



First Presbyterian Church

300 Market Street ☩ Warren, PA 16365-2360

*Following Christ
So All May Thrive*

Office Hours: M, 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.; Tu-F 8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

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March 3, 2019

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
Transfiguration Sunday

March 3, 2019

10:00 A.M.

Thank you for silencing your electronic devices.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S GRACE

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

INTROIT

Eat This Bread

Taize

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

[verses from Psalm 99]

L: The Lord is great in Zion; God is exalted over all the nations!

P: The Lord is holy!

L: Magnify the Lord, our God!

P: Bow low at his holy mountain because the Lord our God is holy!

*HYMN

Here In This Place

#401

CALL TO CONFESSION (Leader)

[based on Psalm 1]

As we are honest about our lives, it is clear that we are a broken people in a fractured world. We mess up our relationships – not only with others but also with God and even ourselves! We cannot create for ourselves a clean heart: only God can put a new spirit within us! Recognizing our need to be restored, let us open our hearts to God's cleansing grace!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive) [adapted from Prayers for a Privileged People by Walter Brueggemann]

L: Holy God, we know about your presence that fills the world and makes our life in the world good!

P: In our better moments we notice your transformative presence in Word and sacrament, in daily food and water, in gentle neighbors and daring gratitude.

L: We have come to count on your presence and yet – without intending – we plunge into your absence.

P: We feel alone and abandoned, barely able to remember your goodness and to hope your future because we are mired in anxiety and threat beyond our coping.

L: We beg you for your presence: come again, come soon, come here!

P: Come to each heart and to every community that has become joyless and numb! Hear us as we ask for your mercy in Jesus' name. Amen.

TIME FOR PERSONAL CONFESSION

WORDS ASSURING US OF GOD'S GRACE (Responsive): [based on Psalm 51]

L: Hear the good news: God clears away the debris of our brokenness and returns us to the fullness of right relationships!

P: God doesn't give up on us! God responds with grace when we admit our sinfulness!

L: God delivers us from all that would crush us, restoring us to the joy of being redeemed!

P: With renewed hearts, we proclaim God's praise: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

*RESPONSE

We Are Forgiven

#447

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

P: And also, with you.

Please welcome your neighbors, sharing the peace of Christ with them.

A MOMENT WITH OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(traditional, page 35)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING

Offertory

Angus Dei

Gilpin

*Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Holy God, we admit that our power to know you even through your Word is inadequate! We are distracted when we need to be focused and apathetic when we need to be ready! Come to us by your Spirit we pray and help us as we listen for your Word this day! Receive our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING**II Corinthians 3:18 – 4:4****(CEB, below)**

18 All of us are looking with unveiled faces at the glory of the Lord as if we were looking in a mirror. We are being transformed into that same image from one degree of glory to the next degree of glory. This comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 4 This is why we don't get discouraged, given that we received this ministry in the same way that we received God's mercy. 2 Instead, we reject secrecy and shameful actions. We don't use deception, and we don't tamper with God's word. Instead, we commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God by the public announcement of the truth. 3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are on the road to destruction. 4 The god of this age has blinded the minds of those who don't have faith so they couldn't see the light of the gospel that reveals Christ's glory. Christ is the image of God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. † **People: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**Luke 9:28-36****(CEB, below)**

28 About eight days after Jesus said these things, he took Peter, John, and James, and went up on a mountain to pray. 29 As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed and his clothes flashed white like lightning. 30 Two men, Moses and Elijah, were talking with him. 31 They were clothed with heavenly splendor and spoke about Jesus' departure, which he would achieve in Jerusalem. 32 Peter and those with him were almost overcome by sleep, but they managed to stay awake and saw his glory as well as the two men with him. 33 As the two men were about to leave Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it's good that we're here. We should construct three shrines: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah"—but he didn't know what he was saying. 34 Peter was still speaking when a cloud overshadowed them. As they entered the cloud, they were overcome with awe. 35 Then a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!" 36 Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. They were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. † **People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON***Bold or Bowled Over?***

Rev. Rebecca Taylor

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF FAITH**

Invitation

Words from Scripture concerning the meal

(I Corinthians 11:23-26)

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Please hold the elements until all have been served, so we can eat/drink together. The small cup in the center of the bread tray contains gluten-free bread.

