



FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
DALTON, GEORGIA EST. 1847



Fourth Sunday in Lent  
Sunday, March 31, 2019

## Visiting?

- **Welcome** to First Presbyterian Church! Whether you're visiting from out of town or new to the area, we are glad you are here.
- If you have any **questions** about our church, please ask our greeters and ushers (the folks who handed you a bulletin), or visit our website [www.firstpresdalton.org](http://www.firstpresdalton.org).
- If you would like to know more about our church, fill out a **Let's Get Acquainted** card and place it in the offering plate during worship.
- **Childcare** is available for children (infant-3) in the nursery (Room 109) from 9:15-11:45 a.m.. Preschool-aged children (3-7) meet in the Joy Makers class during the Sunday School hour (Room 201). During worship we welcome children from this age group to come forward for the Children's Message and then return to their classroom for Worship and Play. All children are welcome to stay throughout worship. In order for our staff and volunteers to care for your children, please fill out a children's ministry sticker for you and your child. Stickers are in the narthex, the Commons, or the nursery.

## How to Connect

- Come to worship—we're here every week!
- Fill out a Let's Get Acquainted card and place it in the offering plate to receive information about the church.
- Ask to join our newsletter list (signup available through the website) to keep up with church events.
- Contact the office to join a Dinner Group and meet new friends outside the church.
- Have a meal on us immediately following worship on the second Sunday of the month.
- Visit concerts, lectures, and other events hosted by the church.
- Ask about upcoming mission or fellowship opportunities.
- Come to church early and visit Sunday School (9:15 a.m. every Sunday).
- Join the church! (Indicate you would like to join on a Let's Get Acquainted Card or speak with the Pastor following worship.)
- Find the most current contact information on our members in the church directory. It can be found on our website ([www.firstpresdalton.org](http://www.firstpresdalton.org)) under the fellowship tab. The password is **firstpres1847**.



Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. There are two options available: First Pres Guest 2.4 and First Pres Guest 5. Although these will connect to the same network, 2.4 has more strength while 5 has more range. The location of the device will influence which one will automatically connect. The password for the guest network is **johncalvin**

## Announcements

- Please welcome today's guest minister, **Cassie Waits**. Cassie received an M.Div. from Columbia Theological Seminary in 2017 and a Th.M. from Emory University in 2018. She is currently seeking a call to ministry. Cassie and her husband Brian live in Kennesaw with their two children: Madison (age 6) and James (age 4).
- The Liturgical Arts Team invites you to share your quilts with us new or old for the 2019 Spring Art Collection entitled **"Quilted Together" [sewn in love + knitted in community]**. Please submit to the church office by Wednesday, April 10. First preference given to quilts with hanging pockets on the back. Please contact Katie Scott if you have any questions.
- As a Reformed church, Presbyterians approach Lent as a time to become more committed to practicing their faith rather than "giving up" something. To help us do that as a community of followers, Richard J. Foster's, *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*, will serve as our guide for growing in the Spirit during this **Lenten and Eastertide season**. Meeting in Hollis Hall, come join the journey each Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

# SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019

## PRELUDE

Improvisation on 'Repton'

T. Whisenant  
(b. 1997)

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## THE GREETING

*At the sound of the bells, please prepare your heart and mind for worship.*

## INTROIT

Paschal Lamb Who Suffered for Us

C. Schalk  
(b. 1929)

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Scott DeLay

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

The LORD forgives our iniquity and redeems our lives.

**Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

The LORD crowns us with compassion and renews our strength.

**Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

From the east to the west, let all heaven and earth join to proclaim:

**Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**O God, you are infinite, eternal and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth. Your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ our Savior. May your presence move among us today in the power of the Holy Spirit. Open our hearts and minds that we might receive you. Amen.**

## \*HYMN 37

Let All Things Now Living

*Ash Grove*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)*

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and restore in us the joy of your salvation. Amen.

## Cover Art:

Le Retour du fils prodigue, Martin Drolling (Wikimedia Commons)

## Introit:

*Paschal Lamb who suffered for us, sheepgate guarding all your sheep, let us hear your voice which summons each of us, God's will to keep. Dead to sin through your great mercy, by your wounds we are made whole; You have gathered us from straying, O great Shepherd of our souls. O great Shepherd, O great Shepherd, O great Shepherd of our souls.*

The Call to Worship is adapted from Psalm 103.

\*Where you see this notation, please rise in body or in spirit.

## KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

D. Reindorf  
(b. 1938)

Lo - rd, have mer - cy. Chri - st, have mer - cy. Lo - rd, have  
mer - cy. Lo - rd, have mer - cy.

The musical notation is in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first line of music covers the first two phrases, and the second line covers the final two phrases. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it in the final phrase.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

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

## \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

*St. Flavian*

**Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,  
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.**

## THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### LITANY OF PARTING

Congregation: **God be with you there.**

Children: God be with you here.

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Jesus Loves Me!

William B. Bradbury

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jonah 3:1-5, 10, 4:1-3

NRSV

<sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.”

