

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

OPENING CHIMES

Celebration

Youth Bell Choir

Michael Keller

INTROIT

Turn Back O Man

The Sanctuary Choir

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

Turn back O Man, forswear they foolish ways. Old now is Earth, and none may count her days. Yet thou, her child, whose head is crowned with flame, still will not hear thine inner God proclaim "Turn back O Man, forswear thy foolish ways!"

*CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

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

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*HYMN OF PRAISE 543

GREEN TYLER

God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (stanzas 1-4)

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to move my voice; God, be the strength to now up-hold me: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy, great cloud of witnesses enfold; prophets, apostles, angels witness: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight, flashing of lightning, strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of planet: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Walking behind to hem my journey, going ahead to light my way, and from beneath, above, and all ways: O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

When I Surveyed the Wonderous Cross

Youth Bell Choir

Ronald Kauffmann

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

The Rev. Isabella Fagiani

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalms 23

(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

Matthew 22:34-39

(p. 900 in the pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley

Will This Be On the Test?

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Leigh Sackett

Sacrifice of Fools by Eugene Peterson

Jesus entered our history to exhibit the reality of God, the power of creation, the miracle of forgiveness, the drama of mercy, the thrilling pulsations of wisdom lived out in daily discipleship. Many people heard him gladly, thronged around him eagerly and attentively. But there were others who were bored and distant. They were called the Pharisees. Their only interest in Jesus was that of window-shoppers-casual, strolling, well dressed, with no pressing needs but not indifferent to a bargain if they should happen upon one. The verbal part of their religion was faultless, but the bodily part was worthless. They talked a lot; they taught a lot; they pontificated a lot. But they did not live the majesties. They did not experience the realities. They did not share the mercy. They did not move under the omnipotence. People are always taking the gospel and trying to turn it into a religion. And God keeps calling us back, back into the wide-open country of gospel. The Word strips us of religion so we might be dressed for God.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 829

OLIVET

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

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 in your bulletin with your smartphone. Visit rcpres.org and click "Give Now" to learn more.

OFFERTORY

The Sanctuary Choir

The Lily of the Valley

Afro-American Spiritual, arr. Wendell Whalum

He's the Lily of the valley, Oh, my Lord. I've never been to heaven but I've been told, Oh, my Lord. The streets up there are paved with gold, Oh, my lord. What kind of shoes are those You wear? Oh, my Lord, that you can walk up in the air, Oh, my Lord. These shoes I wear are gospel shoes, Oh, my Lord, and You can wear these if You choose, Oh, my Lord. He's the Lily of the valley, oh, my Lord.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Meaning of Baptism

Presentation: Jack & Dane McLamb

Sons of Robin & Jordan McLamb

Vows of the Parents & Congregation

Vows of the Children

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Baptism & Blessing

Welcome & Prayer

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN 169

REST

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

*CHARGE & BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter

The Lord bless you and keep you: The Lord make his face to shine upon you, to shine upon you and be gracious, and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Children's Worship: Rebecca Whaley & Robbie Whitehead

MINISTRY MESSAGES

PRAYER REQUESTS: Roena Barbre, Dawn Blakeman, Lisa Boylan, Donn Branch, Brendan Brown (Kathy and Les Brown's grandson), Billy Grove, Susan Lindstrom, Joe McCrobie, Betsy Neathawk, Nancy Smith (Alan Smith's mother), Roger Tims, and all caregivers.

ONLINE GIVING For those who may not remember to bring a check or cash on a Sunday, you can set up your giving to RCPC online. This can be done as a one-time or an on-going way to support our mission and ministry. You can either visit www.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.



FELLOWSHIP DINNERS Fellowship Dinners continue this winter and spring each Wednesday at 6:15 PM. Meals are a suggested donation of \$7 for an individual 12 years and up, \$5 for children ages 4-11, and free for 3 and younger, with a max of \$20 for a family. Please register by noon the Tuesday before each meal online at rcpres.org/dinner. **Menu for March 22:** Spaghetti & Meatballs, Italian Green Beans, Cheesy Garlic Bread, Brownies a la mode, Vegan Meatball

CHURCH SOFTBALL Spring will be here soon and with spring comes Church Softball Season! We'd love to have a team play in the City Recreation League this Spring. In order for us to play we need at least 10 players and a willing team manager to coordinate the team. If being the softball team manager is up your alley please contact Jeff Bossert, chair of the Fellowship Committee at jbossert71@outlook.com. Last day to sign up is Monday, March 20.

