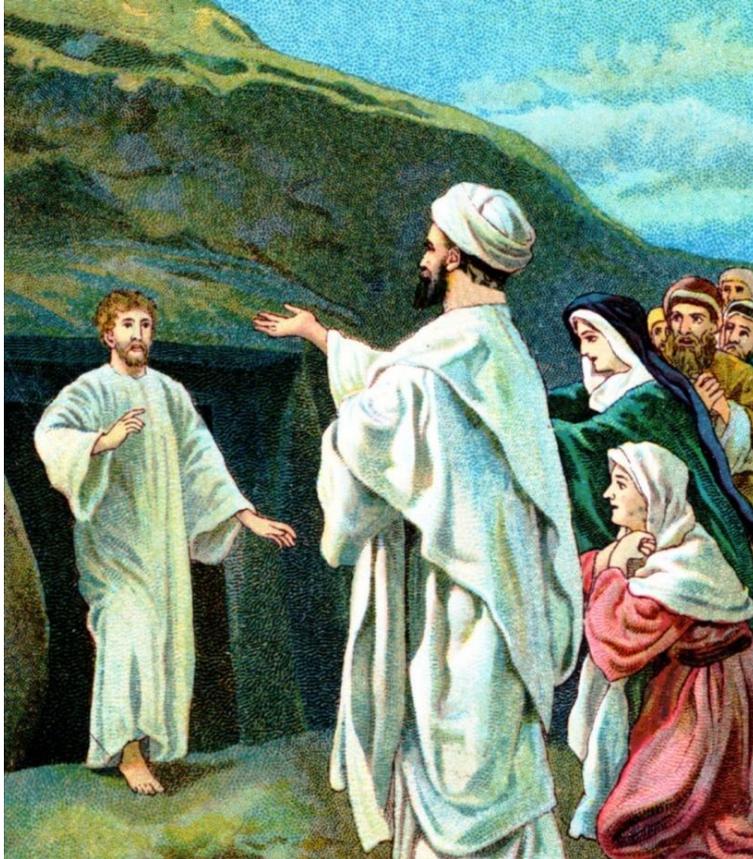


April 6, 2014



First Presbyterian Church

10 Charleston Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938

Church Office Hours: 8:30-4:30 Monday – Friday

Phone (217) 234-6722 * Fax (217) 234-4334

Email: fpchurch@consolidated.net * Website: www.fpcmattoon.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING CHIMES

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lazarus, come out!

People: We still get chills to hear those words.

Leader: Jesus brought a man back from death.

People: It was a sign of what Jesus can do and who Jesus is.

All: He is the Lord of life and death.

*HYMN No. 286 *"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: When we don't trust the Lord in the face of death,

People: we sin and need his forgiveness.

Leader: Therefore, let us turn to our prayer of confession now.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Forgive us, O Christ, when we give in to fear when death strikes. We lose loved ones. We face our own mortality. We hear the news of sudden, unexpected death. Have mercy upon us, and remind us that you faced death for us. More, you have conquered death and destroyed its power over us. We will die, but we will live eternally with you. That is the promise. Help us to believe and live upon it. We pray this through your Holy Spirit, Amen.

PERSONAL SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

CHILDREN'S CHAT

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

In life and death, O Lord, we live in you. Praise be to you. In recognition and celebration of our living in you, receive these our gifts. May they work to proclaim you forever more. We pray this, O Christ, in your holy name, Amen.

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

PASTORAL PRAYER

SILENT PERSONAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN OF THE MONTH No. 250**

"In the Bulb There Is a Flower"

RESPONSIVE READING

Gloria Patri
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Apostles' Creed
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.

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.

FIRST READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 11:1–27

MUSIC MINISTRY

“Come Walk With Me”

Westminster Choir

SECOND READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 11:28–45

SERMON

“THE LORD OF LIFE AND DEATH”

Rev. John Helgeson

*HYMN No. 834

“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*DEPARTING HYMN No. 313 verse 3 *“Lord, Make Us More Holy”*

Lord, make us more patient; Lord, make us more patient;

Lord, make us more patient, until we meet again:

patient, patient, patient, until we meet again.

