

# BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

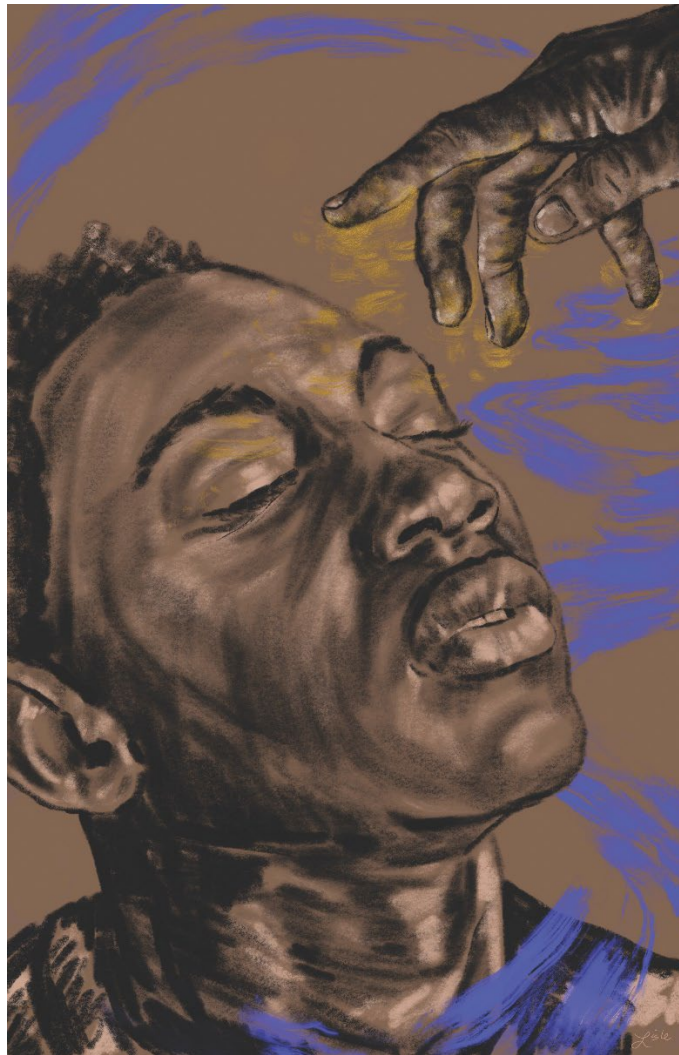
FEBRUARY 25, 2024

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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We are a community that welcomes all.  
We are committed to experiencing beautiful worship,  
nurturing lifelong growth,  
and pursuing justice and love in the world.

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Pastor - Rev. Sarah Wiles  
Director of Music & Organist - Alice Brooks Sanders  
Director of Children & Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter  
Coordinator of Church Life - Sarah Windes  
Office Manager - Rhonda Waller  
Parish Associate - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

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❖ Please rise in body or in spirit. We invite you to join in with the words in **bold**.

✠ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ✠

**Thought for Meditation**

"The truth does not change according to our ability to stomach it." – Flannery O'Connor

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

**Celebrating Discipleship**

Ben Corl

**Prelude:** "Unto Thee I Cry, Lord Jesus"

J.S. Bach

❖ **Call to Worship**

Ed Spencer

Grace and peace be with you. **And also with you.**

This is the day the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

❖ **Psalm of the Day**

Psalm 27

You are my Source, my Way, my Home.

**In You I rest secure.**

**In You I gather strength.**

**In You I begin to see.**

When fear arises

from within or from without

**I remember**

**who You are**

**and how I am**

**in You.**

Oh that I may dwell in You

day by day, moment by moment.

**Then peace would be mine.**

**Then I could persevere**

**when the waters threaten to overwhelm.**

**Then my eyes would be filled with beauty and my mouth with song.**

**Then courage and wisdom would carry me to safe shores.**

This I know:

You are.

In You,

I am.

**Your goodness is seen in the land of the living.**

**All who turn to You, turn towards Home.**

❖ **Hymn 450: "Be Thou My Vision"**

SLANE

**1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;  
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**4 High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

### Call to Confession

Eternal God, Maker of the skies above,  
lowly Christ, Lover of the earth and its people,  
unfettered Spirit, Giver of gracious gifts,  
you are present among us.

O hidden mystery,  
sun behind all suns,  
soul within all souls,  
in all we touch, in all we meet,  
you are present among us.

As bearers of your image,  
we come to be reshaped;  
dependent on your mercy,  
we ask to be made new.

