

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Schaller, Iowa
March 26, 2023

10:00 A. M.
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Michael Sydnor

PRELUDE Janice Ploeger, Organist

CANDLELIGHTING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Elder: Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life.

People: Those who believe in Christ will never die.¹

Elder: Let us worship God!

***HYMN** “O for a Thousand Tongues” #76

INVOCATION (Please be seated) Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON) Elder

Merciful God, we confess our doubts in your power to bring new life and sustain hope. We see churches disappear, conflict increase, and relationships crumble and wonder how your Spirit can change these things. Yet you breathed new life into the people of Israel and helped them survive persecutions and you sustained the church through division, oppression, and war. Forgive us for our lack of trust and breath new life into our churches, our lives, and our relationships. Strengthen us to prophesy to the dry bones of our society so that people might live with courage and love. (Time of silent prayer) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor

***GLORIA PATRI #623**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Old Testament: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Pastor

The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” I said, “Sovereign Lord, you alone know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.’ ” So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.’ ” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army. Then he said to me: “Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.’ Therefore prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will

¹ Presbyterian Church. Book of Common Worship (p. 262).
Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.

settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.' "

**Leader: The Word of the Lord:
People: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: John 11:1-45

Elder

11 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 2 (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) 3 So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." 4 When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." 5 Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, 7 and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." 8 "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone you, and yet you are going back?" 9 Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. 10 It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light." 11 After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." 12 His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." 13 Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. 14 So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, 15 and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." 16 Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." 17 On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. 18 Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, 19 and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. 20 When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

NEW JOYS & CONCERNS:

Richard Cork
Randy Leask
Hazel Snyder

CONTINUING JOYS AND CONCERNS:

Kathleen Sydnor (Cancer)
Alice Spooner (Breast Cancer)
Lois Kestel
Jon Snyder
Ron McClintic
Florene Cork
Donnie Skou (Cancer)
Jim Robinson
Mark Diersen
Malia Meyer
Doug O'Bannon
Shari O'Bannon
Dexter Meseck
Brenda Segebart
School

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCHES

March 26

First - Odebolt

April 2

Associated Church of Hawarden, Hawarden – Rev. Judith Wascher

ADDRESS: Randy Leask

Mercy One Siouxland Medical Center
Room #8216
801 5th St
Sioux City, IA 51101

21 “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” 23 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” 24 Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” 25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” 27 “Yes, Lord,” she replied, “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” 28 After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. “The Teacher is here,” she said, “and is asking for you.” 29 When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. 30 Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there. 32 When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” 33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. 34 “Where have you laid him?” he asked. “Come and see, Lord,” they replied. 35 Jesus wept. 36 Then the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” 37 But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?” 38 Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. 39 “Take away the stone,” he said. “But, Lord,” said Martha, the sister of the dead man, “by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days.” 40 Then Jesus said, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” 41 So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 42 I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me.” 43 When he had said this, Jesus

called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go." 45 Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDRENS TIME

HYMN "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" #259

SERMON "Prophecy to the Bones!"

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Response #421 (Verse 1)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #625

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN** "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" #249

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION SONG** "Freely, Freely" (V. 1) #447

***EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES**

***POSTLUDE**

(*Those who are able please stand.)

2023 PER CAPITA

2023 Per Capita amount is \$48.35. It is a very important way we can contribute to the operation and mission of the Presbyterian Church. Session encourages all members to contribute. Please mark your check "Per Capita".

EASTER LILIES:

Please help adorn our Sanctuary on Easter morning by sharing real or artificial Easter Lilies with us. Thank you.

Please let Rev. Michael or Denise King know if you would like to share an Easter Lilly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2023

| | | | |
|----|--------|----------|--|
| 26 | Sunday | 9:00 am | Confirmation Class |
| | | 9:00 am | Sunday School Classes |
| | | 10:00 am | In-Person Worship in Sanctuary (Masks are optional) |

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|----|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| 29 | Wednesday | 3:30-5:30 pm | Purple Gang |
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| 30 | Thursday | 7:00 pm | Online Bible Devotional |
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April 2023

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|----|--------|----------|--|
| 02 | Sunday | 9:00 am | Confirmation Class |
| | | 9:00 am | Sunday School Classes |
| | | 10:00 am | In-Person Worship in Sanctuary (Masks are optional) |



PURPLE GANG

Purple Gang meets on Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. for grades K-5th.

We are thrilled to give your children an opportunity to talk, eat, and play with their friends outside of a school setting. We will maintain our policy of cancelling a Purple Gang event if the school closes due to weather or illness.

SERVERS FOR PURPLE GANG

March 29th

Sue Diersen

April 5th

Dolores Tuel

April 12th

Bob & Marilyn Hantsbarger

April 19th

Tracey Jepsen & Rosemary Blum

April 26th

End of Year Purple Gang Program & Meal



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

Received during the season of Lent (February 22 – April 9), each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. The One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes can be found at the back of the Sanctuary through the season of Lent.

PLEASE mark your checks Presbyterian Church and in the memo line mark OGHS. PLEASE give generously.



Parents please encourage your children to fill up their One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks.

BIRTHDAY WISHES:

Kirk Langner (March 31st)

Philip Diersen (April 6th)

Daniel Langner (April 20th)

Anna Jacobson (April 21st)

Susan Diersen (April 22nd)

Gerrit VanDenTop (April 27th)

ANNIVERSARY WISHES:

Aaron & Sarah Jacobson (April 7th)

Phil & Sue Diersen (April 18th)

