

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

THE WESTMINSTER CHIMES

CHORAL INTROIT

Lay Me Low

Lay me low. Where the Lord can find me, where the Lord can own me, where the Lord can bless me.

The Sanctuary Choir

Kevin Siegfried

PRELUDE

O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß, BWV 622

Dillon J. Swanson, organ

J. S Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Isabella Fagiani

From English theologian John Milbank

Between birth and death there is only, for humans, a long, wandering walk.
Unless it is a pilgrimage, it makes no sense.

*OPENING HYMN 49

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

*CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Redeemer, we confess

that we are people of ashes and dust.

You call us to be a blessing in the world,
but we only seek our own benefit.

You call us to give our lives for others,

but we only seek to save ourselves.

Forgive us, God of grace.

Set our minds on divine things-

the good news of the gospel

and the promise of new life in you;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Let us silently offer confessions that are individually ours to make.)

*KYRIE

Restore in Us, O God

Restore in us, O God, the splendor of your love; renew your image in our hearts, and all our sins remove.

BAYLOR

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

Les Brown, saxophone & Dillon J. Swanson, piano

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

arr. Les Brown

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 22:23-31

(p. 491 in the pew Bible)

The grass withers and the flowers fade but the word of the Lord stands forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children's Worship follows immediately after the children's sermon. Children ages 4 through 1st Grade may leave for Children's Worship, an age-appropriate service.

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 8:31-38

(p. 919 in the pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley

Glory

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leigh Sackett

from *Church Dogmatics*, "Man as the Creature of God" Karl Barth

Jesus as a creature finds life and nourishment in the fact that He stands in this relation to the Creator. In this way He is a real creature. His glory consists in the fact that He stands so utterly in the service of God, and in this devotion He reveals His own true righteousness, the righteousness with which He is endowed by His Creator. Who and what a human being is, is manifest in its fullest significance in the fact that the Son of God has become a human being in Jesus, and that humanity is placed so wholly at the disposal of God in Him.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 718

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Gifts for the offering can be made by placing your offering in the plate as it is passed or by scanning the QR Code on the back of your bulletin with your smartphone. Visit rcpres.org and click "Give Now" to learn more.

OFFERTORY

A Lenten Walk

Jesus walked this lonesome valley, he had to walk it by himself; Oh, nobody else could walk it for him, he had to walk it by himself. We must walk this lonesome valley, we have to walk it by ourselves; Oh, nobody else can walk it for us, we have to walk it by ourselves. Jesus bore the cross of sorrow; he had to bear it by himself; Oh, nobody else could bear it for him, he had to bear it by himself. We must take our cross and follow; we must take it by ourselves; Oh, nobody else can follow for us, we have to follow by ourselves.

Sanctuary Choir

Hal H. Hopson

*DOXOLOGY

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

HAMBURG

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN 213

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

*CHARGE & BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Benediction

Holy, holy, holiness unto the Lord. Love ye, love ye, love ye one another.

The Sanctuary Choir

Kevin Siegfried

*POSTLUDE

The God of Abraham Praise

Michael Burkhardt

TODAY'S MINISTRY LEADERS

Children's Worship: Vickie Haynie

MINISTRY MESSAGES

PRAYER REQUESTS: Dawn Blakeman, Brendan Brown (Kathy and Les Brown's grandson), Amber Clary (daughter of Bobby Jones), Jim & Janet Davis, Sandra Fitzgerald and family (friend of Andrew Williams), Susan Lindstrom, Bruce Loving, Megan Mallare (friend of Kathy Grove), Dave Owen-O'Quill, Garland Parry, and all caregivers.

Our sincere thoughts and prayers are with Kirk and Kathy Grove after the passing of his brother, Billy Grove, on February 18.

ONLINE GIVING If you prefer to give online you can either visit rcpres.org and press the "Give Now" button on the homepage or scan the QR code with your smartphone to go directly to the donation page. This can be done as a one-time or an on-going way to support our mission and ministry.