THE PHARISEE IN ME SERMON SERIES Jesus was not crucified because evil people plotted his death. Jesus died because he wasn't good enough for the religious people. How often do we sit in the seat of those who are convinced that they are correct and righteous? Would we want Jesus crucified too? This Lent we will examine how we try and live by the "correct" standards and how our obsession with being "good" might actually lead to the most evil results.

March 19	"Will This Be on the Test?"	Matthew 22:34-39
March 26	"Public Image"	Matthew 23:1-12
April 2	"Save Us Our Way"	Matthew 21:1-11
April 9	"The Good Redeemed"	Matthew 28:1-10

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS: FEBRUARY 26 - APRIL 2

- *The Seekers: Sermon on the Mount* by Amy-Jill Levine (DVD)
- *For Doubtters, Skeptics and Cynics: A Lenten Study of Ecclesiastes*. Led by Mike Lockaby, Room 101
- *Seculosity: How Career, Parenting, Technology, Food, Politics, and Romance Became Our New Religion and What to Do about It* by David Zahl. Led by The Rev. Andrew Whaley, Room 102

Full details can be found online at rcpres.org/adult-education

EASTER FLOWERS If you would like to dedicate Easter Flowers in honor or memory of someone special, please complete envelope in the pew rack with name(s) for dedication along with a check, note "Easter Flowers" in the memo. Place the envelope in the offering plate. Deadline to order is March 29. A list will be included in the bulletin on Easter Day, April 9. Cost per dedication is \$13. You can also complete the form online at tinyurl.com/2023RCPCFlowers or by scanning the QR code.



ALMSGIVING This Lenten season we will again be engaging in the spiritual practice of Almsgiving - giving intentionally of what we have to others. The hope is that items are brought in weekly so each week we are reminding ourselves to be considerate of others as we do our shopping and go about our lives. For the first three Sundays of Lent we will be providing items to support the Presbyterian Community Center's food pantry and for the last three Sundays of Lent we will be supporting the food pantry as well as providing leggings for girls at Woodrow Wilson Middle School. When bringing in a canned item, a pull top lid is preferable.

For Woodrow Wilson Middle School:

- March 19 - Canned or Individually Packaged Fruit
- March 26 - Boxed Mac and Cheese, Noodles/Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce
- April 2 - Leggings, Size Girls 10 through Adult 10

FIRE DRILL PROCEDURE Following the Choral Response at today's service all attending worship will participate in a building wide fire drill. Please take all of your belongings with you, you will not need to return inside with the exception of Children's Worship and the Nursery. Evacuation routes:

* If you are seated in the front half of the Sanctuary, including all in the Chancel, please exit through the doors on either side of the Chancel to the alley or playground.

* If you are seated the back half of the Sanctuary, you will exit out the rear of the Sanctuary to the Narthex. Pulpit side: continue into the Gathering Area and exit the building through the Columbarium. Lectern side: continue through the Narthex to the exist just past the Parlor into the alley.

* Children's Worship will exit the building from the basement and once the fire drill is complete will return to the Children's Worship room for pick-up.

* Nursery will exit up the ramp and once the fire drill is complete will return to the Nursery rooms for pick-up.

RCPC PRESCHOOL BOOK FAIR FUNDRAISER Celebrate National Read Across America Month by attending our Book Fair (ONLINE OR IN PERSON!) Join us on March 20 and 21 from 9:00-2:00 in the gathering area to discover amazing books, games and more from leading brands such as Usborne, PaperPie, Smart Lab, Kane Miller and Learning Wrap Ups. These books and learning tools make amazing gifts and every purchase will help fund new books for RCPC Preschool! You can also purchase online at <https://z12205.paperpie.com/2506031>

THIS WEEK AT RCPC

Sunday, March 19

- Lent
- 9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:15 PM Youth Bells
- 12:15 PM Youth Committee

Monday, March 20

- 9:00 AM Preschool
- 10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
- 10:30 AM Small Group: "The Pastor's Porch" – Whaley
- 5:30 PM Stewardship & Finance
- 6:30 PM Cub Scouts
- 7:00 PM BSA Troop 2
- 7:00 PM Personnel & Administration

Tuesday, March 21

- 9:00 AM Preschool
- 10:30 AM Primary Purpose: AA
- 1:15 PM Worship & Music
- 4:00 PM Small Group: "The Parking Lot Fools" – Dixon
- 5:30 PM Tai Chi
- 5:30 PM Endowment Board
- 7:15 PM Raleigh Court Ringers
- 8:00 PM Small Group: "Soul Sisters" - Biddle

