

Welcome to this service of worship and celebration of Communion on this third Sunday of Lent. As Jesus Christ welcomes each one of us, we hope you sense the friendly welcome of this congregation of God's people. [*]If you are comfortable doing so, it is appropriate to stand.

Bold type signifies congregational response.

WE GATHER IN JESUS' NAME

PRELUDE *Variations on "Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"*
Southern Harmony arr. Jones

WELCOME

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

The table is set. The banquet is prepared.
Our souls hunger and thirst for God!
God, our host, is ready to welcome us here.
Then let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving!

* HYMN # 464 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee!*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we are so thirsty. Yet when offered your water of life, we turn to our own sugary substitute. Break our proud self-sufficiency, and soften our stubborn hearts, that we may rest in your mercy and claim your calling as our own. Use our imperfect lives to manifest your glory to all around us, in Jesus' name, Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! This statement is completely reliable and should be universally accepted: Jesus Christ came into the world to rescue sinners.

He personally bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might be dead to sin and be alive to all that is good.

Friends: Affirm the good news of the Gospel
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*PRAYER RESPONSE Sing the Faith #2013 *Bless the Lord*

(The choir will sing one time; congregation join in second time.)

**Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul who leads me into life.**

ANTHEM *Friends in Faith* Southern Harmony
(Text: Dufner)

Friends in faith who follow Jesus, hear the message of the cross: worldly wisdom now is folly; worldly riches count as loss. Friends who strive to follow Jesus, walk the way that Jesus trod: spirit filled, in human weakness, cast your cares upon our God. Friends who dare to follow Jesus, trust and pray through darkest night: Christ has conquered death and evil; Christ is joy and life and light. Firm in faith, now follow Jesus; live the gospel you have heard: be good news to all who know you, loving doers of the Word.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Luke 6:27-38 Pew Bible NT p.64-65

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE "Loving the Unlovely" Rev. Russ Feroe
WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN # 408 (vs. 1,2,4,5)
Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.
We believe in God who has created and is creating;
who has come in Jesus, to reconcile and make new.
We trust in God who calls us to be the church;
to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil;
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In hope, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is found on the top of page 16 of the Hymnal, traditional version using "debts" and "debtors."

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Bread of the World* France

Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed, by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead; look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed; and be Thy feast to us the token that by Thy grace our souls are fed.

*RESPONSE *We Give Thee But Thine Own*
for music see hymn 428

**We give Thee but Thine own, what 'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord,
from Thee.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Lord, you have set the table and have given us every good thing.
In gratitude for your forgiveness and mercy, receive our thanks and offerings.
Accept our hearts into your keeping, that our lives may bear good fruit, to your glory, Amen.**

WE CELEBRATE AT THE TABLE

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

All who put their trust in Christ are invited to receive the Sacrament, no one is excluded. As we pass the bread to one another say "(name) This is the body of Christ for you." It is our custom to eat the Bread when it is received. As we pass the cup to one another say "(name) This is the blood of Christ for you." We hold the cup and drink together when all have been served (we use non-alcoholic grape juice).

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, You have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual thank-offering to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Those of you who wish to make an announcement please move to a front pew at this time.

*HYMN #223 (vs. 1-4) *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Go With Us, Lord*
for music see hymn 535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in Your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to You.**

POSTLUDE *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee* Walther

**Minute for Mission: Interval House
Sunday, March 14**

Interval House is dedicated to providing services to prevent and break the cycle of family and intimate partner abuse. We strive to reach all persons at risk and bring about social change.

Interval House is a non-profit organization that provides free and confidential support services to victims of domestic violence regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or gender.

We help victims end the violence in their lives through advocacy, support groups, shelter and other services. Offices are located in Hartford, Manchester and Simsbury. Spanish-speaking staff is available. Services are accessible to persons with disabilities.

To learn more or if you need help please visit <http://www.intervalhousect.org> or call the Hartford Hotline 860-527-0550

THIRD
Sunday
in Lent



First Presbyterian Church

136 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

Rev. Russell Feroe, Interim Pastor

Worship 10:30 am
Sunday, March 7, 2010

SERVICE

Liturgist: Lianne Doherty.

Greeters: Corinna Tamburini and Sunday School.

Ushers: Pauline Robertson, Keith Rhoden, Jr., Clifford Riley, June O'Neil.

Communion Stewards:

Preparation: Anita & Sherry Marchant

Restoration: Rebecca Adjei, Sue Labins

Serving: Julius Aboagye, Ed Carty, Ali Doherty, Maude Morrison, Jean Nesbitt, Gladys Wiafe.



Members, friends, and visitors are invited to join us as our guests for refreshments and fellowship in Hodge Hall immediately following worship.

Jean Nesbitt and Pam Nesbitt are hosting today.

PASTOR'S HOURS

Monday: In the church office all day; please call, leave a message, and he will return your call.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: in the church office from 8:30-12:00; call or stop in.

Friday: Working at home; call, leave a message, and he will return your call.

Saturday: Day off.

Church office phone: 860-246-2224;

Pastor Feroe's home phone: 860-904-6467

Nursery Care is provided during the service in the Buchanan Room for children up to age 4. An usher will direct you to the location. **Shannon Hopkins** is the nursery director. **Augusta Jara** is the assistant. For safety's sake, please have a responsible adult drop off and pick up your child.