FELLOWSHIP DINNER Join us this Wednesday at 6:15 PM for our weekly Fellowship Dinners. Menu for February 28: taco casserole with rice and beans, chips and salsa, veggie taco casserole and cake. Join us for \$8/person or \$25/family. Bring your own containers if you need takeout. Sign-up by Tuesday at Noon either online at rcpres.org/dinner or on the paper form in the Gathering Area.

WEDNESDAY MORNING COMMUNION IN LENT Join us in the Chapel during the Lenten season each Wednesday morning at 7:00 AM for a time of reflection, scripture, music, and eucharist. As we walk with Jesus to Jerusalem and his cross, we prepare ourselves by coming to him to receive life in the bread and in the cup. You are then invited to stay after the thirty-minute service for a time of fellowship and shared breakfast and coffee. Eucharist, Word, Community. Let us learn from Jesus what it means to be Fully Human.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: FEBRUARY 18-MARCH 24

The Seekers: Lenten DVD Study - Savior, What the Bible Says About the Cross - The cross is the central symbol of the Christian faith. But what exactly did Jesus do to save us from our sins? Why was the cross necessary, and what does it mean for us today? In *Savior: What the Bible Says About the Cross*, Magrey deVega faithfully describes the need for reconciliation between humankind and a holy God through Jesus' death on the cross. The Bible uses many images to understand the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection, and deVega guides us through these images to achieve a richer understanding of the Christian faith. By exploring the mystery of salvation through the cross, we can deepen our love for God and others and strengthen our commitment to follow Jesus. Led by Nancy Ayling & David Dixon | Room 201

Parent as a Verb - This class engages in proactive strategies and ideas for learning limits, focuses on child development and what to expect as well as how to navigate the unexpected, explores ways to connect children with church and faith life, and shares in the ways to enjoy the many different seasons of parenting. Room 102

Taste and See — A Lenten Poetry Study - Journey with us in word and rhythm through the Lenten season. We will study Lenten poetry and write our own poetry for this time of repentance, reflection, renewal, and finally, out of the darkness, rejoicing!

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,

Look on the tears by sinners shed;

And be Thy feast to us the token,

That by Thy grace our souls are fed.

From *Bread of the World, In Mercy Broken* by Reginald Heber

Led by Leigh Sackett | Room 101

SOCIAL MEDIA FAST "What are you giving up for Lent?" A Christian tradition is to give up something for the forty days of Lent, to help us remember our reliance on God and to strengthen our connection with our savior. This year, as we look at Jesus as Fully Human, we are inviting you to step back from your digital existence and live with eyes lifted, ears open, and hands reaching toward others. We are inviting you to take a fast from Social Media in Lent. This would be a break from Facebook, Instagram, Twitter (X), TikTok, Snapchat, and other media like this. We will not be posting things on the church accounts during this season either. Perhaps we will come to know ourselves, others, and God more deeply in this time of increased attention to the present moment around us.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROSITY - BEGINNING FEBRUARY 18 2024
ALMS FOR THE PRESBYTERIAN COMMUNITY CENTER**

This Lenten season you are invited to participate in the ancient spiritual practice of collecting alms. Throughout Christianity, faithful followers have given to the poor. As a Church family, we will collectively practice this by giving to the food pantry at the Presbyterian Community Center. Each week, there are different items to shop for and then bring to Church on Sunday to support the PCC. We bring these items each week rather than all at once to get ourselves in the spiritual rhythm of giving regularly so that beyond Lent this can be our regular practice. As a family, you can put out a cardboard box in your house labeling it "The Giving Box" and perhaps decorate it together so each week after shopping you have a spot where the items are collected and can be remembered to come back to church. This can make the practice accessible for disciples of all ages.

Here's what we will collect each week for the PCC:

Week 2 (2/25) - Pancake Mixes and Boxes of Cereal

Week 3 (3/3) - Canned Chicken, Tuna, Salmon

Week 4 (3/10) - Dessert Mixes and Pudding/Jello, Easter Candy

Week 5 (3/17) - Assorted Canned Fruit & Spaghetti Sauces

Week 6 (3/24) - Kroger Gift Cards of \$10, \$15 or \$20 to be given out during Holy Week with Food Orders so families can receive an extra Easter Treat of their own choosing.