*HYMN *Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining* #192

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Christ Now Go Before Us* Gipson

POSTLUDE

L = Leader

P = People

*indicates that one is invited to stand in body or spirit

Hymnal: # indicates the hymn number in *Glory to God*

Bibles: NIV — *The Holy Bible: New International Version (pew racks)*; CEB — *The Common English Bible*

*** THE LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE NEXT WEEK ***
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Questions for Reflection

In Luke 4:1–13, the devil tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread, to take control of the kingdoms of the world, and to perform a spectacular stunt that would “wow the crowd.” Jesus refused to take control in these ways. Instead, Jesus chose another way to feed hungry people, to demonstrate what the kingdom of God looks like, and to enter Jerusalem humbly. Why do think Jesus chose another way to “do justice” and what are some ways that you and your faith community practice justice in his name?

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, all night I slept in your shadow, sheltered by you. As I enter into the gift of this day, I trust that you are with me. May I see signs and wonders of your presence in the world today, for you alone are God. I ask that this day afford me opportunities to celebrate and share with others the abundance of your grace and love. Help me to be open to all people you bring my way, for you yourself make no distinctions, but are Lord of all. In Christ’s name, I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God, my dwelling place, as the shadows fall, I rest in you. Thank you for the faith that held me fast this day. Thank you, too, for every person who offered me grace, and for those to whom I could also show grace. I pray this night for all who long to see a sign of your power in the darkness that surrounds them. Be near to them and show them your salvation. And in the morning when I rise, give me your work to do for another day; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**Taken from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1*. © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE TEXTS IN BOLD will be used in worship next Sunday; please read them during the week and pray that God’s spirit will help and guide us all as we encounter God’s word!

OUR STAFF

Rev. Rebecca Taylor, Pastor
Debbie Hunter, Interim Director of Music
Hunter Peterson, Interim Musician
Michelle Sandberg, Interim Musician
Lynn Waterfield, Interim Musician
John Lasher, Percussion

Marilyn Dunkle, Office Manager
Betsy Griffin, Financial Secretary
Kyle Brecht, Property Manager
Ben Check, Night Custodian
Jen Neall, Worship Child Care
Terri Shaw, Worship Infant Care

***** OUR WORSHIP SERVICE *****

IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH, and are interested in uniting with this congregation, please speak to Pastor Rebecca or one of our Elders. We would love to have you as a member of our church family. Visitors are encouraged to fill out the pink visitor card found in the pew rack.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS, BULLETINS, Children's Activity bulletins, and hearing assist radios are available from the ushers.

THE PRAYER REQUEST FORM is located on the lecterns at the back of the sanctuary. Please fill in your concerns prior to worship.

WE WELCOME AND THANK Martha Leathers, today's liturgist, and Vickie Eggleston for providing the children's sermon.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Alan H. Buerkle by Lynn and Bob Sears.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE is an ancient tradition of acknowledging the unique fellowship we have in Christ Jesus. Please take this opportunity to share the peace of Christ by whatever means you and the one you are greeting are most comfortable; a handshake, a hug, or a simple verbal greeting.

A MOMENT WITH OUR YOUNG DISCIPLES — From babes in arms to elementary school age children, we welcome the children forward to the chancel at this time. Parents should feel welcome to accompany younger children. After sharing and a closing prayer, children age 5 and younger may go upstairs for childcare or return to their seats with their parents.

