

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church

Friends in Christ, Serving Together with Love

Come to the Light

March 10, 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

"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."

JOHN 3:16



Hearing assistance available: FM receivers and earpieces are stored near the AV room. See sound technician with questions.

Coffee House Worship: in education wing foyer. Enjoy a more casual environment while Worship is livestreamed from the sanctuary.

GATHERING MUSIC *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* Setting by Ruth Mackie
DEO GRACIAS

PRELUDE *I Waited for the Lord* Felix Mendelssohn
VILLE DU HAVRE Arr. Russell Cook

Susan Richardson & Sarah Waggoner, vocal duet; Rick Fortney, piano

WELCOME

INTROIT *Think of Me and Remember* Joel Raney
PREPARE THE WAY

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 107, Ephesians 2, John 3*

One: The goodness of God beckons,

All: calling us to goodness and grace.

One: The grace of God redeems,

All: saving us and making us whole.

One: The love of God welcomes,

All: inviting us to worship and praise.

OPENING PRAYER *Psalm 107, Ephesians 2, John 3*

All: God of goodness and grace, gather us in your arms of love. Gather us as people of your goodness and grace. Gather us in worship and prayer, that we may be strengthened with faith and courage. Gather us as those who are eager to live and to share your goodness and grace. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *What a Wondrous Love is This* No. 215
WONDRIOUS LOVE

CHILDREN'S SERMON Gail Carter

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Numbers 21, Psalm 107, Ephesians 2, John 3*

Let us take a moment for personal reflection.

All: Gracious God, lift up our hearts this day, for we long to see your salvation. Lift us up from the pits of sin and sorrow, that we may walk in the light of your love and

grace. Create us anew as reflections of your light and as offerings of your grace. For we yearn to bless everyone we meet, even ourselves, in your name. In hope and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *Ephesians 2, John 3*

One: In Christ Jesus, we are created to do good things. By God's grace, we are able to be good people. In God's goodness, we are created good. In Christ's grace, we are saved by love, that we may love and be loved.

ANTHEM*Who But the Lord?*

Craig Courtney

Muriel Homer, piano

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: As God has poured out the grace of forgiveness and love and peace through Christ, let us also share that grace among ourselves. May the peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*Ken Medema
Arr. Joel Raney**LORD'S PRAYER****PRAYER RESPONSE***I Surrender All*Winfield S. Weeden
Arr. Joel Raney

I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

I surrender all, I surrender all.
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

SCRIPTURE READING

Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21

Kathy Navarro

SERMON "Come to the Light" Pastor Rick Stein

***OFFERING/DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 606

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

***CLOSING HYMN** *Come! Live in the Light!* No. 749
WE ARE CALLED

BENEDICTION

One: Each week we remind ourselves

All: to go out into the world. Return no one evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, and honor every person. Every person. And rejoice in the Lord always.

One: And now may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with each of you, all your loved ones, and all your concerns, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Lowell Mason
Setting by Gilbert M. Martin

POSTLUDE *I Love to Tell the Story* Setting by David Schack
HANKEY

Welcome to Avon Lake Presbyterian Church!

*“In awe, we Receive God’s Grace and Gospel.
In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood.
In love, we Represent Jesus Christ as we minister to transform lives
in family, community, and the world.”*

As you join us for worship at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, we hope that you will sense God’s presence, be caught up in joyful praise, be challenged by God’s Word and leave strengthened to live for Christ in the world.

In the event you need to step out of the Sanctuary, speaker systems are in both the foyer and the nursery so that you may listen to the worship service. When leaving the Sanctuary during the service, take care to close the door softly.

If you feel you would like a call or visit from Pastor Rick, please contact the church office at 440-933-6240.

Please silence cell phones during our worship services.

Offerings may be given through SimpleGive and are always appreciated. Scan this code with your smartphone to easily access SimpleGive.



Confidential prayers are available now at the back of the sanctuary from the Healing Prayer Ministry after worship.

This year’s Easter offering will go to the Lunch Bunch/Mission outreach fund. Our donations help provide 75 Brown Bag Lunches and a Family-Style Dinner for Haven Center each month. These funds support a variety of other local mission projects supervised by The Lorain Cooperative Ministries. We also sponsor groups that provide food pantries like CRS, The Front Door, First Lutheran Church, and The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer. In 2024, we hope to be able to host lunches for our church family. Mark your offering “Easter Mission.” Questions may be directed to Beth Janis, Sue Mabe, or Kathy Hamilton.

A new office door lock will be installed soon. This will be a coded system. Code request forms are available on the narthex table.

This Week at the Church

- Monday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. The Deacons will meet at 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday:** The church staff will meet at 10:00 a.m. Ruth Circle will meet at 10:30 a.m. in the church library. Cornerstone Preschool will be having class pictures taken in the narthex during school hours.
- Wednesday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m. Cornerstone Preschool will be having class pictures taken in the narthex during school hours. Handbell Choir will meet in the Sanctuary at 6:45 p.m., followed by Chancel Choir at 8:00 p.m.
- Thursday:** Bible Study will begin at noon in the Pastor's office. Yoga will begin at 6:30 p.m.
- Friday:** Walking Group meets at the church at 8:30 a.m.
- Saturday:** Fix-It Saturday begins at 9:00 a.m.
- Next Sunday:** Worship begins at 10:00 a.m. The Chosen small group will meet at 11:45 a.m. Youth Group will meet at 6:00 p.m.
- Birthdays:** Tammy D., 3/12; Jeff H., 3/12; Cris T., 3/17; Alex W., 3/17

Please keep in your prayers this week...

- Beth S.**, who continues with chemotherapy treatments.
- Joe U.**, continued health after completing his treatments.
- Charlie & Debbie S.**, who are both facing health issues.
- George L.**, for continued healing.
- Noel P.**, who seeks spiritual healing.
- Lee L.'s family** in the Ukraine; keep them safe and bring an end to this war.
- Joyce B.'s daughter, **Brenda**, who is receiving cancer treatments.
- Matt & Sybil W.'s nephew, **Tommy**, who has leukemia and recently suffered a stroke.
- Penny H.'s daughter, **Jen L.**, whose cancer has returned and is on a treatment of chemo pills.

Chancel Choir

Dave Brunner
Doug Day
Jackie Day
Clayton Dusek
Tammy Dusek
Joan Wojcicki Fortney
Deb Gantz

Barbara Graves
Cathy Graves
Jeff Hansen
Ed Homer
Sue Mabe
Jan Mackert
Makayla McAfee

Bob Palisin
Sharon Pervo
Susan Richardson
Beth Shoemaker
Linda Swartz
Marcy Uhl
Sarah Waggoner

Volunteers Today

Greeters
Worship Assistant
Sound Board
Projections
Ushers
Children's Sermon
Sunday School

Gino & Michele Meehan
Kathy Navarro
Mike Ciarrone
AmyLynn Kaspar
Terry Vine, Janet Parker
Gail Carter
Susan Reighard

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