



March 19, 2023 | 10:30 A.M.
Fourth Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace

Gilbert M. Martin (b. 1941)

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ST. COLUMBA
setting by Healey Willan (1880-1968)

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

stand, in body, spirit, or voice

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 36:7-9)

One: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

All: **We take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

One: We feast on the abundance of your house.

All: **You give us drink from the river of your delights.**

One: For with you is the fountain of life.

All: **In your light we see light.**

One: Let us worship God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 253

I'll Praise My Maker

OLD 113TH

all are seated

CALL TO CONFESSION (from The Book of Common Prayer)

One: The Lord has searched us and known us. God knows when we sit down and when we rise up.
God discerns our thoughts from far away. Let us confess to the One from whom no secrets are
hid.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: **God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and to save the lost. We confess that we have
strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see
ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love,
neglected injustice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive our
sin.**

Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

There follows a moment of silence for prayers of confession.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have
mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Psalm 32:1-2)

One: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

stand, in body, spirit, or voice

RESPONSE TO OUR FORGIVENESS

Scottish Chant

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

all are seated

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: Dear Lord, open our ears to hear words that are familiar. Open our eyes to see what has been right in front of us for a long time. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING *Psalm 23*

Liturgist

All: **The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Psalm 23 (from *Requiem*)

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Meredith Piplani, *soprano*

Sandra Smith, *alto*

Don Juedes, *tenor*

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk in the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:
Thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING *John 9:1-41*

Rev. Stephen Hollaway

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *The Blind Man as a Reliable Witness*

Rev. Stephen Hollaway

stand, in body, spirit, or voice

HYMN OF RESPONSE 280

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

Following the hymn, you may bring any prayer request cards to the front of the sanctuary, or signal an usher to assist you.

all are seated

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Purple Ribbon List (March 6-15)

As of last Sunday, there have been no reported homicide victims. We hang a purple ribbon on the Park Avenue side of our building to remind us to pray for the victims, survivors, and perpetrators of these acts of violence in Baltimore City. If you would like to join in putting up a ribbon after worship, please signal an usher.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

*If you wish to give online via our website, use [this link](#) or scan the QR code.
If you would like to give your offering by mail, please send it to the church office.*



AT THE OFFERTORY

Jesus, So Lowly

Harold Friedell (1905-1958)

Jesus, so lowly, Child of the earth: Christen me wholly, bring me new birth.
Jesus, so lonely, weary and sad; teach me that only love maketh glad.
Jesus, so broken, silent and pale; be this the token love will not fail.
Jesus, victorious, mighty and free; teach me how glorious death is to be.

~ Edith Williams

stand, in body, spirit, or voice

DOXOLOGY 591

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Phil Adams

One: Empowering and equipping God, the scriptures teach us that even the most unlikely and ill-prepared can be chosen by you for greatness in service. We offer these gifts to you as a recommitment of ourselves to carry on in the work of your kingdom, offering your love and light to all people. As the cold gray days of winter give way to the promise of newness in the light and warmth of spring, let us embody that renewal in our lives. May our spirits grow and turn toward your light as our eyes are opened to how it is that you would have us serve. Amen.

remain standing for

HYMN OF RESPONSE 332

Live Into Hope

TRURO

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL AMEN

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Ronald Arnatt (1930-2018)

*It is the custom of this congregation to remain in the sanctuary for the postlude. Those wishing to exit may do so.
Grace and joy to all who have joined us in worship! Please join us for fellowship in Reid Chapel.*

GUEST PREACHER: REV. STEPHEN HOLLOWAY

Reverend Stephen (Steve) Hollaway has been a member at First & Franklin Presbyterian Church since he and his wife Becca moved to Baltimore in 2018. He is a retired Baptist pastor with over 30 years in the ministry and a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. In his time at First & Franklin, he has become a key figure in the church, making frequent appearances as a guest preacher, serving on the Finance and Peacemaking committees, and leading the Adult Education program on Sunday mornings. Additionally, Steve is an accomplished poet, with a heart for establishing and promoting arts programming in his community. We are pleased to welcome him to the pulpit this morning!