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP — Our church welcomes children and families in worship. Nursery care is available on the second floor for infants and very young children. Elementary aged children are encouraged to be part of the service and are welcome to use the worship kits and books located in the back of the sanctuary. Silent pagers are available from the nursery and Terri will be happy to arrange notification of your child's needs.

***** EVENTS *****

SOUP AND SALAD LUNCHEON TODAY— Please join us after this morning's worship service for a fundraiser luncheon in Fellowship Hall. Ryan Duckett plans to attend this year's Triennium event and is hosting this soup and salad luncheon to raise funds to cover his expenses. He appreciates your generous support.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION - We set aside the first Sunday of each month as our regular, monthly collection of non-perishable food items. These items are collected and distributed to those in need either through The Sharing Place or the church office. We

appreciate your help in feeding those who would otherwise go hungry.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – The Adult Sunday School Class meets at 9:00 A.M. in the Craft Room. All are welcome! The study is from the Book of Genesis.

***** ANNOUNCEMENTS *****

ADDRESS UPDATES – It's that time of year again when we ask you to please advise the church office of *any changes, corrections, additions to your physical and electronic contact information*. We appreciate the help you give us in keeping our records up to date. Thank you!!

DINNER WITH FRIENDS – Cindy Hammersley and Zora King are hosting the March Dinner with Friends event at 5:00 P.M., Saturday, March 16, at Bob Evans. A sign-up sheet is located in the Third Avenue hallway or feel free to call the church office to make your reservation. Check with Cindy or Zora if you need help coordinating transportation. Hosts are still needed for the upcoming months. All that's needed is for someone to choose a venue and call in the reservations. If the weather is a concern, there are several good local restaurants to choose from: Ribs 'n Bones, Jack's Tap House, Chido's, Variety Buffet, Christie's, Applebee's, Bob Evans—just to name a few.

PRESBYTERY OF LAKE ERIE MISSION TRIP - Sunday June 23 – Saturday June 29 the Presbytery will be heading to Kinston, N.C. area to aid in ongoing Hurricane Recovery efforts. Ages 14 & up are encouraged to join us. No previous experience required! Just bring a heart and hands willing to serve! Space is limited to 22 participants, first serve basis with a \$75 non-refundable deposit. Cost is \$375 per person which includes meals, housing, transportation and work materials. Please contact Jamie Fowler with questions or to register, 814-673-0874 OR fowler676@gmail.com

COMMUNITY CONCERT – First United Methodist Church, 200 Market Street, Warren, will host the Clarion University Chamber Singers. The concert is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. Saturday, March 30. Admission is free.

EXCITING NEWS! The Deacons and Shepherds are joining together in God's ministry. Our goal is to strengthen the relationships within our congregation while providing opportunities for all to participate in ways which match individual strengths and preferences. **Fellowship Hour** is one of these opportunities. There is a sign-up sheet in Communications Hall for individuals or groups of people willing to host a Sunday Fellowship Hour. **Fellowship** is the emphasis of this time together. This is a great chance to work with someone else. If cost is a concern, you may be reimbursed up to \$15 for purchases made for Fellowship Hour. Simple snacks are welcome! **Flower Delivery** is another way to help. In the flower room is everything you need to wrap the flowers to deliver to someone you know that could use a smile. There is also a notebook with suggestions for shut-ins from our congregation if you do not already know of someone. A sign up sheet is posted in Communications Hall to sign up for Flower Delivery beginning in March.

“Labors of Love”

*Linking arms in the family of God for Maternal
and Child Healthcare in Ghana, West Africa*



To commemorate the **50th Anniversary** in 2019 of medical missions and service, Chosen International Medical Assistance (ChosenIMA) of Erie is partnering with the Presbytery of Lake Erie and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana in a new endeavor called **“Labors of Love”**. The name is in recognition of ChosenIMA’s Founder and Former Director, the late Mr. Richard (Dick) Love. It also reflects the endeavor’s focus on Maternal and Child healthcare.