### Prayer of Confession

For the right roads we avoided travelling,  
and the kindly words we didn't share;  
for the false gods who received our worship  
and the true selves we have starved of love,  
God, by your grace,  
**forgive us.**

For the hidden hurts we have held too tightly,  
and the promises we never kept;  
for the careless use of our time and money  
and the excuses we never should have made,  
God, by your grace,  
**forgive us.**

*(Silent prayer)*

### Hymn 577: "Lord, Have Mercy"

KYRIE ELEISON

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

Note: Lower voices may hum.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy.

For all we should be and all we can amend,  
God, in your love, **renew us.**

For all you have in store for us and all you may demand of us,  
God, in your love, **prepare us.**

For the life of the world and the love of its people,  
God, in your love, **commit us.**

### **Assurance of Forgiveness**

Hear and trust these words of Jesus:  
Don't be afraid.  
Your sins are forgiven.  
Come and follow me.  
**Amen.**

### ❖ **Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**  
(Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace, and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

## ❖ HEARING THE WORD ❖

### **Sharing Faith with Children**

Susan Hunter

(Children in 1<sup>st</sup> grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Children in kindergarten or younger may stay in the sanctuary or go downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurturing and care.)

### **Prayer for Illumination**

(Silent Prayer)

### **Scripture**

John 9, CEB

**Sermon:** An Uncertain Certainty

Rev. Sarah Wiles

## ❖ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ❖

### ❖ **Hymn 649 (vv. 1-4): "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"**

AMAZING GRACE

**1** Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

**2** 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

**3** Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

**4** The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

### **Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now  
and forever. Amen.**

## Call to Offering

**Offertory:** "O Lord, My God, to Thee"

attr. Jacob Arcadelt

O Lord, my God, to thee do I lift up my soul.

O Lord, in thee have I trusted.

Let me not be ashamed, let not my foes triumph over me.

O lead me in a plain path; cast me not off, neither forsake me.

Teach me thy way, Lord, lead me in a plain path.

O hide not thy face far from me. Amen.

❖ **Doxology:** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise Christ, all people here below;**

**praise Holy Spirit evermore;**

**praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

Hymn 607

❖ **Prayer of Dedication**

❖ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD ❖

❖ **Hymn 547:** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

AR HYD Y NOS

1 "Go, my children, with my blessing,  
never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you,  
you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing,  
you are my own."

2 "Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,  
what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
at peace and pure."

3 "Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving,  
joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
joyful and free."

❖ **Benediction**

**Postlude:** "Toccatina in the Style of Scarlatti"

Gordon Young



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Citations: Psalm of the Day adapted by Carla A. Grosch-Miller. Call to and Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Forgiveness from *Iona Abbey Worship Book, rev. ed.*

Art: *Siloam* by Lisle Gwynn Garrity, © [A Sanctified Art](#).

Offertory: Text from Psalms 25-26.

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## WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This is a space for everyone. No matter who you are, no matter what your story is, no matter what--you are welcome here. May this be a time where your breathing slows, your heart opens, and you connect with the Holy One. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore some of what happens in the life of this community.

**Serving: Church Opener:** Mike McGilliard

**Ushers:** Greg Campbell, Lois Price, Rachel Parson & Anne Campbell

**Elder Serving Refreshments:** Paula Stith

**Headsets for the hard of hearing are available.** Speak to an usher to use them for the worship service.

**You can send prayer requests** for Prayers of the People in Sunday worship and/or to be added to the *Midweek Update* and website prayer list to Rhonda at ([rhonda@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:rhonda@blacksburgpres.org)).

**Text or QR Code to Give:** To give by text, send keyword **bpcva** and an amount to phone number **77977** (e.g., bpcva 20). If it is your first time, there will be a brief registration process. To give via QR code, use the camera app on your phone and follow instructions. Thank you for your support of BPC's ministry.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Loving Lent Begins Tonight!** Make intergenerational community your practice for Lent. Join us this evening as we kick off A Loving Lent. Come for some of it or come for all of it. There is something for everyone and every schedule.

\* **4:30-5:30pm: activities for children ages 3 years old to 5th grade** (nursery care provided)

\* **5:30-6:30pm: potluck dinner for all**

\* **6:30-7:30pm: youth group & adult education** (childcare provided for kids up through 5th grade)

There are two adult education opportunities each week: the Sunday Night Discussion Group and the Loving Lent Series:

- The Sunday Night Discussion Group will be exploring *Jesus and the Gospels: An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*, using Great Courses video lectures by Luke Timothy Johnson, followed by discussion facilitated by Russell Gregory and Jack Call.
- The Loving Lent series will include the topics Loving What We Do as we explore how our faith shapes our sense of vocation, Loving Our Neighbors with a presentation from the Dialogue on Race, Loving One Another as we interact with people holding differing theological and political opinions, and Loving the Church by learning more about UKirk at VT featuring a spirited game of trivia during dinner!