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Stephen Hollaway, *Guest Preacher*
Jason Kissel, *Minister of Music & Arts/Organist*

Nusrat David & Becca Hollaway, *ushers*
Bill Bridges, *liturgist*

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

Clarence Baney	Don Juedes	Meredith Piplani	Ben Riniker	Betty Schroll
Anne Culbertson	Kirk McAuliffe	Jacob Plaisted	Steve Roach	Sandra Smith
Jake Elfner	John McLucas	Anna Pollitt	Doug Savin	Randy Veale
Zhenya Gnezdilova	Alex Mendelsohn	Lauren Redditt	Marianne Shick	Rachel Walsh
Jim Harvey	Laura Oldham	Daveen Rim	Jan Trammell-Savin	

FIRST & FRANKLIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Jason Kissel, DMA, <i>Minister of Music & Arts/Organist</i>	Anna Pollitt, <i>Office Administrator</i>
George Meagher, <i>Sexton</i>	Aaron Houston, <i>Audio Engineer</i>
Deborah McCrimmon, <i>Director of Christian Arts & Education</i>	

SESSION

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025	CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025
Becca Hollaway	Paul Fowler	Dave Pierson	Marla Holt	Anne Culbertson	Ryan-Paul Johnson
John McLucas	Alex Mendelsohn	Marianne Shick	Randolph Veale	Michael Johnson	
	Allie Pyan	Kris Stinson			

CALENDAR

Current as of March 13

3/19	Sun	2:30pm	Spire Series: Ken & Brad Kolodner Quartet
3/20	Mon	10:30am	Guns 2 Gardens Meeting
3/20	Mon	5:30pm	Worship, Music, and Arts Committee
3/21	Tue	7:00pm	Education Committee
3/22	Wed	6:00pm	Lenten Meditative Services
3/26	Sun	11:45am	Cuban Feast Fundraiser
4/2	Sun	10:30am	Palm Sunday Service
4/7	Fri	7:00pm	Good Friday Service of Tenebrae
4/9	Sun	10:10am	Easter (Prelude at 10:10am, Service at 10:30am)

For more information about these events, visit firstfranklin.org or call the office at (410) 728-5545.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE HOUR CORRECTION: The office will be open Monday through Wednesday, 8:30am-2:30pm, and Sunday from 12:00pm-4:00pm. First & Franklin's office administrator Anna Pollitt will be reachable by phone Monday through Thursday from 8:30am-5:00pm, and Sunday from 12:00pm-4:00pm. The office will be closed Thursday through Saturday.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Members with the last name L-R are encouraged to sign up to provide coffee hour refreshments. We are still seeking volunteers for April 2, 16, and 23, May 14 and 28, and June 11 and 18. Contact Mike Johnson, email the office at information@firstfranklin.org, or call (410) 728-5545 for more information.

CUBA FEAST FUNDRAISER: The aromas will waft into church as you worship on March 26 – and a delicious food awaits you in the chapel – 11:45am-1:00pm. Betty Schroll, Steve Holloway, and Audrey Suhr have prepared a lunch of really good Cuban dishes, on tables decorated by Judy Dadds. We'll have photos and share stories of our sister church in Taguasco, Cuba, and even sing their song of memories. We're asking for a free-will donation, 100% of which goes to support their church's clean water project- most homes in town have hand pumps on the street- and their other mission projects to help families, elderly, and children in their town. There will be a raffle basket, too, of nifty items that Dave Sargent and Betty brought back from their visit this past summer. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend – even bring your friends! No need to RSVP – we're just counting on you!

THE SPIRE SERIES PRESENTS... KEN & BRAD KOLODNER QUARTET: The Spire Series at First & Franklin Presbyterian Church is proud to present The Ken & Brad Kolodner Quartet on March 19, 2023 at 2:30pm. The father-son team Ken & Brad Kolodner weave together a captivating soundscape on hammered dulcimer and clawhammer banjo, blurring the lines of Old-Time, Bluegrass and American Roots music. Tickets are available online at www.firstfranklin.org/events. Flyers are located in the narthex, and we encourage you to take a few to share with your community!

EASTER BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT: On April 9th, Easter Sunday, members Frank McNeil and Paul Fowler will continue their tradition of hosting an Easter breakfast at 9:00am. Mini-casseroles and orange juice will be provided, but guests are encouraged to bring a dish to share. There will also be an egg hunt for the children, arranged by Judy Dadds. Please RSVP by March 31st on the sign-up sheet in the narthex, or at www.firstfranklin.org/events.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Around the world, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing -- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People -- all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Received during the season of Lent, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. Donations may be sent to the church office earmarked One Great Hour of Sharing, by using the donation page on the church website, or during the Palm Sunday and Easter services.