



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday March 18, 2018, 10:30 A.M.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Worship begins when the first person arrives. Please worship silently through the prelude.

The congregation reads or sings parts in bold.

*Please stand if able

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Today's scriptures begin a turn to hope even in the midst of Lent. The prophet Jeremiah speaks to the new covenant God will make with the people, where God's law shall be written within their hearts. The letter to the Hebrews refers to the appointment of Jesus as high priest under the order of Melchizedek. The name has its root in two Hebrew words, "melech" (king) and "tzedek" (righteous) – king of righteousness. In John's gospel, Jesus speaks of the importance of death in birthing new life, using an example of a single grain that bears fruit. He tells his disciples they must lose their lives in order to find eternal life.

PRELUDE

Agnus Dei
Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Frank Martin
Dale Wood

WORDS OF WELCOME

(Please circulate the friendship forms found in the aisle seats.)

Rev. Robert Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Generous God, Bringer of justice,
P: you are the source of our truth.
L: Gathering God, Lover of courage,
P: you are the source of our strength.
L: Glorious God, Light of the nations,
P: you are the source of our joy.
L: Let us praise and worship God.

Mike Hunter

*HYMN 454

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LIEBSTER JESU

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**We confess, O God, that we breathe the proud spirit of the world,
the spirit which scorns the way of weakness,
boasts of cleverness, clings to power,
and seeks to prove our worth by separating ourselves from others.
And even so, you love us; you never leave us.
Warm our hearts to the love and command of Jesus the Christ,
for you alone, O Lord, can save and redeem us. Amen.**

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.
P. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri - 579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen and Amen.*

*Passing the Peace and Greetings

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(Children are encouraged to go downstairs for music time after the Children's Moment. Younger children thru K may remain in the nursery and older children will return to the worship service.)

Rob Martin

SPECIAL MUSIC

My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord
Ali Taliani, soprano

Randall Thompson

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

We express gratitude that through God's grace and Christ's giving of himself on the cross we are forgiven and restored to God and one another.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

We invite young children to come to the front at this time.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Gracious God, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: as your word is read in our midst, lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 31:31-34 (page 735 in pew Bible)
John 12:20-33 (pages 106, 107 in pew Bible)

Liturgist Hunter
Rev. Martin

L. This is the Word of the Lord!
P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Seeing Jesus

Rev. Robert Martin

*HYMN 393

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION (Gathering Place)

Mary Kneier

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORDS PRAYER

Rev. Robert Martin

OFFERING / OFFERTORY

A Way to Calvary Leadeth

Dale Wood

***Doxology - 592 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise **Him, all creatures here below, Praise **Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

As the high priest Melchizedek blessed Abraham and offered his tithe of bread and wine at your holy altar, may our gifts be made perfect through Christ to glorify you and bless the world. Amen.

*HYMN 388

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ANGEL'S STORY

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Behold the Lamb

Robert Powell

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*The roses this morning are provided by Bob Stewart and Penny Shelton  
In loving memory of niece ad great nephew, Jasmine Jean Shelton and Christian Ash*

### Worshiping With Children

- \* AFPC welcomes children in the worship service, whether in the pews or in the Children's Corner.
- \* Nursery is available for infant thru age 6 downstairs.
- \* Please tell childcare staff about any allergies.
- \* Bathrooms are located at the top of the stair to the overflow area and in Fellowship Hall.
- \* Changing tables are located in the nursery and upstairs restroom.
- \* All children are welcome to attend the church service with their families or the childcare staff until after the Children's Moment.

*On behalf of the congregation, the Pastor expresses the corporate prayers of the congregation. These prayers are for world, local and personal concerns.*

*Doxology literally means "words of glory." Doxologies have long been used by Jews and Christians to praise God. Here we honor and thank God "from whom all blessings flow."*

**REVISED COMMON  
LECTIONARY**

*This lectionary provides a three-year series of readings for Sunday starting with the season of Advent, four weeks before Christmas Day. The three year cycle is split into years – A,B, and C. For each Sunday and festival, three readings and a psalm are suggested and include: a Gospel reading, an Old Testament reading, and a New Testament reading. The lectionary is a work of The Consultation on Common Texts, an ecumenical consultation of liturgical scholars and denominational representatives from the United States and Canada, who produce liturgical texts for use in common by North American Christian Churches. Each year of the Revised Common Lectionary centers on one of the synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark and Luke. The Gospel of John is read periodically in all three years and is especially frequent in Year B.*

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday, March 18, 2018, the Fifth Sunday in Lent (Year B)

**First Reading - Jeremiah 31:31-34**  
**Psalm - Psalm 119:9-16**  
**Second Reading - Hebrews 5:5-10**  
**Gospel - John 12:20-33**

**Psalm 119:9-16**

- 9 How can young people keep their way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.
- 10 With my whole heart I seek you;  
do not let me stray from your commandments.
- 11 I treasure your word in my heart,  
so that I may not sin against you.
- 12 Blessed are you, O LORD;  
teach me your statutes.
- 13 With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.
- 14 I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.
- 15 I will meditate on your precepts,  
and fix my eyes on your ways.
- 16 I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.

**Second Reading Hebrews 5:5-10**

5So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,  
“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;  
6as he says also in another place,  
“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”  
7In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; 9and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, 10having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Thank you**

Many thanks to all that participated in the blanket project. FPC’s donations will provide Many blankets for people in need in the United States and other countries. The FPC Congregation raised \$1,685.00 and was sent to Church World Service.

