

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GREAT BEND, KANSAS**

March 7, 2010

Third Sunday in Lent

10:45 A.M.

GATHERING

*Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.
In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.*

PRELUDE

THE WELCOME (Greet your neighbors)

INTROIT

Bell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: O God, you are our God;

PEOPLE: eagerly we seek you.

Pastor: Our souls thirst for you,

PEOPLE: our flesh faints for you,

Pastor: as in a dry and weary land,

PEOPLE: where there is no water.

***HYMN No. 397**

O For a Closer Walk with God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Patient God, how trying we must be. You have told us, you have shown us, you have come among us. Still, we look away, ignoring, forgetting, rejecting your purposes for us. Have mercy on us. Forgive us for what we have done, and for what we have not done. Tell us again. Show us again. Come among us again. With grace anew, come among us again, so that we might start fresh, and receive the life you have given us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Silence for Personal Confession)

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Peter said: Repent, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him. My friends, we are forgiven in the name of Christ.

Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

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.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

*To this peace we were called
as members of a single body.*

The peace of Christ be with you,

And also with you.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Gathered in God's name, we now open ourselves to God's life-giving Word

***HYMN No. 365**

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

DIALOGUE WITH OUR CHILDREN

Pastor Scott

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ever-present God, without your Word we have nothing to say; without your Spirit we are helpless. Give us your Holy Spirit, that we may lead your people, proclaim the good news, and gratefully praise your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Isaiah 55:1-9

NEW TESTAMENT READING - Luke 13:1-9

RESPONSE

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

THE ANTHEM

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

Chancel Choir

SERMON

Bearing Fruit

Dr. Solether

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The proclamation of God's Word invites responses of faith and love

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

The Eucharist

OFFERING

Offertory

*DOXOLOGY

- PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Great Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy. . .

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

All holy God, how wonderful is the work of your hands! . . .

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

Communion of The People

(Distribution will be by Intinction)

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.

*HYMN No. 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Go out into the world in peace.

Love the Lord your God

With all your heart,

With all your soul,

With all your mind;

And love your neighbor as yourself.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand

*First Presbyterian Church of Great Bend, Kansas
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Scott V. Solether
Choir Director: Doris Meyeres
Administrative Assistant: Shelley Bates
Custodians: David Suppes and Kory Suppes
Telephone: 792-2594, Fax 793-7980
Website: www.fpcgb.org*

PARTICIPANTS THIS WEEK

Organist: Stephanie Stinnett

Lay Assistant: Tina Hiss

Elders Serving Communion: Ken and Nancy Williams, Dan and Jan Bonine

Ushers: Jody Eller, Carol Murphy, Tammy Solether, Doris West

Coffee Host: Deacons

Taping the Service: Deacons

These are people who need our prayers:

Opal Cox, Dorothy Essmiller, Jim and Jo Heaton, Jim Johnson, Eldon Hays, Doreen Boor, David Hedlund.

We pray for the people of Haiti and Chile in the aftermath of the earthquakes.

Remember the loose offering on a communion Sunday, like today, goes to the Deacons to help them do their job.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hearing Aids Available

“Hearing Aids” are available at the back of the sanctuary for use during the service. If you are hard of hearing, try these out! (Don't forget to turn off the hearing aid before putting them away. Thank you.)

Please remember to register your attendance on the Friendship Pads, which are located in the pews next to the inside aisle. Then, pass them on to those worshipping near you. Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. We are glad you are here!

Noon Lenten Meditation

A one hour time for Lenten meditation will continue on Mondays at noon (brown bag lunch), March 8, 15, 22, 29. This is led by Phyllis Bosley. The emphasis will be a discussion of the topic covered at the Sunday afternoon Lenten Study as well as a guided meditation. Guests are welcome.