The Presbytery of Lake Erie is in partnership with the Upper Northern Presbytery, EPCG. A key area in this Partnership is support for the E.P. Church Health Clinic in Wapuli, which is located in a rural community in Northern Ghana. The **“Labors of Love”** endeavor will include the Wapuli Clinic and the E.P. Church Health Clinics in Bladjai and Dambai.

The goal of **“Labors of Love”** is to raise **\$50,000** that will be invested in the three Health Clinics to increase and improve healthcare services to the women, children, and communities that they serve. Each of the Health Clinics has specific needs for getting to the next level of development. These include building construction, renovations, equipment, supplies, infrastructure, potable water, sanitation, staff training and support.

In the coming months, there will be events and fundraisers to follow the development and offer support for **“Labors of Love”**. The target date for full funding is April 1, 2019. In late June/early July, several friends and partners from Ghana will be visiting in Erie. Plans are underway for an exploratory/assessment team to travel to Ghana in October 2019.

While **“Labors of Love”** has been conceived for 2019, it is the hope that this will be an ongoing and long-term endeavor with ChosenIMA, the Presbytery of Lake Erie, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana and new partners, participants and recipients. By linking arms in the larger family of God, sharing resources and working together, these **“Labors of Love”** will contribute to healthier and fuller lives for all.

Donations: Presbytery of Lake Erie, 2806 Elmwood Ave. Erie, PA 16508 Information: Donna Cammarata donna.camm@gmail.com 814.873.4860

Pastor's Study Lent 2019

Forgiveness. We know it is a central aspect of the life of faith. We ask for it, believing we need it, from God, from others. But what is it really? Does it mean letting everyone walk all over us like a doormat? Is it necessary or even possible to forgive and forget? Obedient to Jesus' teaching we pray, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us;" but what exactly is Jesus telling us to do? Let's take a deeper look together during the season of Lent! Beginning Monday, March 4th and concluding Monday, April 1st; two sessions: 10:00 AM & 5:30 PM. Friends are welcome! No sign up required! No book to buy and read! Just come!

PASTOR'S STUDY ON FORGIVENESS

Lent 2019

"Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Should I forgive as many as seven times?' Jesus said, 'Not just seven times, but rather as many as seventy-seven times (or seventy times seven).'" - Matthew 18:21-22 [CEB]

Proposed Schedule

Monday, March 4, 2019	First things first: what's the meaning of the word?
Monday, March 11, 2019	And now: where does it pop up in the Word?
Monday, March 18, 2019	Next: what have Biblical scholars & theologians said about it?
Monday, March 25, 2019:	Wait a minute!: preachers & poets need to have their say!
Monday, April 1, 2019:	Finally: what does it mean for us as we live it?



Lenten Services

Holden Evening Services

Date	Location	Preacher	Theme
Tuesday, March 12	St. Joseph	Rev. Matthew Scott	Fasting
Tuesday, March 19	Trinity	Rev. Jeff Ewing	Almsgiving
Tuesday, March 26	First Lutheran	Rev. Lawrence Scofield	Charitable Acts
Tuesday, April 2	St. Paul Lutheran	Rev. Rebecca Taylor	Private Prayer
Tuesday, April 9	First Presbyterian	Rev. Richard Tomasone	Public Prayer

Thursday Lenten Services

First United Methodist Church, 200 Market Street, will again host a 12:00 P.M. Lenten worship service beginning Thursday, March 14 and continuing through Thursday, April 11.

Other Lenten Services and Holy Week

Ash Wednesday, March 6	6:30 P.M. Service in the Sanctuary
Palm Sunday, April 14	10:00 A.M worship service in our Sanctuary
Maundy Thursday, April 18	7:00 P.M. Evening service at First Lutheran Church
Good Friday (noon), April 19	Noon service at First Presbyterian Church
Good Friday (evening), April 19	7:00 P.M. service at First Lutheran Church
Easter Sunday, April 21	10:00 A.M. worship service in our Sanctuary

Meat at the Movies!

