**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

7300 Spout Hill Road, Sykesville, MD 21784 410-795-6152

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A snowy landscape with a bush

Description automatically generated

**February 18, 2024 - 10:30 am**

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We're glad you are here! Cards at the ends of each pew are for you to fill out and drop in the Offering Plate. Please let us know you are visiting and join us for refreshments and fellowship following the service. The Sanctuary has an induction loop system to assist the hearing impaired. The system will also work on the telephone setting of hearing aids.

Springfield Presbyterian Church is rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, and called to loving relationships through vibrant worship and service. Valuing all people, we are committed to developing disciples and fostering stewardship.

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD**

(**\*** those who are able are invited to stand)

**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**

(Greetings and Announcements)

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim:

**People: Christ is the Light of the world and the center of our lives.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

**People: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God’s promise.

**People: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

**People: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

**People: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

**People: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

**People: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

**All: God of all creation, we praise you now, in worship and work, as you lead us from death to life. Amen.**

**\*HYMN***Seek Ye First* GTG #175

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,

And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;

Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word

That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, alleluia.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Generous God, you, both human and divine in Jesus Christ, fought temptation and in your example, we learn how to fight off temptation in our lives as well. Yet there are days where we are strong and days when we are weak; there are times where we push away the temptations of this world and there are days where we feel we cannot help but to give in. Embed us with your Spirit, a Spirit of strength, wisdom, and guidance that shows us where temptation lies and how to leave it behind. Forgive us, O God, through your grace, for those times we have fallen into temptation and those times we have tempted others. Renew us, restore us, and revive us into the peace-keeping, justice-seeking, and love-bearing people you call us to be. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE***Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart*  Tune #427 (v. 2)

Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

Jesus knows the inmost heart: nothing can be hidden.

Jesus knows our deepest fears, know the pain of hidden tears.

By his words of love and peace every heart can find release.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** *[From Romans 5:5]*

Leader: God’s love has been poured into your hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Calm to the Waves* Tune #184

Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind. Jesus whispers, “Peace, be still.”

Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In stillness, hear His voice.

**\* THE PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

(You may greet those around you.)

**\* RESPONSE** *Here I Am, Lord*

Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Gracious God, guide our way in the wilderness by your Word through these forty days, and minister to us with and through your Holy Spirit so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16*

1 You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty, 2 will say to the Lord, ‘My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.’ 9 Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling-place, 10 no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. 12 On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.   
13 You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. 14 Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name. 15 When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. 16 With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**  *Luke 4:1-13*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, 2where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. 3The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’ 4Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.” ’ 5Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. 6And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. 7If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ 8Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.” ’ 9Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you”, 11and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.” ’ 12Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.” ’ 13When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *A Reflection from Elder Mark Kearney*

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\*HYMN** *Forty Days and Forty Nights* GTG #167

Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;   
Forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.

Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,  
Fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?

Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail,  
Victor in the wilderness, grant that we not faint nor fail!

So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;  
Round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.

Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by your side,   
That with you we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY *Be Still* arr. Jennifer Lewis

**\*** SONG OF THANKS *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Tune #645

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled: to God all praise and glory!

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Hope of the World* GTG #734

Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion:  
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;  
save us, thy people, from consuming passion,  
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.

Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,  
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life:  
still let thy Spirit unto us be given  
to heal earth's wounds and end our bitter strife.

Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,  
showing to wandering souls the path of light:  
walk thou beside us lest the tempting byways  
lure us away from thee to endless night.

Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us  
from death and deep despair, from sin and guilt:  
we render back the love thy mercy gave us;  
take thou our lives and use them as thou wilt.

Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death victorious,  
who by this sign didst conquer grief and pain:  
we would be faithful to thy gospel glorious;  
thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: The temptation is great.

**People: Yet you call us to something better.**

Leader: The temptation is great.

**People: To a life of abundant love and grace.**

Leader: The temptation is great.

**People: Yet we will choose to live a life according to your will. Amen.**

**\* UNISON AMEN POSTLUDE**

**Sunday February 25, 2024 Lectionary**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

**Assisting in Worship: We appreciate those who serve:**

Today 2/18 Next Week 2/25

Sunday Opener: Bob Rogers Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters: Steve & Donna Mazer Tim & Beth Oates

Lay Leader: Alex McClung Elizabeth Meirowitz

Fellowship Host: Christy Yeager Barbara Nickell

**Happy Birthday!** February 20 – Niklaus Schermer

**Happy Anniversary!** February 20 – Mark and Diane Chaplik

**Announcements**

**Communion/Elders:** On Sunday, **February 18 and 25**, immediately following the worship service, we will be doing a training session on the communion process for Elders who serve communion. Please plan to attend one of these training sessions.

**Chat & Chew:** Are you craving a delicious meal and great conversation? Come join us at Rincon Italian Grill on Sunday,

**February 25** at 1:00 pm. We are looking forward to a fun time of fellowship. If interested, please see Sue Holmes for the sign-up sheet.

\* Great Menu \* Fun Time \* Support Local Business \* Separate Checks Available \* Rincon Italian Grill, 577 Johnsville Road, Sykesville, MD \*

***Today:***

**Sunday February 18 – 1st Sunday in Lent**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

***This Week:***

**Wednesday February 21**

6:16 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Saturday February 24**

7:00 pm Family Game Night (Fellowship Room)

***Next Week:***

**Sunday February 25 – 2nd Sunday in Lent**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

1:00 pm “Chat & Chew” at Rincon Italian Grill

**Wednesday February 28**

6:16 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship (and Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays)

11:30 am Fellowship

**Website:** [*www.springfield-church.org*](http://www.springfield-church.org)**Church Office**: 410-795-6152

**Like us on Facebook:** www.facebook.com/SpringfieldPresbyterianChurch

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**Email:** springfieldpastor@gmail.com

**Clerk of Session:** Sharon Pappas

**Minister of Music/Accompanist:** Aaron Thacker

**Bell Choir Director:** Daria Dodonova

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

**Administrative Assistant:**Donna Mazer**e-mail:**[*spc.office@verizon.net*](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)