*POSTLUDE

Ezekiel 37:1-14

(Responsive reading)

The hand of the LORD was upon 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, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

Then he said to me, "Prophesy 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, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, 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 whole house 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: O 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 settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.'** "

John 11:1-27

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. 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. So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." 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." Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days. Then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." "But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews tried to stone you, and yet you are going back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? A man who walks by day will not stumble, for he sees by this world's light. It is when he walks by night that he stumbles, for he has no light." 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." His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Then Thomas (called Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."

John 11:28-45

And 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." When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 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. 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." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" he asked. "Come and see, Lord," they replied. Jesus wept. Then the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "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." Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. 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." When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 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." Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, put their faith in him.

“Come Walk With Me”

[Words & Music: Pepper Choplin]

Come walk with me on this holy road
where Jesus came into Jerusalem.

Hear the shouts of joy the people raise,
see the crowd as they welcome Him in praise.

Come walk with me to the upper room,
see the lamp’s soft and flick’ring light.

See Him share the cup and break the bread,
hear the pain in the last farewells He said.

Walk with me up to Gethsemane
and hear Him pray, “Thy will be done.”

See the mob, they come with torch and sword
in dark of night to seize the Lord.

Come and see where Jesus stood,
hear the lies and scorn that He endured.

Here, the trial where Jesus was condemned.

This is the place where the suff’ring would begin.

We’ll follow Jesus’ footsteps up the hill,
where He would fall beneath the cross.

But for Jesus, there would be no rest;
they forced Him on to meet His death.

Come walk with me to this cursed place,
see the rough and splintered cross

where the Son of God was crucified.

Walk with me, see the place where Jesus died.

Walk with me this holy road.

Announcements

If you choose, you may face the cross during the singing of the Gloria Patri in recognition of what Jesus has done for us on the cross.

The Lenten study He Set His Face to Jerusalem. Meets on Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m. You may eat with the Kids Club beforehand or not as you choose.

The Thursday Morning Bible study group meets from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the parlor. They are studying Exodus and Deuteronomy.

The Young Adult Sunday School meets on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the lounge down by the gym. They are studying The Story.

The Adult Sunday School meets on Sundays at 8:45 a.m. in the parlor. Led by Rev. Helgeson, they are studying 1 Corinthians.

Middle School and High School Sunday School will meet every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. after church in the 6,7,8 room. Hope to see you there!

The Middle School Youth Group will have its first meeting on April 13th from 3-5pm. The High School Youth Group will also be meeting on April 13th from 5:30-7:30. We will be making our own pizzas with a variety of select toppings to choose from as well as discussing what you would like to see from your Youth Group for the future. Bringing a friend is highly encouraged. It will be a super fantastic time.

Beginning on today and running through April 27th, the **Mission Committee** will be collecting items for HOPE of East Central Illinois. Please place your donations in the collection box in the Narthex.

Items currently needed by HOPE are: Wal-Mart gift cards, phone cards, gas cards, women's and children's underwear, socks, and pajamas.

With your help we can **fill the cross for Easter Sunday**. Please consider bringing an Easter lily to church on Thursday or Friday before Easter – OR – making a donation and a lily will be purchased for you. You may indicate how you would like this Easter lily recognized in the Easter Sunday bulletin by completing an Easter lily form, which are available in the narthex.

Please have these recognition forms completed by Monday, April 14th

We are updating our Church records. Please fill out and return to the Church office. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Anniversary: _____

Names and Birthdates of family members:

_____ Birthday: _____

_____ Birthday: _____

_____ Birthday: _____

_____ Birthday: _____

Please accept our apologies for any Birthdays or Anniversary that were not acknowledged.

Join us for Coffee and Doughnuts in the Fellowship Hall before or after the Worship Service.

