

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

**February 25, 2024, at 10:00am
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

GATHERING

PRESERVICE MUSIC

“I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry”

“Be Still and Know”

“Be Thou My Vision”

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

“You Are My Strength When I Am Weak”

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS/ PRAYER REQUESTS

OPENING PRAYER

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley” (Livingston)

CALL TO WORSHIP

The pathway is just beginning.

We have encountered the wilderness.

Now we are moving rapidly toward Jerusalem.

Along the way we will witness astonishing acts of mercy and justice.

Lord, be with us on the journey.

***OPENING HYMN #39**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” (Runyan)

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

If we say that we are without sin, then we are liars and the truth is not in us. When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach God’s throne of grace with truth and confidence confessing as one body.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord of all fickle and frightened people, we always want to know what to expect. We like happy, predictable endings to adventures. But your call to us is a call to ministry in a world filled with surprises. You do not give us an "easy" way out of the tasks you place before us. Even though we would like to be heroes through our ministries, help us to remember that it is through you the hope and healing come. We are but conduits for your grace. Free us from unrealistic expectations of grandeur and glory. Forgive us when we lapse into daydreams of "sainthood"; for your call to us is to servant ministry. We will get our hands dirty. We will be exhausted. We will cry. We will know frustration and fear. And we also will know the power of your love as we minister to others in your name. Keep us strong and courageous. Give us spirits of joy and hope that will spread to all people we meet. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

(Please take a moment for silent confession.)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

The journey of discipleship is never easy; but you can be assured that you will not be on this journey alone. Know that in Jesus Christ you are forgiven and transformed.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN #582** *"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"* (Vasile)

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Please exchange these words with your neighbors: "The peace of the Lord be with you." "And also with you."

REFLECTION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Reverend Rose McCurdy

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

QUARTET

"Back to the Church in the Wildwood" (Arr. McDonald)

Wayne Bevers, Bob Entrop, Wendy Lunsford, Zoa Stuntz)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of signs and wonders, we come to your word again and again, seeking understanding and the new life it offers. By the power of your Holy Spirit, illumine our hearts and minds so that we may believe this testimony and have eternal life. In the name of Jesus Christ, our teacher and Savior, we pray.
Amen.

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURE

FIRST READING

Psalm 22:23-31

SECOND READING

Mark 9:2-9

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON "I believe what?... in Jesus Christ, God's only son our Lord"
Reverend Rose McCurdy

***HYMN #838** "Standing on the Promises" (Carter)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” (Colvin)

*DOXOLOGY #606

Genevan Psalter

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #340

“This Is My Song” (Sibelius)
(February Hymn of the Month)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“There Is Power in the Blood”

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.
Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.

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