



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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[www.fpcpborgwv.org](http://www.fpcpborgwv.org) and [Facebook.com/fpcpborg](https://www.facebook.com/fpcpborg)

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Jarvis  
*Stated Supply Pastor*

Amy Sinclair  
*Director of Music*

Elder Chris Alfred  
*Director of Finance*  
*Treasurer*

Judi Echard  
*Office Secretary*

Elder Senta Goudy  
*Clerk of Session*

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WE ARE A NURTURING,  
VIBRANT CONGREGATION,  
REACHING OUT TO  
THE COMMUNITY AND  
STANDING AS A BEACON  
OF CHRIST'S LOVE  
AND PROMISE.



FIRST SUNDAY  
*in*  
LENT

*February 14, 2021*  
*10:30 a.m.*

# Sharing the Life of the Church

**GREETINGS, IN THE NAME OF GOD THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT ON THIS FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT. LET US WALK WITH JESUS AND ONE ANOTHER THESE SACRED 40 DAYS.**

**Ways to Worship with Us** - Though we are currently unable to gather for in-person worship, we hope you will join us in one of the following ways:

- † 10:30 a.m. Sundays, on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/fpcpborg/>
- † Later, on our website's Worship tab <https://www.fpcpborgwv.org>
- † Tune in to **1710 AM** on your radio dial as you listen from the safety of your vehicle in the church parking lot, 10:30 a.m. each Sunday
- † CD recordings of the service and a copy of the bulletin can be mailed to you upon request - just contact the office at **304-422-5426** or send an email to [office@fpcpborgwv.org](mailto:office@fpcpborgwv.org) and request yours.

**Committee Year-End Reports** for the annual Congregational Meeting are now due in the office. If you are a committee chair or board moderator and would like to see a past report for reference, contact the church office and we can provide one for you.

**Session Meeting** - The Session will meet this **Tuesday, February 23, at 6 p.m.**, in room 204, or via Zoom.

**Easter Flower Dedication** - An order form for the Easter flower dedication will be included in the March newsletter, and also available at the church on February 28. To order Sanctuary flowers for use on Easter Sunday, please return the form, with your payment, to the church office no later than **Monday, March 22.**

† † † † †

A Christ-centered life does not mean a life in which one sings hymns, reads Scripture and edifies his neighbors by hanging texts on the walls. One does not become a Christian by doing a good deed a day, nor by go-getting for religion, nor by engaging in economic and political reform movements, even though these things are done from the noblest of human motives. A Christian is one who, believing that Christ is the Son of God, has that Christ-life in his soul.

—Fulton Sheen

STATS AT-A-GLANCE		
	January	YTD
<b>Income</b>	\$24,221.28	
<b>Expenses</b>	<u>\$14,688.35</u>	
<b>Diff. (+ /-)</b>	\$ 9,532.93	
<b>Avg. Attendance:</b>	<b>Jan.</b>	<b>YTD</b>
	<b>8:30</b>	NA
	<b>10:30</b>	NA

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*First Sunday in Lent*

*February 21, 2021*

*10:30 a.m.*

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## GATHERING

**Preparation for Worship**

**Sharing the Life of the Church**

**Prelude**

When Peace Like a River

arr. Jay Althouse

*Susan Woods, flautist*

**The Call to Worship**

Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the Lord.

***God has blessed us. Let all the ends of the earth worship God!***

Seek the Lord while he may be found. Call upon God while he is near.

***The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit.***

***A broken spirit and contrite heart God will not despise.***

Let us draw near God and worship at his footstool.

**The Prayer of the Day**

(Henry Van Dyke, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> Cent.)

***During these holy days of Lent, we ask that we may  
become closer to you and to one another,  
as we seek to grow into more Christlikeness,  
and become more faithful servants of our Lord.***

***O God our Creator, teach us temperance and self-control,  
that we may live in the Spirit and be mindful  
of all that Jesus endured and sacrificed for our sakes,  
and how he was made perfect through sufferings.***

***Help us so to keep the fast that you have chosen,  
that we may loose the bonds of wickedness,  
and undo the heavy burdens, and let the oppressed go free;  
through the grace of Christ Jesus,  
our crucified and risen Savior. Amen.***

## GROWING

### Special Music

The Greatest of These Is Love  
*Becky Deem McGinnis, soloist*

Roberta Bitgood

### Prayer for Illumination

*Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear what you say to us today.*

### Lesson from the Gospels

Matthew 4:1-11

### The Sermon

“OUT INTO THE WILDERNESS”

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Jarvis

## CARING

### Prayers of the People

#### 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 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.*

## GOING

### The Benediction and Sending Forth

#### The Postlude

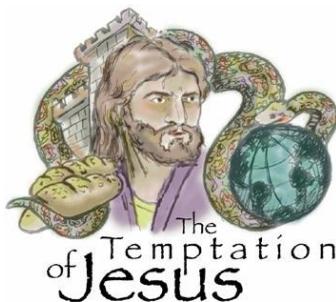
I Sing the Mighty Power of God

arr. Herzog/Page

**Prayer List** – Remember the following in your prayers:

Ron Vaughan	The Valentine Family	Frieda Owen
Janet Sinclair	The May Family	Jay Arnold
Jaime Parsons	Brenda T. Christian	Bill Niday
The Key Family	Charlotte Johnson	Doug Baty
Allen Rodger	Mary Ann Danser	Dave Bell
Stacey Wright	Nancy Pillichody	Debra Burns
Susan Williams	Abby K. Hilerman	Billy O'Dell
Harriet Litteral	Jim & Liz Sterrick	Paul Conner
Mona Coe Kerns	Sarah Townsend	Susie Casto
Pat Douglass	Doris Thornburg	Kate Winter
John B. White	Raymond Bradley, Jr.	Leon Knopp
Wagner family	Homebound Members	Terry Dooley
Sharon O'Dell	Troops – World Peace	Ann O'Dell
Beth Ferguson	Revival in our nation	Harry Ayre
Patricia Shutler		Rion Foster

<b>THE COVENANT OF PRAYER</b>	
<b>Eldercare of Ripley</b> <i>Jody Kanalz</i>	<b>Wyngate Senior Living</b> <i>Gladys Watson</i>
<b>Parkersburg Care Center</b> <i>Mary Anne Danser</i>	



*Lectionary Texts for next week: February 28  
Second Sunday in Lent*

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38  
Psalm 22:23-31

# Lent

B E G I N S



## FASTING FROM CRITICALNESS

Most fasting involves temporarily giving up something you enjoy. When you long for a cookie or a favorite show, you instead turn your attention to God, reorienting yourself to his best.

Catherine Marshall, in *A Closer Walk*, presents a different approach she calls fasting from “criticalness.” God dealt with her judgmental spirit by prompting her to spend 24 hours without criticizing “anyone about anything.” At first, Marshall felt rather empty when she didn’t engage in a heated political debate. But friends and family didn’t seem to miss her comments. Plus, God replaced the energy she’d spent attempting to correct others with energy and creativity to positively influence them.

A critical spirit can make us lose perspective, joy and even relationships. It also can prevent the good work God wants to achieve through us. Consider what could happen as a result of your own “criticalness fast.” Pray for God to do the correcting while you focus on building up others.

—Janna Firestone