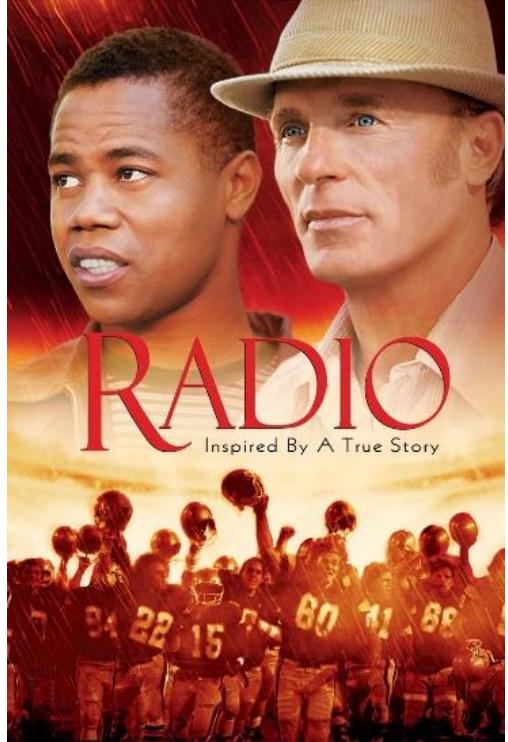
(A series for meaty conversation during Lent)

Week 1, March 10, 2019:

"Radio" (PG, 109 min., 2003)
Cuba Gooding, Jr., Ed Harris

James Robert "Radio" Kennedy, an 18-year-old man with mental disabilities, pushes a shopping cart along the streets daily. He is attracted to a high school football team and often passes by their practices. One day, a football flies outside the field and lands near Radio. Radio takes the ball, deaf to the demands to return it by a student athlete on the other side of the fence. Sometime later, the team members tie up Radio and lock him inside the gear shed. The team's coach, Harold Jones, hears the team members throw balls at the shed and goes to comfort Radio. He punishes the team for their actions. Upon meeting Radio on the streets another day, Coach Jones asks Radio to visit and help at training. Coach Jones returns Radio to his home, where he meets Radio's mother. It is revealed that Radio has a brother named Walter, who does not live with them, and that their father died a few years prior.

John and Gloria Lasher have again this year generously opened their home, located at 4251 Conewango Avenue, to host these events. A sign up sheet is located in Communications Hall. Carpooling from the church parking lot will be available, leaving at 4:45 P.M.



PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY—3

- 9:00 A.M. **Non-Perishable Food Collection**
Adult Sunday School – Craft Room
10:00 A.M. Morning Worship – Sanctuary
11:00 A.M. Soup and Salad Luncheon – Fellowship Hall
11:20 A.M. Mission Group Meeting – Craft Room

MONDAY – 4

- 10:00 A.M. Pastor’s Study – Craft Room
5:30 P.M. Pastor’s Study – Craft Room
6:00 P.M. Scouting Groups - Downstairs Classrooms
6:00 P.M. Troop Committee Meeting – Conference Room
6:30 P.M. Troop 8 – Scout Room

TUESDAY - 5

- 9:00 A.M. Staff Meeting – Minister’s Study
12:00 P.M. AA – Calvin Corner
6:00 P.M. Properties Meeting – Library
7:00 P.M. AA (Women’s Group) – Calvin Corner

WEDNESDAY—6 -

- 9:30 A.M. Cuppa Coffee – Library
5:45 P.M. Scotland Bell Rehearsal – Sanctuary
6:30 P.M. Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary
7:00 P.M. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Choir Rehearsal Room

