

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF IONIA  
MARCH 18, 2018  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CHIMES OF THE HOUR

INTROIT (INSERT)

*"You Are My Hiding Place"*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: O God most high, who dwells in the highest of  
heavens,

**Congregation: we praise you.**

Pastor: O God most exalted, beyond all that we can think  
and imagine,

**Congregation: we praise you.**

Pastor: We celebrate the victory of your Son, who has  
overcome death and has become the source of  
eternal salvation for all who obey him.

\*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

**Congregation: We rejoice in his glory!**

Pastor: Our great high priest has gone before, has entered into the Holy of Holies, and has opened up a way for us to follow. In his name, we too may enter into your eternal presence, for he is our priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

**Congregation: To him be all praise and honor and glory and power, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.**

Pastor: Amen and Amen.

\*HYMN (INSERT)

*“Gather Us In”*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(in Unison)*

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,**

**and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

KYRIE HYMN 572

*“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us,  
Lord have mercy upon us.”*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the promise God makes to us: “I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all that stains you, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give to you, and a new spirit I will put within you. I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will be your God and you shall be my people.” Believe this promise and live! **Amen.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: Christ has given us peace that surpasses all understanding. The peace of Christ be with you!

**Congregation: The peace of Christ be with you also!**

## SPECIAL MUSIC

HARKNESS HAND BELL CHOIR

Featuring Shelly Reglin on flute  
*“An Irish Medley”*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sue Thompson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Liturgist:** *Hebrews 5:5-10* Page 1046 Pew Bible

**Liturgist:** The word of the Lord!

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

**Pastor:** *John 12:20-33*

Page 936-937 Pew Bible

**Pastor:** The Gospel of the Lord!

**Congregation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON

*"The Obedience of the Son"* - Dr. Chris Dorn

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 14 - Hymnal  
*The Apostles' Creed*

\*HYMN 84

*"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"*

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ending with "The Lord's  
Prayer" Page 16 in Hymnal

OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymn 592

*"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 525

*"Here I Am, Lord"*

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

Please sign the red attendance folder in your pew, sharing your name with those near you and making formal your gift to God of this hour. If you give your complete address and phone number, we will keep you informed about upcoming events.

*Serving in Worship Today:*

*Guest Speaker:* Dr. Chris Dorn; *Liturgist:* Marilyn McKay

*Greeters and Ushers:* Sue and Warren Thompson, Lee

Hunsberger; *Children's Message:* Sue Thompson

*Fellowship:* Barb Klenk and Lee Hunsberger

*Serving in Worship next Sunday:*

*Guest Speaker:* Dr. Chris Dorn; *Liturgist:* Keith Sterner

*Greeters and Ushers:* Sue Reglin, Lavonna and David Hoover

*Children's Message:* Kathy VanSyckle

*Elders serving on Session:* Dr. Jan Arnold, Judi Emlinger,  
Lavonna Hoover, Lee Hunsberger, Evelyn Ransom, Sue Reglin,  
Dr. Keith Sterner, Kathy VanSyckle, Mary Williams

*Music Fund:* Elder Bill Robinson

*Shaver Children's Fund:* Elder Judi Emlinger

*Head Start Initiative:* Elder Sue Thompson

Clerk, Margaret Gregory

Treasurers, Barb Klenk and Norma Kilpatrick

Music Leader

Mike Kaufman

Harkness Handbell Choir Director

Cindy Rozich

Administrative Assistant

Deb Montgomery

Custodian

Steve Slaughter

COME ENJOY!

Retirees Fellowship: Norma Kilpatrick, President (527-4144)  
*good friendship, good activities, 3rd Thursday*

Quilters Fellowship: Carol Shier, Chairperson (616-755-0963)  
*fun, fellowship, and helping hearts 9:30 a.m. Wednesday*

Prayer Shawl Group: Evelyn Ransom and Mary Williams, Co-Chairs  
*Making lap robes and shawls for those who need them*

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Bless, O Lord, the one you are sending to be our next pastor.

When that person is joyful, guide that person to be prayerful.

When that person is tempted, stay by that person. In all seasons

send that person the companions you intend and the good

judgment and good heart to embrace them.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Christian Education Committee hopes to receive your cans and bottles to redeem for their deposits, as well as your exhausted ink cartridges.

Your help is needed for Sunday Fellowship hour and altar flowers. Please remember to sign up.

During Lent the First Christian Church on Washington St., Ionia, will be hosting Lenten lunches at noon every Wednesday, featuring guest speakers and devotions.

We will be collecting items Sunday March 11th and March 18th for the IM3 Program. The Mission offering for March 4th will be for IM3 program also.

Time to clean those closets again! Rummage sale setup will be April 11. The sale will be April 12th and April 13th.

## CALENDAR

- 3/18 8:30 A.M. Harkness Handbells practice  
10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest speaker, Dr. Chris Dorn  
Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 3/19 7:00 P.M. Session Meets
- 3/20 9:00 A.M. Newsletter deadline for April newsletter
- 3/21 9:30 A.M. Quilters  
12:00 P.M. Lenten Lunch at First Christian Church
- 3/22 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group meets
- 3/25 Palm Sunday  
8:30 A.M. Harkness Handbells practice  
10:00 A.M. Worship - Guest speaker, Dr. Chris Dorn  
Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Fellowship and Refreshments
- 3/28 9:30 A.M. Quilters  
12:00 P.M. Lenten Lunch at First Christian Church
- 3/29 2-4 P.M. Prayer Shawl Group meets

## **SEE WHO WE ARE**

### **Christian Service Center**

*clothing and household goods we donate for neighbors*

### **Crop Walk**

*walking or rocking we help to feed the world*

### **Souper Bowl of Caring**

*homemade soup prepared and served to collect funds for local soup kitchen*

### **March Into Reading**

*books we give to Head Start youngsters*

### **Faithful Friends**

*Head Start classroom volunteers & family support*

### **Ionia County Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen**

*groceries we collect and food we serve for a neighborhood center*

### **Bear Buddies**

*near Christmas, we collect small stuffed animals for use in hospital emergency room, patrol cars of police officers, and spouse abuse center*