<sup>3</sup> So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. <sup>4</sup>

Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup> And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

*(At this point in the service, we invite pre-school-aged children to follow their teachers to the second floor elementary classroom in the Martin House for “Worship and Play.”)*

<sup>4</sup> But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup> And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

Set me as a seal

R. Clausen  
(b. 1953)

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

NRSV

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup> When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup> He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup> But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup> I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” <sup>20</sup> So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup> But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup> for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup> He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and

### Anthem:

*Set me as a seal upon Your  
Heart as a seal upon Your  
Arm for love is strong as  
death.  
Many waters cannot quench  
love neither can the floods  
drown it.*

### Anthem Note:

Today’s anthem text is taken from Solomon 8:6

### **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.

### **Affirmation of Faith:**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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sound.'<sup>28</sup> Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.<sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.'<sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup> Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.'<sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

"Practicing Joy"

Cassie Waits

## **\*HYMN 435**

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

*In Babilone*

## **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

"Apostles' Creed"

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **THE OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY**

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

J. Brahms  
(1833-1897)

## **\*DOXOLOGY**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Old 100th*

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

**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## **\*HYMN 475**

Come, Thou Fount of every Blessing

*Nettleton*

## **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

# \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*Traditional*

**God be with you till we meet again;  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.**

*There will be no postlude during the season of Lent.  
Please leave the church in a spirit of peace.*

## Volunteer Schedule

### Worship

Date	Lay Readers	Ushers	Open/Close	Flowers	Sound Board	Deposit
3/31	Scott DeLay	The Youth	Larry & Sharon Cooper	Dave Robinson	Jeff Granillo	Julie Tharpe
4/7	Laura Goins	Bob & Mary Hubbs	Walter & Jeane Jones	Becky Jolly	Jeff Granillo	Bob Hubbs

### Children

Date	Children's Church	Nursery (Asst.)	Joy Makers
3/31	Rob & Michelle Lively	Leanna Granillo	Bonus
4/7	Susan Bisson & Lilly Douglas	Alice Ensley	Story

### Monthly

Communion (April 7)		Congregational Care		Fourth Sunday Fellowship Refreshments
Prep	Wesley Sanders	April	Peggy Rollins	Peggy Rollins
Servers	Rev. Will Scott, Coy Temples, Sally Burran, & Roy Cooper	May	Kathryn Sellers	TBD

## Upcoming Events

### April 1-5

Rev. Will Scott out of the office

### Tuesday, April 2

Grateful Heart AA Mtg  
8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 3

Choir Rehearsal  
6:30-8:00 p.m.

### Thursday, April 4

Presbyterians at the Pub  
5:00 p.m.

### Sunday, April 7

Sunday School  
9:15 a.m.

Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.

Worship  
10:30 a.m.

### Monday, April 8

Morning Prayers  
9:30 a.m.

Bible Study  
10:00 a.m.

### Tuesday, April 9

Grateful Heart AA Mtg  
8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 10

Saturday Sacks  
11:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal

6:30-8:00 p.m.

### Thursday, April 11

Presbyterians at the Pub  
5:00 p.m.

### Sunday, April 14

Sunday School  
9:15 a.m.

Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.

Worship  
10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch & Talent Show

11:30 a.m.

## PRAYERS

For the family of Sally Wester, as they mourn their loss;  
For Chris Townley, former moderator of the Presbytery, as he battles brain cancer;  
For Alice Ensley, as she recovers from back surgery;  
For Lynda Eidson, wife of Rodger, recovering from a stroke;  
For Rev. John Hinkle Jr., recovering from successful prostate surgery;  
For expectant mother, Katie Scott;  
For Charlie Carmichael, while he is being treated for lymphoma;  
For Kelly Allgood, as she undergoes treatment;  
For Greg George, as he undergoes treatment for kidney disease;  
For Carl Rollins, brother of Roger Rollins, as he stays at Dalton Place;  
For Rev. Susan Reggin, as she undergoes treatment for cancer;  
For First Presbyterian Church of Cohutta;  
For Sanford Dover;  
For Martha Patton, sister of Patricia Rivers, as she recovers from a stroke in Atlanta;  
For Dick Lowrey, whose Multiple Systems Atrophy is an atypical form of Parkinson's Disease;  
For Meccia Little, cousin of Jim and Susan Bisson, in her battle with brain cancer;  
For Johnnie Bakkum at Summit Place, Beaufort, South Carolina;  
For Natalie Raygor during her Master of Divinity program;  
For Rev. Joel Alvis, in his work as Cherokee Presbytery Stated Clerk;  
For caregivers;  
For aging parents.



### Contact FPC

Phone: 706-278-8161

Rev. Will Scott, Pastor: [wscott@firstpresdalton.org](mailto:wscott@firstpresdalton.org)

Trent Whisenant, Director of Music: [twhisenant@firstpresdalton.org](mailto:twhisenant@firstpresdalton.org)

Erin Witt, Office Manager: [office@firstpresdalton.org](mailto:office@firstpresdalton.org)

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