

The MESSENGER

April 2021

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Staff

the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

Amy

Director of Music and Organist

Kate

Choir Director and Vocalist

Megan

Vocalist

Deborah

Administrative Assistant

Logan

Vocalist

Items for the **May** edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Monday, April 26.**

Early submissions are always joyfully accepted!

Submitted information will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.



Maundy Thursday

April 1; 7:00PM worship

Maundy Thursday will be observed with a brief service including the Lord's Supper. This gathering commemorates Jesus establishing the supper as well as anticipating his passion to follow.



At the end of Holy week in the Christian calendar we approach the joyful celebration of Easter, on Sunday April 4. Please join us, either with your presence or in spirit on that morning at 10:30. A special

service with beautiful instrumental as well as vocal music will be presented. A link to this service will be provided early in the week of April 5 for those who wish to view the video recorded version of this service of celebration.

Looking ahead we are making plans for outdoor settings for our Sunday worship services as soon as the spring temperatures make this possible. We will be providing more details and specifics as the month of April unfolds. Please enjoy the beautiful spring flowers as they emerge and the promise of longer, sunnier days as we gratefully leave winter behind.



Maundy THURSDAY



Scriptural Sentences

John 13:34

*A new command I give you: Love one another.
As I have loved you, so you must love one another.*

Psalm 42:9-11

I say to God my Rock,
‘Why have You forgotten me?
Why must I walk in sorrow
because of the enemy’s oppression?’
Like the crushing of my bones,
my enemies taunt me,
while they say to me all day long,
‘Where is your God?’
Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why the unease within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise Him,
my Savior and my God.

Collect for Maundy Thursday

O God: your love lived in Jesus Christ, who washed disciples’ feet on the night of his betrayal. Wash from us the stain of sin, so that, in hours of danger, we may not fail, but follow your Son through every trial, and praise him to the world as Lord and Christ, to whom be glory now and forever. Amen.



Scriptural Sentence

Psalm 22:1

*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?*

Psalm 13

How long, O LORD?
Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide Your face from me?
How long must I wrestle in my soul,
with sorrow in my heart each day?
How long will my enemy dominate me?
Consider me and respond, O LORD my God.
Give light to my eyes, lest I sleep in death,
lest my enemy say, ‘I have overcome him,’
and my foes rejoice when I fall.
But I have trusted in Your loving devotion;
my heart will rejoice in Your salvation.
I will sing to the LORD,
for He has been good to me.

Collect for Good Friday

Merciful Father: you have your Son to suffer the shame of the cross. Save us from hardness of heart, so that, seeing him who died for us, we may repent, confess our sin, and receive your overflowing love, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eastertide



Scriptural Sentences

Colossians 3:1-4

If then you were raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things that are above, not on the things that are on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, our life, is revealed, then you will also be revealed with him in glory.

Psalm 150

Praise the LORD.
Praise God in his sanctuary;
 praise him in his mighty heavens.
Praise him for his acts of power;
 praise him for his surpassing greatness.
Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
 praise him with the harp and lyre,
praise him with timbrel and dancing,
 praise him with the strings and pipe,
praise him with the clash of cymbals,
 praise him with resounding cymbals.
Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
 Praise the LORD.

Collect for Eastertide

Almighty God: through the rising of Jesus Christ from the dead you have given us a living hope. Keep us joyful in all our trials, and guard faith, so we may receive the wonderful inheritance of life eternal, which you have prepared for us; through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

From The Worshipbook, 1970

From the Pastor's Desk



The hymn *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* was originally *Come, Children, Join to Sing* when it was first composed by Christian H. Bateman. Bateman was at various times a Moravian, then Congregational, and finally Anglican minister in 19th Century Scotland. Apparently, the hymn proved so popular among people of all ages, that ‘children’ was changed to the more age-inclusive ‘Christians.’

The opening stanza is a call to joyful worship:

*Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!*

Of the world’s great religions, one of Christianity’s distinguishing features is that it is a singing faith. Jewish believers sang as a part of their religious life in the Hebrew scriptures. The Old Testament Psalms are understood to have been the hymnbook of Israel. Mark 14:26 records Jesus and the disciples singing at the final Passover meal they shared, the occasion on which Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper. The hymn sung would have been a psalm.

Those Jewish antecedents come to expression in New Testament calls for music and singing as a part of worship in Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3. Faith-filled singing echoes out into eternity in the Book of Revelation which records around two dozen instances of song and singing as a part of John’s heavenly vision. In Revelation 4:11, twenty-four elders around God’s throne sing -

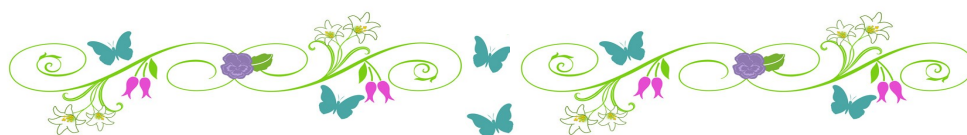
*Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
To receive glory, and honor, and power,
For you created all things,
And by your will they existed and were created.*

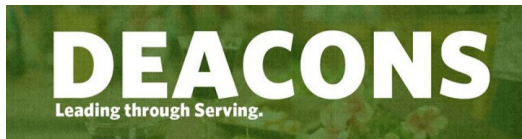
We are all too aware that the safety concerns of this last year have reduced opportunity for congregational singing, even while we have been blessed to enjoy the gifts of the ensemble: Kate, Megan and Logan.