FULLY HUMAN - SERMON SERIES: FEBRUARY 14 - MARCH 17

There are many ways that we try and understand our humanity. We look at the stories of human history and derive truths about our existence. We study biology and social sciences to find out how our bodies work and how civilization develops. Politics operates from basic assumptions of human nature and what responsibility human beings have toward each other. But what does it mean to understand our humanity as Christian people? How do we understand our humanity if we begin with God and not with ourselves? This Lent, we will see how Jesus, the Fully Human One, redefines history, glory, sovereignty, freedom, and service. And we might just find our Full Humanity in him.

February 25: Psalm 22:23-31 & Mark 8:31-38

March 3: Mark 9:14-20

March 10: Mark 10:17-30

March 17: Mark 10:32-44

EASTER FLOWERS If you would like to dedicate Easter Flowers in honor or memory of someone special, please fill out the envelope in the pew rack with name(s) for dedication along with a check, with "Easter Flowers" noted in the memo. Place the envelope in the offering plate. The deadline to order is March 17. A list will be included in the bulletin on Easter Day, March 31. Cost per dedication is \$13. You can also complete the form online at tinyurl.com/2024RCPCFlowers or by scanning the QR code.



LENTEN DEVOTIONAL AND LENTEN GUIDEBOOK It is our desire that in this season of Lent you feel the presence of the Risen Lord alongside you throughout your journey. To enrich your Lenten days, your friends have written daily Lenten devotionals. You will find this devotional book in the gathering area on the desk. Please take one per family, or you can subscribe at rcpres.org/blog to receive each devotional daily through email.

You will also find on the gathering area desk a Lenten Guidebook with activities for all ages - adults, youth, children, families and single individuals. This year's Lenten Guide focuses on exploring "words" and, of course, the Word. It also shares with you the many other ways we will walk together as a church community this Lenten season.

THIS WEEK AT RCPC

Sunday, February 25 - Lent

9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
11:00 AM Confirmation Youth Worship at 5th Avenue Presbyterian
5:15 PM Youth Music
6:00 PM Youth Group

Monday, February 26

9:00 AM Preschool
10:00 AM Centering Prayer at St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church
10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
10:30 AM Small Group: Whaley
1:15 PM Worship & Music
6:30 PM Cub Scouts
7:00 PM BSA Troop 2
7:00 PM Session

Tuesday, February 27

9:00 AM Preschool
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
10:30 AM Primary Purpose: AA
4:00 PM Small Group: Dixon
5:30 PM Tai Chi
7:15 PM Raleigh Court Ringers
8:00 PM Small Group: Biddle

Wednesday, February 28

7:00 AM Communion Worship - Chapel
9:00 AM Preschool
4:00 PM God Alive
6:15 PM Fellowship Dinner
7:00 PM Small Group: Sackett
7:00 PM Preschool Committee
7:00 PM Confirmation Class
8:00 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 29

9:00 AM Preschool
10:30 AM Small Group: Hansard
10:30 AM Primary Purpose: AA
5:30 PM Tai Chi
6:30 PM Hip Sober Chicks

Friday, March 1

9:00 AM Preschool
9:00 AM Church Women United- World Day of Prayer
11:45 AM Al-Anon
6:00 PM Confirmation Youth Worship at Temple Emmanuel

Saturday, March 2

2:00 PM Roanoke Women's AA Workshop

Sunday, March 3

9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
5:15 PM Youth Music
6:00 PM Youth Group

**Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church
Roanoke, Virginia**



The Church of the Open Door
11:00 AM – Sanctuary
Sunday, February 25, 2024

**FULLY
HUMAN**



**RALEIGH COURT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR



The Mission of RCPC is:

To Seek Christ
To Serve Christ
To Show Christ
To Know God through Christ

**Ministers
Pastor and Head of Staff
Associate Pastor
Director of Christian Education
Minister of Care
Director of Music Ministries
Preschool Director**

**All the People of Raleigh Court
The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley
The Rev. Isabella Fagiani
Leigh Sackett
The Rev. David Dixon, MD
Dillon J. Swanson
Betsy Prillaman**

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