Thank you, thank you.  
Mary Jane Black and the Presbyterian Women

**You can watch a  
broadcast of FPC  
Worship service on  
Athens Community  
Television.  
Schedule  
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  
Monday through  
Friday  
and  
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday.**

Minister: Rev. Robert E. Martin  
CE Coordinator and Handbell Director: Kirsten Trachsel  
Administrative Assistant: Jane Baker

Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart  
Organist: Janice Robison  
Choir Director: David Tadlock

Athens First Presbyterian Church Office  
Phone - 740/593-3351 Fax - 740/593-3351 E-Mail - office@athensfpc.org Web - www.athensfpc.org  
9 North College Street, Athens, OH 45701  
Follow FPC on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AthensFPC/>

**Deacon of the Month - Harold Robison**  
**(740) 592-1450**                      **hrobison@columbus.rr.com**

*A friend to call in time of need*

Liturgist - Michael Hunter              Chancel Prep - Mary Costello  
Ushers - Helen King and Wendy Toadvine  
Acolytes - Brandon James and Noah Heinrich

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Church Activities for the Week

SUNDAY, March 18th - 5th Sunday in Lent

9:30 A.M. - Sunday School for all ages, various rooms
No Chancel choir rehearsal
10:00 A.M. - Children's chime choir rehearsal, classroom 3
10:30 A.M. - Minute for mission during worship, Sanctuary
Following Children's Moment - Children's Church,
classrooms
11:30 A.M. - Children's crafts, classroom 3
11:30 A.M. - Coffee and fellowship, fellowship hall
1:00 P.M. - Lindley Inn hymn sing, The Plains
2:30-3:30 P.M. - AGO's "Bach Around the Block," Sanctuary
(see next column for more details)

MON., 19th - Noon - April Newsletter Deadline

Noon - Al-Anon, library
6:00-8:30 P.M. - Calliope Choir rehearsal, fellowship hall

TUES., 20th - Noon - Bible Study, Library

1:00 P.M. - Organ tuning, Sanctuary
5:30-7:00 P.M. - Lenten Soup and Study, fellowship hall

WED., 21st - 7:00 A.M. - AA, library

6:00 P.M. - Bell choir rehearsal, bell choir room
7:00 P.M. - Chancel choir rehearsal, Sanctuary

THURS., 22nd - 9:30 A.M. - Presbyterian Women's Circle meeting

11:30 A.M.-1:00 P.M. - College lunch and fellowship,
fellowship hall

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**SUNDAY, 25th - Palm Sunday / Food Pantry Sunday**

9:30 A.M. - Sunday School for all ages, various rooms  
9:45 A.M. - Chancel choir rehearsal, choir room  
10:00 A.M. - Trail mix assembly, fellowship hall  
10:00 A.M. - Children's chime choir rehearsal, classroom 3  
10:30 A.M. - Children's processional with palms, bells, and  
minute for mission during worship, Sanctuary  
Following Children's Moment - Children's Church,  
classrooms  
11:30 A.M. - Children's crafts, classroom 3  
11:30 A.M. - Coffee and fellowship, fellowship hall  
11:35 A.M. - Trail mix assembly, fellowship hall  
11:45 A.M. - After-Church organ recital by Janice Robison,  
Sanctuary (see next column for more details)

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Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday, March 29th at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service
Friday, March 30th at 12:05
First Presbyterian Church

"Bach Around the Block" - This afternoon the American Guild of Organists will present *Bach Around the Block*, a progressive concert of all Bach music in celebration of his March 21st birthdate. The event will begin at 3:00 p.m. at FPC, continue at Galbreath Chapel at 3:30, and conclude at Good Shepherd Episcopal at 4:00. Each segment will be 20 minutes in length, with 10 minutes of traveling time, and will consist of organ music as well as other instruments and vocal. The program at First Presbyterian will include trumpets and marimba. All are welcome. There is no admission charge.

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**Palm Sunday After-Church Organ Recital** - Janice Robison will play an organ recital immediately following the worship service on Palm Sunday, March 25th. The program will be *A Musical Journey Through Holy Week - Palm Sunday to Easter*. All are invited to stay for this thirty-minute recital.

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Easter Flowers - Deadline to order flowers is Monday, March 26th - Would you like to purchase a spring flower (lily, tulip, and hyacinth - choice of plants will be on first come-first serve) in memory or in honor of someone for Easter Sunday? If so, please notify the church office - phone: 740-593-3351, email: office@athensfpc.org, mail: 9 N. College St., Athens, OH 45701) Price per flower is \$10.00. An insert with "in memory of" or "in honor of" will be in the bulletin. Please specify if you want to pick up the flower after Easter Service, or have a deacon deliver it to a church family member.

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**Gathering Place Personal Care Box** - Donations of personal care items for The Gathering Place are being taken. A box for the donations are located near the Food Pantry Box in the entryway. Items needed are: 12 oz bottle of shampoos and conditioners, body washes, bars of soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothpaste and laundry soap. See Danny Moates for more info.

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College Lunch - Now on Thursdays! If you are interested in cooking, baking or volunteering to serve or clean up, contact Lee Gregg (740-592-3622).

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**Trail Mix Ministry Assembly** - Snack bags are assembled the fourth Sunday of each month, 10:00-10:20 a.m. and 11:35 a.m.-Noon in Fellowship Hall. Monetary (use the brown giving envelopes and mark Trail Mix on it). In kind donations are appreciated. This month's date is February 25th.