As we gather for Easter Sunday worship, we may not be able to share in the congregational singing which is so much a part of the church’s common life, especially Easter Sunday. But, we look forward to that day soon arriving.

Until then, the sentiment of Easter, and of God’s gift of eternal or resurrection life in Jesus Christ, finds expression in the hymns of faith and in our hearts.

*Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore, his goodness we’ll
adore,
Singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!*





The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Susan A, Marianna, Jane J, and Susy S, Moderator



- William B
- Levi C (2 year-old child
of Meagan and Scott, grandchild of Karen and Steve)
- Howard and Dottie E
- Tag M (Tom S's nephew)
- Alice M (Aunt of the F's)



Birthdays and Anniversaries

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Addison C | 3 |
| Betty R..... | 8 |
| Pelham L..... | 10 |
| Zachary H..... | 21 |
| David B | 24 |
| <i>Dottie and Howard E</i> | 28 |
| Fern E..... | 29 |
| Marianna B..... | 30 |



Just shortly past mid-year 2020, our nephew, Tag Mof Knoxville, Tennessee, was diagnosed with neck cancer. Apparently, neck and head cancer can be difficult to treat, but his doctor was optimistic, believing if he would do both chemotherapy (3 treatments) radiation (35 treatments), Tag could expect an 80+% success rate due to his excellent physical condition. Tag is 50 years old and has played competitive hockey since age 5.

Due to the location of the cancer, a feeding tube to his stomach was required along with a port for the chemo. The treatments were completed by late fall and follow-up progress appointments indicated everything looked good. The waiting continued for the final testing to be done in late-February. About 11 days later, in March, the results came back. Tag is *cancer free!* We could not be happier and want to thank everyone for your concern and your prayers. We are so blessed and have so much to be grateful for.

Perhaps it should be noted that Tag's mother, Terri, my sister, passed away in November 2002, at age 60, from ovarian cancer.

Again, thank you so very much,
Tom S

Spotlight on Missions



Dave made two trips to Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center, delivering a total of one hundred and five pounds of food and personal care items in March.

Band-a-buck donations totaled \$112.00.

Your Mission committee thanks you for your generosity!

The next Food Offering is Sunday, April 18. The need is greater than ever. Thank you for helping to feed our neighbors. Remember, you may band-a-buck, or more, to any item on the donation table.

In February, your Mission committee approved donations (checks) to these organizations:

Matthew 25 Ministries for Texas disaster relief (\$1,000.00)

Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center (\$500.00)

Interfaith Hospitality Network for overnight housing and meals for 4 families (\$480.00)

Princeton Closet (\$500.00)



Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food

Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 12. More details coming soon!

24th Annual Golf Outing




Saturday, September 18

Details will be provided closer to the event.





This calendar is a living document
subject to frequent changes.
Check the website
(firstpresbyterianglendale.org)
for the most accurate calendar.
Please call the church office with
calendar updates.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---------|-------------------------------------|--|--|----------|
| | | | | 1  Maundy Thursday 7:00PM- Worship | 2 Good Friday  | 3 |
| 4  Easter Sunday 10:30AM- Worship | 5 9:00AM- Session reports due | 6 | 7 | 8 6:30PM- Ensemble Rehearsal | 9 | 0 |
| 11  10:30AM- Worship | 12 9:00AM- Session reports due | 13 | 14 6:00PM- Session Meeting | 15 6:30PM- Ensemble Rehearsal | 16 | 17 |
| 18 10:30AM- Worship Food Offering | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 6:30PM- Ensemble Rehearsal | 23 | 24 |
| 25 10:30AM- Worship | 26 9:00AM- May newsletter items due | 27 | 28 | 29 6:30PM- Ensemble Rehearsal | 30 | |



First Presbyterian Church, Glendale

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Glendale, OH 45246

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glenpres@fuse.net
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

The Reverend Jeffrey Lang

In-person worship begins at 10:30AM
when Hamilton County is *red or lower*
on the Ohio COVID map

Church Office Hours

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM
Friday, closed

Shared with you in Christian love



Christ has triumphed!

Tomb, thou shalt not hold him longer;
Death is strong, but life is stronger.
Stronger than the dark, the light;
Stronger than the wrong, the right.
Faith and hope triumphant say,
Christ will rise on Easter Day.

—Phillips Brooks