Food pantry items are being gathered. Please keep the food coming and help those in need. Food can be left in the basket in Fellowship Hall. **April-Hamburger Helper**

It is once again time for you to join the Circle of Friends which is sponsored by the Heartland **Christian Village Auxiliary**. By becoming a member you help the residents of Heartland Christian Village by providing some much needed amenities that they would not otherwise receive. In the past year the funds have been used to purchase new tablecloths, a cart to be used when moving a resident into the home, a speaker for the chaplain to use, flowers and birdseed for the grounds outside of the residents windows, Christmas parties for the residents, nursing supplies, magazines, and many other things. Several of our members have been in the Heartland home at one time or another and I'm sure they would tell you how much the residents appreciate these many gifts. If you are interested in giving a donation to help the auxiliary continue to bless the lives of these residents please see Alice Jeisy or Carol Ann Parker.

The Synopsis of Session Meeting – March 25, 2014

Pastor opened the meeting with prayer and shared his activities during the past month. Concerns and joys were discussed. At the invitation of building and grounds committee, Mark Dyer from Ameren introduced a proposal** for upgrading fluorescent light bulbs in most of the fixtures except for sanctuary and gym in order to bring lights to current codes. Ameren will assist with costs and will also recycle the old bulbs for free.

Minutes** were approved as presented.

Treasurer John Swick gave his monthly report.** Expenses are being held in check and money will be available to pay for the Ameren proposal.

Christian Education – Mike Fleming reported a successful joint meeting with the mission study group and personnel. Toby is already busy making contacts with former and potential members. Session approved an extra offering envelope to be placed in pew rack.

Membership and Evangelism Committee - no report.

Stewardship and Finance Committee - no report.

Building and Grounds Committee - Rick discussed the Ameren proposal and the results which would be realized. Session approved the \$6800 proposal with an amendment to include emergency lights. Professional cleaning is still being done on the tile in fellowship hall and all hallways. Some difficulties have surfaced, but the cleaning crew came back to address those concerns. Travis Nolte will continue to mow the church yard. A new brand of batteries will be used in the pastor's lapel microphone. Several members were praised for their services - Gayla for the power point presentations, Bob Handshy for working with and upgrading our wi-fi service, Leon for his efforts to paint and carpet Toby's office. Session approved a cell phone for Toby.

Worship Committee - Bob Plummer reminded us of the "Fill the Cross with Lilies" project, Pastor announced he will be conducting an Easter sunrise service at 6 a.m. The committee recommends and session approved that Kevin Chunko be paid \$100 for planning each contemporary service for the rest of 2014.

Personnel Committee Bob Handshy reminded us that every session member is required to complete an on-line program dealing with child abuse issues. Toby's letter said that he will be a Camp Carew counselor for the week of June 15.

Fellowship Committee is investigating new activities.

Mission Committee - Our church volunteers delivered the 70 items collected for the shopping cart at Heartland Village. The next project will be collecting items for HOPE. Next month, the congregation will be reminded of the One Great Hour of Sharing.

Publicity Committee - Connie was thanked for submitting a very informative newspaper article about Toby.

Mission study committee met with C.E.

PNC Committee will soon complete a mission form which will be approved in April by the Session at a special called meeting.

New business: Member concerns included the plumbing problems at Anne McCoy's house and car repairs needed for Kevin Chunko.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. and all elders joined in the Lord's Prayer.

**Complete copies of all of these reports and/or documents can be read in the white session minute book found on the table in fellowship hall.

CHURCH CALENDAR

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, April 6th

- 8:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 9:45 a.m. Children's Church
- 10:30 a.m. Young Adults' Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. MS/HS Sunday School
- 2:00 p.m. SMS

Tuesday, April 8th

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 4:30 p.m. Personnel Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. B & G
- 7:00 p.m. Priscilla Circle
- 7:00 p.m. Barbershoppers

Wednesday, April 9th

- 5:30 p.m. Kids Club
- 6:15 p.m. Lenten Study

Thursday, April 10th

- 9:00 a.m. Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. Mystery Book Club

Sunday, April 13th

Palm Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:45 a.m.
Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Young Adults' Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. MS/HS Sunday School
- 1:00 p.m. Pre-Pack Food Pantry

CHURCH STAFF

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Tammy Latch, Sexton

Nancy C. Page, CE Director

Sharon Barta, CE Asst. Dir.

Toby Montgomery, Youth Dir.

Dick Barta, Choir Director

Kevin Chunko, Organist