

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Sanctuary (sing it through twice)

(Those who are able, join hands, forming lines across the aisle to symbolize a growing commitment to unity.)

Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you. CCLI#1025014

Next week's texts: Second Sunday in Lent; Communion at both services

Texts: Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Luke 10: 38-42

Sermon: Encounters with Christ ~ Jesus and Mary and Martha

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Season of Lent

The seasons of Lent consists of the 40 days (and 6 Sundays) from Ash Wednesday to Easter Saturday. During Lent, we focus on renewing our faith and commitment to Jesus the Christ so that, when we come to the great day of Easter, we do so with renewed joy.

Lent prepares us for the Easter celebration which begins on Easter Sunday and extends for 50 days to Pentecost. It is the oldest festival of the church year. Originally there was no celebration of Good Friday. The focus was Easter Sunday for at least the first two centuries. People prepared for this by fasting on Saturday. Over time this was extended to include Friday, a period of 40 hours, to commemorate the time Jesus' body lay in the tomb. By the year 600 the period had extended to 40 days prior to Easter (not including Sundays) as a time of final preparation for catechumens, those seeking membership in the church by profession of faith. The season we now call Lent developed from this time of preparing for the Paschal or Easter season.

Although this 40 day period was originally intended for catechumens, in time many church members voluntarily undertook for their own self discipline this 40 days of penitence and fasting, reflecting on their baptismal vows and at Easter joining with the catechumens in renewing their baptismal promises.

Of all the seasons of the church year, Lent has probably been the most abused. It has sometimes been a period of excessive introspection, empty abstinence from tidbits of affluence, and the enjoyment of the gloom of self-denial. Correction does not lie in the nonobservance of Lent, but rather in the recovery of its rich tradition. The richness of Lent lies in its simplicity. In our over consuming, driven society, we need a time to pull back and take stock of our lives. Lent is at its best when it encourages us to do so and provides us with the images, the silence, and the simplicity that move us to new depth.



WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted to have you in our service this morning! Every Sunday, we are privileged to have people attending our church for the first time and we want you to feel welcome among us. **Please stop by the Welcome Center right after service. We have a special gift for you.**

PLEASE SIGN THE FELLOWSHIP BOOK found in the pews. We would like to know of your presence this morning. **PLEASE SHARE PRAYER JOYS/CONCERNS** on the Prayer card; they will be included in the Prayers of the People during the 9:15 service, and added to the Prayer Chain if submitted at the 11:30 service.

A PERSONAL SOUND SYSTEM FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED IS AVAILABLE. WORSHIP BULLETINS FOR CHILDREN are available. Contact an usher for assistance.

TAPES OF THIS SUNDAY'S SERMON are available. Contact the church office or Art Sattler.

If you are in need of **Pastoral Care** or know someone who is, please call Rev. Pat at the church (419-475-4436) or at her home (419-841-7954).

Fairgreen Presbyterian Church

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Toledo, Ohio 43613
419-475-4436

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February 25, 2007

Encounters with Christ



**Jesus Heals a
Man Born Blind**



9:15 AM

Welcome to worship with the Fairgreen family! The * symbol means, "All who are able, please stand." † indicates when latecomers may be seated.



First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE Shannon Smith
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Please sign fellowship book found in pews.
This is the day that the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

SILENT REFLECTION
Eternal God, you have called us to be members of one body. Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHORAL INTROIT "Here I Am, Lord" Geneva Choir
CALL TO WORSHIP Ken Hulsey, Liturgist

As Jesus began his ministry to the world, he encountered the Holy Spirit as he was led into the wilderness.

As we begin our journey into Lent, let us be led, even into the uncomfortable places of our lives, by the Holy Spirit.

In those forty days, and in that place, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt and temptation.

As we seek to encounter Jesus in new and exciting ways, let us be led by the Holy Spirit, even into our uncomfortable choices.

Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.

As we encounter Jesus during this season of Lent, let us be faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the Lord our God always.

*HYMN #81 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

*CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Pat
God makes no distinction between us. We are all sinners, we are all children of God, we are all precious to God, and we are all saved by God. Because God makes no distinction, let us confess our common humanity to the One who is generous to all.

11:30 AM

"Celebrate Jesus!" Worship Of Word And Sacrament

GATHERING MUSIC ~ "Here I am to Worship" Praise Band

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please sign fellowship book in pews and mark it for 11:30 service)

OPENING SET ~ Seek First; Rise Up and Praise Him; You Are My King; Seek Ye First; Come Just As You Are

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

RESPONSE ~ Lord Listen to Your Children Praying

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Rev. Laura Kelsey

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise, and ever enjoy Your consolations. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

FIRST READING Psalm 91 Rev. Laura Kelsey
p.930(OT) in the pew Bible

ANTHEM "Above All" Praise Band

SECOND READING Romans 10: 8-13 p.1760(NT) in the pew Bible

THIRD READING John 9: 1-12 p.1664(NT) in the pew Bible

SERMON "Encounters with Christ ~ Jesus and the Man Born Blind" Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (sins) During the prayer, speak out loud the name of one who needs prayer and then say, "Lord, in your mercy. All then respond, "...Hear Our Prayers."

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE GIVING AND RECEIVING OF GIFTS

AND THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

(As you come forward to receive the gifts of God place your offering in the Offering Plate)

Wednesday Lectionary Bible Study ~ This Lectionary study will take place every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30pm in the lounge. Rev. Pat will be basing her study on the scriptures (found on the back page of your bulletin each Sunday) relating to the "Encounters with Christ". Come join us as we grow closer to God together in Word and fellowship.