THURSDAY – 7

- 4:30 P.M. Sharing Place Meal – Fellowship Hall
6:30 P.M. NA – Calvin Corner

FRIDAY—8

- 9:30 A.M. Story Time – Second Floor
6:00 P.M. AA (Men’s Group) - Calvin Corner

SUNDAY—10

- 9:00 A.M. **Day Light Savings Time Begins**
Adult Sunday School – Craft Room
9:00 A.M. Finance Committee - Library
10:00 A.M. Morning Worship – Sanctuary
11:00 A.M. Fellowship Hour – Memorial Parlor
11:20 A.M. The Shepherds/Deacons Meeting – Craft Room
4:45 P.M. Carpool leaves church for movie event
5:00 P.M. Meat at the Movies “Radio” – John & Gloria Lasher’s Home



FPC Bulletins



FPC Newsletter



Donate to FPC, Warren, PA

***** JOYS AND CONCERNS *****

Ushers have word of encouragement cards. If you would like to write a word of encouragement to any of the people mentioned, or others on your mind, please raise your hand and indicate how many cards you would like. Fill them out and drop them in the offering plate and we will ensure they are delivered during the week.

Joys:

Prayers for Coleen Christy who is recovering at home from knee replacement surgery

The Caring Connection that gathers monthly at Warren Apartments

Our new Cuppa Coffee group that meets on Wednesday mornings

It's a great joy to have such wonderful, talented, musicians step forward during this time of transition.

Concerns:

Prayers for Sherry Walter who was recently hospitalized for breathing issues

Prayers for Katie Roth Spiegel, 39, and her family. Katie was recently diagnosed with Invasive Ductal Carcinoma

Prayers for Dennis Bonace, who is scheduled for hip replacement surgery on March 7 at Hamot

Prayers for Kass Judson

Pray for peace for Carol Hanna's niece, Carol, who just entered hospice care

Prayers for Wally Post

Prayers for Ruth Seebeck, who is recovering from cancer surgery

Prayers for Larry Krespan

Prayers for Ralph Wade, Carol Hanna's brother, diagnosed with colon cancer & is back at the Rouse

Prayers for Joyce Puleo who is recovering from stem cell transplantation treatment

Prayers for June Carlson recovering from hip surgery at the Rouse Home, Room 705B

Prayers for Calvin Leonard

Prayers of healing for Betty Jane Berdine

Prayers for Lisa Huey Hochberg

Prayers for Emma and Leila

Prayers for Pat Fankhouser

Prayers for Linda Michael, Kay Dolan’s sister, receiving cancer treatment
 Prayers for Connie Bartholomew Waxman who is battling cancer
 Prayers for Rev. George Johnson
 Prayers for Seth
 Pray for healing and strength for Katie Rodgers, a teacher at WAEC, battling cancer
 Prayers for Andy Slocum
 Courage, strength, and faith to all those affected by violent crimes.
 Those serving in our military, people struggling with addiction, & those in jail
 Let us pray for all the downtrodden and those facing famine and hunger in remote
 and desolate places. Let the Light of the Lord shine on all peoples in all nations.

***** PRESBYTERY JOYS AND PRAYER CONCERNS *****

Joys and Concerns:

We acknowledge and pray for the churches and ministerial staff that constitute the Lake Erie Presbytery. This week we pray for the Erie, Belle Valley, and Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Churches, Rev. Dave Edmunds, Temporary Supply Pastor and Marsha MacKinnon, Presbytery Webmaster.

This Week’s Servers:

Next Week’s Servers (March 10, 2019)

Liturgist	Martha Leathers	Liturgist	Georgeann Chamberlain
Children’s Sermon	Vickie Eggleston	Children’s Sermon	Jane Strohmeier
Secure Offering	Vickie Eggleston	Secure Offering	Vickie Eggleston
Secure Offering	Larry Dyke	Secure Offering	Larry Dyke
Coffee Hour	Ryan Duckett	Coffee Hour	Jen Rossey
Flower Delivery	<i>Vacant</i>	Flower Delivery	<i>Vacant</i>
Attendance Last Sunday	82	Attendance February 17	57