailed each week and received each week by Sunday to use as we prepare to celebrate the risen Christ with reflection and prayer.

Stepping Out in Faith Sunday School led by Pat Abrams meets Sundays at 8:30 via Zoom. To join, contact Bonnie Keith.

Prayer Shawl Group meets every Tuesday via Zoom at 1:30 pm. To join this group contact Johnnie Haltom or Barbara Davis.

The Wednesday Brown Bag and Bible meets every Wednesday at noon. Email Rev. Fair at revfair@fpcpasadena.org to add your name. If needed, contact the church office for Zoom link at office@fpcpasadena.org.

Session meets this Monday, March 15, at 6:45 pm via Zoom.

Mission & Outreach Ministry meets today, March 14, at 1 pm via Zoom.

Library News - Drop by the library to check out the new books that have been added to the collection. Books may be looked up using the card catalog or computer. Please observe a two person limit in the library at one time. Questions? Ask Bonnie Keith.

Brunch & Book Group meets next on Saturday, March 20, at 10 am via Zoom to discuss *The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz*, by Eric Larsen. Contact Ruth Askine or Rev. Fairfax Fair to join.

Save the date for the next Wonderful Wednesday on March 24 at 6 pm via Zoom. Our speaker will be The Rev. Dr. James J. Kirk, Associate for Disaster Response (U.S.) for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The mission of PDA is to bring, "Out of Chaos, Hope". Dr. Kirk is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and is responsible for coordinating the denomination's domestic response to the many disasters that impact our congregations, presbyteries and communities. Prior to this position, Jim served congregations in Sparta, NJ and Naples, FL. He graduated from Moravian College with a BA in 1977 and from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA with a D.Min. in 1981.

Reminder: Narthex doors open at 10 am. Worship Service is at 10:30 am. Also, for the safety of each and every one of us, **masks must be worn while in the building - even while sitting in the sanctuary.**

Live-streaming of Sunday's service can be found on our website. Please use your good judgment about which option is best for you and your health. When the pandemic is over, we look forward to all being together again safely.

First Presbyterian Church of Pasadena In-Church Worship Protocols

For at least the next year, we anticipate our lives will be shaped by the timeline set by COVID-19. We face difficult choices between conflicting needs, wants, and imperatives. We anticipate that we will be continuously evaluating what worship and all other church functions look like.

Despite our best efforts to provide a safe worship experience, conditions may again require the closing of the building. The pastor, in consultation with church leaders, will use CDC, Harris County, and PCUSA guidelines and good judgment to determine how to promote safety in reopening FPCP while actively monitoring local transmission rates of COVID-19. To preserve the health of our members, if circumstances change and worshipping together is not wise, services will again be virtual only.

We recognize that some of our members have underlying health issues or risk factors. Their health and safety must be at the forefront of our considerations. Persons with a high morbidity risk from COVID-19 are urged to stay home and continue to worship virtually. We will nonetheless strive to promote safe, in-person worship experiences for all that do not discriminate against persons with disabilities or high-risk conditions.

Church Physical Set Up:

- Doors will be left open so no one has to touch a door handle. This includes the designated entry door [the front door under the porte-cochere] and the doors into the sanctuary.
- No-Touch Hand Sanitizer dispensers will be installed in the Narthex.
- Offering plates will be placed by the baptismal font.
- Pews will be marked so people space themselves safely and avoid contact.
- Hymnals, Bibles, friendship folders, offering envelopes, Kleenex, etc. will be removed from pews.
- Signs will be posted that only one person at a time is to be in the restroom and additional signs will be posted to wipe handles touched with sanitizing wipes.
- The Church kitchen will remain closed.
- Signs encouraging hand washing and mandating face mask use (covering nose and mouth) will be posted in the Narthex.
- Signs encouraging social distancing will be posted in the narthex as well as the sanctuary.
- Sanitizing wipes will be available as needed.
- Gloves will be available in the Narthex and at the back of the church.
- One microphone per speaker will be set up.
- Camera will be set up to provide option of live streaming the service

Worship Procedures

- **Everyone in the building and on the church grounds must wear a cloth or medical mask.** Members are strongly encouraged to bring their own. We may have some available, while supplies last. Individuals uncomfortable wearing a face mask or with a medical condition that makes wearing a mask problematic may continue to participate in our on-line services.
- Social distancing of a minimum of six feet must be observed at all times, with the exception of members who live in the same household.
- Non-contact infrared thermometers will be used to take temperatures upon entry. Anyone with a temperature of 100.2 and higher will not be allowed into the building.
- Names of worshipers will be recorded as they enter to keep track of who has been part of the worship experience in the event that they need to be contacted.
- Greeters will be asked to stand back a minimum of six feet and welcome folks verbally.
- Bulletins and announcements will continue to be available online for the live streamed service.
- Bulletins will not be distributed to participate in the service in the sanctuary. Information will be projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.
- We will present shortened services to minimize risk.

Worship Procedures continued...

- Live streaming on YouTube or recorded services will continue for those who are not comfortable returning to 'in-person' worship
- Soloist may sing from behind a three-sided plexiglass shield.
- There will be no congregational or choral singing. It has been determined that singing is among the riskier behaviors for spreading droplets/aerosols which can carry the virus a significant distance and remain suspended in the air.
- Worshipers will leave by row, as directed.

Other Changes to Normal Practices

- Online (ZOOM) continues for Brown Bag, Session and ministry meetings, PW, Book Group, Wonderful Wednesday, etc.
- Office open by appointment. As on Sundays, masks required for staff and visitors.
- Forego November celebration of communion.
- Use of building by outside groups remains suspended.
- Congregants who are sick or who have had close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 are to stay home.
- Local health officials will be contacted if a person diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the church and this information also will be communicated with members so they are aware of potential exposure. The Clerk of Session, with the assistance of the church office, will be responsible to make the communications.

DISCONTINUE:

- Children's Sermon
- Passing the Peace, hugs, handshakes, elbow bumps, etc.
- Physical use of Bibles and Hymnals
- Nursery
- Coffee
- Use of water fountains