Lenten Bible Study – Living in Covenant Community

Continues 3:00 p.m. Today

The Presbyterian system is often called a “connectional” system, a word that doesn't even appear in the dictionary. A better way to understand our relationship with God and church is the Biblical concept of “Covenant”. How has God used this ancient form of relational contract to walk with His people, and how is it relevant for life and ministry today? These are the questions we will explore during our Lenten Bible study. Today at 3:00 p.m. is part 3 of the 5-part study on this important subject. We examine the Biblical accounts of Covenantal relationships from Adam to Jesus and how these affect our connection with one another and God. Join us for one or all sessions.

Check out the church website to see a slide show of how the Haiti kits we sent were sorted and repackaged at Ferncliff Distribution Center in Arkansas. Our website is fpcgb.org.

Bowl for Kid's Sake – Sunday – March 14th

First Presbyterian Team members:

Team Captains: Mike and Marissa Woodmansee

Bowlers: Howard Bosley, Carol Murphy

Pastor Scott & Tammy Solether

Audrianna and Dalton Bender

Pledges can be given to any of the above Team members or to Becky Hill who is helping with pledges. All of the donations will go to the **local** Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization. There are Big Brother/Big Sister informational brochures on the table in the church foyer. Checks should be made out to **Big Brothers/Big Sisters** and turned in by the 14th.

St. Patrick's Presbyterian Irish Stew

Thursday, March 18

4:30 – 7:00 p.m.

\$6.00 per person

Fellowship Hall

Attention!

Pies (and a few cakes) are needed for the Presbyterian Irish Stew. Sign up at the Church or call Earl Fox (793-9702) and let him know what you can provide. Pies need to be at the church the afternoon of March 17 or morning of March 18. Thank you for your help!

Congregational Pot-luck Dinner and Ministries Meetings

March 10

Wednesday, March 10, is the date for the March congregational fellowship dinner and ministries meetings.

Dinner this month will be a pot-luck. Please bring a covered dish to share.

The meetings will convene at 6:30. The Informal Worship Service will be incorporated into the meal and meetings. This event is for everyone: Officers, committee members, congregational members, and visitors. If you simply want to come for the dinner and fellowship, you are welcome. You will be invited to meet with one of the ministries to share your advice, work on a project of your choice, or simply listen in.

Lenten Lunches

The Barton County Association of Churches is once again encouraging people to gather together before Easter at Lenten Lunches each Wednesday. Serving begins at noon. A free will offering is suggested to defray expenses for the host congregation. This week the luncheon is at the Central Baptist Church, 3301 Lakin, with Rev. Doyle Smith of First Southern Baptist Church speaking.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to bring an Easter Lily to the church during Holy Week in memory/honor of a loved one or friend, please fill out the form below and either drop it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by March 29. Bring your lily to the church sometime between Monday, March 29 and Friday April 2. The church will be closed at noon on April 2.

We would like to provide an Easter lily, given

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

By: _____
(your name/names)

Calendar

Sunday, March 7

9:30 a.m.— Church School

10:45 a.m.—Worship with Holy Communion, Sanctuary
After Worship—Deacons, Mustard Seed Room

1:00 p.m.—Care Training, Parlor

3:00 p.m.—Lenten Study, Parlor

Monday, March 8

Noon—Lenten Meditation (brown bag lunch), Mustard Seed Room

7:00 p.m.—Boy Scouts, Ichthus Room

Tuesday, March 9

7:00 p.m. —Tigers, Ichthus Room

Wednesday, March 10

Noon—BCAC Lenten Lunch, Central Baptist Church

6:00 p.m.—Ministry Meal (Potluck), Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m.—Ministry Meetings, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, March 11

1:30 p.m.—PWCT, Mustard Seed Room

6:30 p.m.—4H, Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m.—Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

7:00 p.m.—Bear Cubs, Ichthus Room

Friday, March 12

9:30 a.m.—Coffee Klatch, Parlor

Noon—Presbyterian Men, Highland Hotel

Saturday, March 13

Sunday, March 14

Daylight Savings Time Begins

9:30 a.m.—Church School

10:45 a.m.—Worship, Sanctuary

3:00 p.m.—Lenten Study, Parlor