*A Loving Lent*

**Resources for Households During Lent:** On the table in the Gathering Space for the next few weeks, you will find some resources to help you observe the 40 days of Lent in your household. Feel free to take any that members of your household would like to use!

- *Examen: Inward Work for Outward Living* - With a different theme for each week of Lent, readers are invited to explore the connection between internal contemplation and outward action. Themes include examining our fear to live with faith, examining our pain to live with healing, examining our dishonesty to live with truth, examining our joy to live with gratitude, examining our love to live with heart and examining our burdens to live with blessing.
- *Bless This Mess* household Lenten activities (with tea lights) - A set of illustrated cards for each week feature simple, engaging daily practices to try as we travel the road to the empty tomb. From caring for God's creation to fighting for racial justice and equality, the calendar's themes and activities are both accessible and challenging. Conversation starters over tea, "things to remember," and concrete daily practices help to ensure that this Lent we connect with each other, work toward repairing God's world, and look ahead to the new life of Easter morning.
- Back by popular demand - *One Great Hour of Sharing Gratitude Calendar* and fish boxes for coin collection



## THIS WEEK

FH-Fellowship Hall, HCR-Hatcher Conference Room,  
WM-Westminster, SNC-Sanctuary, GS-Gathering Space

All activities are open to everyone.

Contact Rhonda at [rhonda@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:rhonda@blacksburgpres.org) for more information.

### Sun., Feb. 25:

- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- 4:30-7:30 pm: A Loving Lent, FH. See announcements for details.
- 5:30-7:30: Youth Group, FH
- 6:30: Sunday Night Discussion Group, HCR. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*, a Great Courses video lecture by Luke Timothy Johnson, followed by discussion facilitated by Russell Gregory ([russellgregor@gmail.com](mailto:russellgregor@gmail.com)) and Jack Call ([jcall@radford.edu](mailto:jcall@radford.edu)).

### Mon., Feb. 26:

- 1:00-3:00 pm: Knitwits, WM

### Tues., Feb. 27:

- 7:30-9:00 am: Morningstars Bible Study, Zoom
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, HCR

### Wed., Feb. 28:

- 5:30 pm: Handbell choir rehearsal, FH
- 7:00: Choir rehearsal, choir room

### Thur., Feb. 29:

- 5:00-6:00 pm: Hangout Hour, Moon Hollow Brewery (4237 Prices Fork Rd.). Feel free to just show up.
- 7:30-9:00: Faith Circle meeting, Jen Stewart's home.

### Fri., Mar. 1:

- 5:00 pm: First Fridays Peace Vigil, downtown post office, 118 N. Main St., Bburg
- 5:30-8:00 pm: Parents' Night Out with babysitting, room 007. Contact Susan Hunter ([susanh@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:susanh@blacksburgpres.org)) for details. Suggested \$20 donation toward the Philippines mission trip.
- 6:00: World Day of Prayer, BPC. Led by Church Women United in Montgomery County and teamed up with Religious Affairs Committee of the MRF branch of the NAACP and local faith communities, this year's event is planned by BPC, Glade Church, and the Church on Main, and is based on a program written during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic by an ecumenical group of Palestinian Christian women. World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. The entire offering will go to World Day of Prayer, which uses some of it for future programs and the rest for grants to help women and children around the world.



### Sun., Mar. 3: Communion Sunday

- 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
- 9:00: Adult Sunday School, WM
- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- 4:30-7:30 pm: A Loving Lent, FH. See announcements for details.
- 5:30-7:30: Youth Group, FH
- 6:30: Sunday Night Discussion Group, HCR. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*, a Great Courses video lecture by Luke Timothy Johnson, followed by discussion facilitated by Russell Gregory ([russellgregor@gmail.com](mailto:russellgregor@gmail.com)) and Jack Call ([jcall@radford.edu](mailto:jcall@radford.edu)).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon., Mar. 4: 1:30-3:00 pm: Lydia Circle meeting, FH

### Tues., Mar. 10:

- 3:00 pm: Interfaith Reading Group, Jewish Community Center
- 7:00: Creation Care Team, Zoom