Lenten Soup Suppers ~ Once again as we go through the Lenten Season, we use this opportunity to get together not only for fellowship with one another but to come and worship God together with praise. Join us each Thursday in the month of March and on April 5th at 6:30pm for a soup supper and for a Worship service at 7:15pm. Everyone Welcome!

Thursday, Lectionary Bible Studies ~ Due to having our Lenten Soup Suppers during the month of March and on April 5th, we will be postponing our Thursday Lectionary Bible Study at 11am and potluck at 12:15pm until April 12th.

Men's Prayer Breakfast ~ Men, join us on Saturday, March 10 from 8-9am in the lounge for a continental breakfast, fellowship and bible study on the Book of Acts.

Youth Advisory Team Meeting ~ Saturday, March 10, 2007 at 9:30am.

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors and God of our children, we come knowing we have preferred to test you, rather than to trust you. The famine in our souls makes us long to be filled with the empty promises of the world. We listen to the soothing words of the advertisers, rather than to the uncomfortable words of discipleship.

Forgive us, God of our lives. Bring us out of that dependence on ourselves, and bring us into the presence of the One we seek to encounter, not only on the way to Jerusalem, but beyond - into life with you forever, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Pat

God has listened to our prayers and to our silence. God reaches out, with signs and wonders, with grace and forgiveness, and makes us whole.

On our lips and in our hearts, we give thanks to the One who loves us and heals us. Amen.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

"The Gloria Patri" (#579)

THE WORD OF GOD

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Rev. Pat

Children second grade and younger may leave afterward for Kids for Christ.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 91

Ken Hulsey, Liturgist
pg.930(OT) in the pew bible

ANTHEM

"Be Thou My Vision"

Geneva Choir

SECOND READING

Romans 10: 8-13

pg.1760(NT) in the pew bible

THIRD READING

John 9: 1-12

pg.1664(NT) in the pew bible

SERMON

**"Encounters with Christ ~
Jesus and the Man Born Blind"**

Rev. Pat Lawrence Shafer

OUR RESPONSE

*HYMN # 465

"Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather"

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD
OFFERING

Ken Hulsey

*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

**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

Ken Hulsey

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ~ The Apostles' Creed on page 14 in the Hymnal Book
THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (debt) pg.16 in the hymnal (traditional)

*HYMN #389

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE— "May The Lord"

**May the Lord, mighty God,
bless and keep you forever.
Grant you peace, perfect peace,
courage in every endeavor.**

**Lift up your eyes and see God's face,
full of grace forever.
May the Lord, mighty God,
bless and keep you forever.**

POSTLUDE

Shannon Smith

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26 - March 4, 2007

Monday, February 26 ~ Alpha Omega Circle 7pm in lounge; Adult Volleyball 7-9pm in Commons
Wednesday, February 28 ~ Staff meeting 11am in lounge; Preschool 2nd Organizational meeting 6:30pm in rm 106; Lectionary Bible Study 7-8:30pm in lounge
Thursday, March 1 ~ Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm; Worship service 7:15pm; New Seasons Bible Study 7:15pm in Commons; Choir
Friday, March 2 ~ Food Pantry 10-12pm; Elder Retreat 7pm at the Lial Center in Whitehouse, Ohio
Saturday, March 3 ~ Elder Retreat at the Lial Center ends 5pm
Sunday, March 4 ~ 9:15 & 11:30 Services with Communion served at both services

CHURCH SCHOOL — 10:30 - 11:20 SUNDAY

Beginners Sunday School Class (3, 4, & 5 yr. olds & 1st grade).....Rm. 104
Grades 2,3, 4, 5.....Rm. 106
Junior High (grades, 6, 7, 8).....Junior High Room (downstairs)
Senior High (grades 9-12).....Senior High Room (downstairs)
FOR ADULTS:
Bible Study.....Lounge
Faith Sharing Class.....Library Room 102
Nursery Room Available.....Rm.105
Kids for Christ—after Time With The Younger Church during 9:15am worship
(3years old through 2nd grade)..... Rm. 110

There will be **Coffee Hour and Fellowship** in the **Commons** at **10:30am**.

Information for the Newsletter should be received by the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Visit **THE CARD TABLE** in the narthex to sign or request cards to remember members of the Fairgreen family.

Are you in need of prayer? The **FAIRGREEN PRAYER CHAIN** is here for you. Call Leone Sattler at 419-474-1723 or Darlene in the church office at 419-475-4436 or indicate that you have a request for the Prayer Chain on your Prayer card.

Number who worshiped with us on February 18, 2007: 87
TODAY'S GREETERS & WELL WISHERS 9:15: John & Nancy MacPherson
TODAY'S USHERS: Bruce Smale, Capt./ Dee Smale, George & Janet Kadesch
NEXT SUNDAY'S USHERS: Kay Amendola, Capt./ Marilyn McAfee, Mike & Barb Roadruck
NEXT SUNDAY'S GREETERS: Kim Jensen
NEXT SUNDAY'S LITURGIST: Linda Hoover

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Van Can Sunday ~ Today is "Van Go" Sunday and by your monthly contributions it will help in defraying the cost of gasoline for the van. The van has been used for so many different events in the church, as well as bringing people to church on Sunday morning. Please help us by stopping by the Welcome Center and placing your donation in the "**Van Can**". Thank you!