Wednesday, March 22

- 9:00 AM Preschool
- 4:00 PM God Alive
- 6:15 PM Fellowship Dinner
- 7:00 PM Small Group: "The After Dinner Crowd" – Sackett
- 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 23

- 9:00 AM Preschool
- 9:00 AM Hunger Mission Packing
- 10:00 AM Centering Prayer (St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church)
- 10:30 AM Primary Purpose: AA
- 4:30 PM Tai Chi
- 6:30 PM Hip Sober Chicks
- 7:00 PM Raleigh Court Neighborhood Association

Friday, March 24

- Congregational Retreat
- 11:45 AM Al-Anon

Saturday, March 25

- Congregational Retreat
- Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby/Black & Gold Ceremony

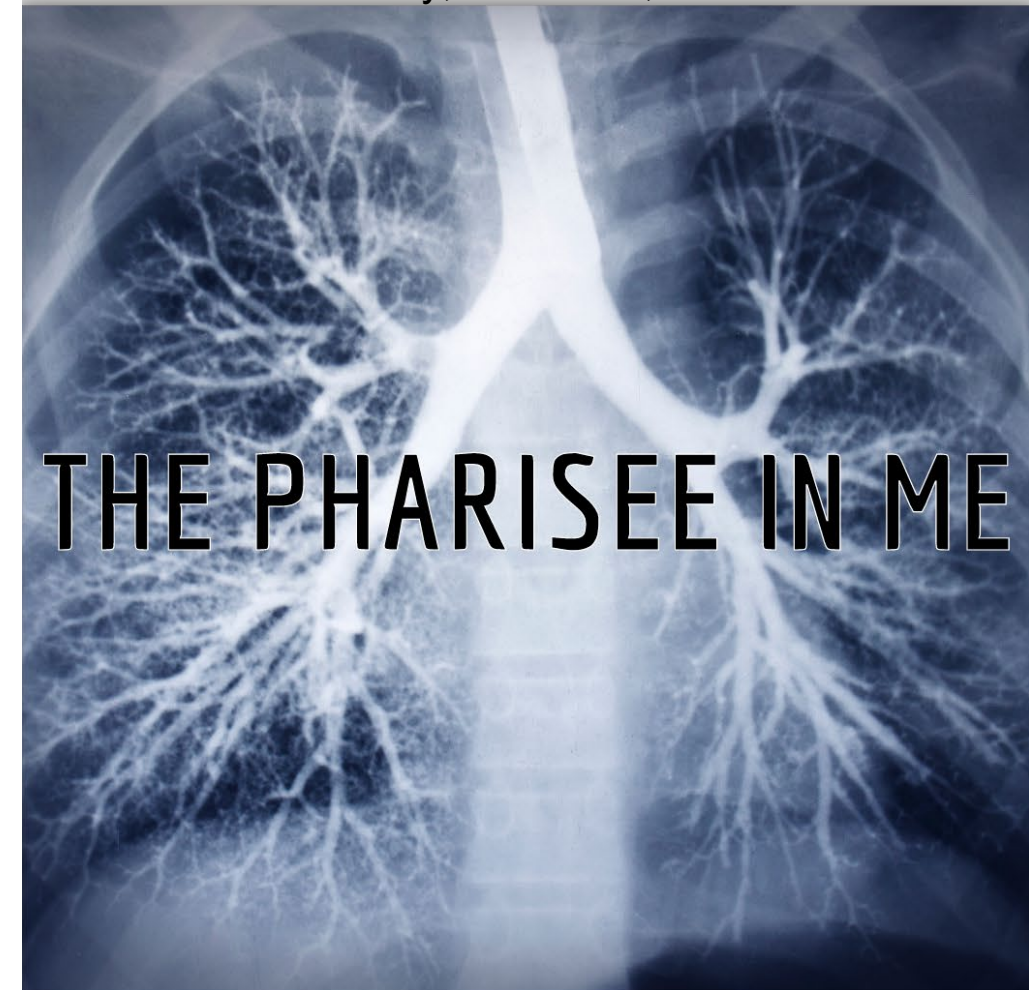
Sunday, March 26

- Congregational Retreat
- 9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

**Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church
Roanoke, Virginia**



The Church of the Open Door
11:00 AM - Sanctuary
Sunday, March 19, 2023



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
- Interim Handbell Director
- Interim Sanctuary Choir Director
- Interim Organist/Accompanist
- Preschool Director

All the People of Raleigh Court

- The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley
- The Rev. Isabella Fagiani
- Leigh Sackett
- The Rev. David Dixon, MD, Episcopal Deacon
- Joe Kennedy
- William G. Snyder
- Judith C. Snyder
- Betsy Prillaman

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