††††

SESSION

Class of 2010 Holly Billings (Clerk of Session), Alice Evans, Samuel Hamilton, Juliana Mantey

Class of 2011 Susan Corrigan, Robin Herrera, Mildred McNeill, Gladys Wiafe

Class of 2012 Julius Aboagye, Jane Murray Yaa Okoampa-Sykes, (open)

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2010 Gretchen Fuchs, Carolyn Perkins, Keith Rhoden (Deacon Moderator)

Class of 2011 Michael Asare, Lloyd Brooks, Susan Labins

Class of 2012 Michael Adzenyah, Cynthia McPherson, Jean Nesbitt

Assisted listening devices and large print

bibles and hymnals are available near the entry to the sanctuary. The wireless listening system, similar to those used at the Bushnell and Hartford Stage, allows users to sit anywhere in the sanctuary.

Offering Envelopes are available in the pews for the convenience of those who may have forgotten their assigned envelope or for those who wish to use an envelope for a cash gift. If you wish your contribution to be used for a specific cause, please indicate that on the envelope.

These Days Daily Devotions for Living by Faith are available at back of church.

Intercessions

In our First Presbyterian Church cycle of prayers, we pray this week for:

James & Betty Gadson, Solana

Shirley Garren

Helen George

Joan Grant, Tamila Bent

Bob & Jean Hager

Catherine Highsmith

Shirley Garren

Joan Grant

Kristin Moir Harvey – who continues treatment for leukemia.

Jerry Butler – who needs a kidney. He is the husband of Rachel Butler.

Jean Engquist and family. Jean has Alzheimer's and is in hospice. She's Bill Cooke's sister.

George Christinat– living with ALS. He is Keith Rhoden, Jr.'s neighbor.

The future of First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church,

Presbytery Council, Moderator Elder Bill Schimpf.

The Abiding Memorials Book is open to the abiding gift given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Marion (Donaldson) Hunter**, born November 6, 1835, died February 24, 1921, perpetuated Marion Donaldson Parlors dedicated February 15, 1931, given by daughter Janet Ramsay (Hunter) Scotland and her husband Thomas Henderson Scotland.

Church Announcements

For other opportunities and announcements
Be sure to check the bulletin board(s) in Hodge Hall.

Key Question

Final question to the congregation will be asked on March 14 and 21. Conversations take place in Johnstone Hall at noon. A light lunch will be provided. Please sign up in Hodge Hall so we know how much food we need. Pick the Sunday that fits your schedule best—but be sure to come to one of them!

Bible Study

Sundays March 14, 21, 28 from 11:45 am to 1:00 pm. Leader is Louise Feroe. Reading the Gospel of Mark chapters 11-16. Please see posting on bulletin board in Hodge Hall for more information. Study questions are on information table in Hodge Hall.

Community Meal

Our next Community Meal is Tuesday, March 23 at Christ Church Cathedral. The menu is macaroni and cheese, green beans, applesauce, bread and butter, dessert and regular canned soda. A sign-up sheet is in Hodge Hall. Please contact the office if you have questions.



*This is a welcoming Church, embracing sisters and brothers without regard to age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, family status, economic situation or theological viewpoint. We want you to feel a part of the family. There is a variety of materials near the entrance to acquaint you with the Church. **We encourage you to sign the guest book in the entry and to use the yellow card in the pews to register your attendance and enable us to add you to our newsletter mailing list. Please place yellow cards in the offering plates.***

“Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA).”

TODAY


3rd Sunday in Lent

Nominating Committee meeting after worship.

4:00 PM Benefit Concert for ICEJ

Immanuel Congregational Church, Woodland St,
Hartford (see posting on Hodge Hall bulletin board).


THIS WEEK

Tue. Mar. 9 7:00 PM Session meets. 
7:00 PM African Christianity program,
Hartford Seminary. See posting.

Wed. Mar. 10 7:30 PM Choir rehearsal.

NEXT SUNDAY

Daylight Saving Time

Minute for Mission: Interval House
Stewardship Meeting after worship. 

Deacons Meeting after worship.

Key Question Conversation/Lunch (see Announcements).

Bible Study 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun. Mar. 21

9:15 AM Adult Forum:

A Biblical Approach to Health Care.

Easter Lily Order Deadline.

11:45 – 1:00 PM Bible Study.



Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, March 28

9:00 AM

(Sign up in Hodge Hall)



First Presbyterian...Who Are We?

The downtown First Presbyterian Church, founded in 1851, is a richly diverse group of people from both city and suburbs, committed to ministry to and with the people of the City of Hartford.

We are building a warm and caring community that spiritually nurtures people in worship, education, fellowship and active involvement in mission.

We believe that the Church is called to reflect the kingdom of God which embraces all believers. We invite, accept and welcome into our membership and leadership people who differ by age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, family status, economic situation and theological viewpoint. This diverse group energetically and cooperatively participates in the life of this congregation, its mission and its leadership. We are committed to our Presbyterian traditions of representative government and reformed theology, while open to working collaboratively in mission and ministry with other faith traditions.

First Presbyterian Church

136 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 0610624

fpchartfordct@sbcglobal.net

www.firstpreshartford.org



Membership and Baptism— First Presbyterian Church, Hartford invites you to commit to membership as witness to your faith in Christ, and the mission of Christ as lived out in the life of this congregation. We receive members by affirmation of faith, or by reaffirmation or transfer of membership. Also, if you have an interest in baptism please see or e-mail Pastor Feroe at rferoe@sbcglobal.net or speak with one of the session members or other elder.