



North Raleigh
Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 19, 2023

11905 Strickland Rd
Raleigh, NC 27613
919-848-9529
northraleighpc.org
a congregation of the PC(USA)



Rage, grief, and lust for retaliation can easily trap us in a self-imposed prison of hate that corrodes our soul's energy and peace. Choosing to forgive is one of the most freeing and healing choices we can make in life.

-Marjorie J. Thompson, *Forgiveness*, pg. 54

The mission of North Raleigh Presbyterian Church is to be a welcoming community serving Jesus Christ through engaged discipleship.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please find the Friendship Pad and pass it down the pew so all may sign.
Please note Nursery is available in the back of the Sanctuary.*

PRELUDE

Laudation

Brenda Austin

Adult Bells

*As the acolyte processes with the light,
we welcome the presence of Jesus Christ, light of the world, into our worship.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We observe this day as the Lord's Day,

All: giving thanks to God, who gives justice to the oppressed,

One: who forgives us and redeems us,

All: and crowns us with steadfast love and mercy.

One: Let us worship the One who is worthy of our praise!

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 441

Hear the Good News of Salvation

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Following the Call to Confession
please observe a moment of silent confession.*

One: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven,
and to you, my beloved in Christ, that I have sinned in thought,
word, and deed, and pray God Almighty to have mercy on me.

All: May Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you
from all your sins, and give you time to amend your life.

One: Amen.

All: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my beloved in Christ, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and pray God Almighty to have mercy on me.

One: May Almighty God have mercy on you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, and give you time to amend your life.

All: Amen.

*DECLARATION OF GOOD NEWS

One: Friends, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are loved and accepted, forgiven and freed.

All: Thanks be to God!

*THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

One: Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbors.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN 215 v.3 *What Wondrous Love Is This*

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,

to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;

to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,

while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;

while millions join the theme, I will sing.

PROCLAIMING

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 14:1-12

ANTHEM

I Will Arise

arr. Shaw/Parker

SHARING THE FAITH WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

Children may participate in Children's Church or remain in the sanctuary during the sermon.

SERMON

*HYMN 444

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

RESPONDING

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Study Catechism, qq. 82-83

One: Does our forgiveness of those who have harmed us depend on their repentance?

All: No. I am to forgive as I have been forgiven. The gospel is the astonishing good news that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Just as God's forgiveness of me is unconditional, and so precedes my confession of sin and repentance, so my forgiveness of those who have harmed me does not depend on their confessing and repenting of their sin. However, when I forgive the person who has done me harm, giving up any resentment or desire to retaliate, I do not condone the harm that was done or excuse the evil of the sin.

One: How can we forgive those who have really hurt us?

All: I cannot love my enemies, I cannot pray for those who persecute me, I cannot even be ready to forgive those who have really hurt me, without the grace that comes from above. I cannot be conformed to the image of God's Son, apart from the power of

God's Word and Spirit. Yet I am promised that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Stewardship is feeding hungry stomachs the right amount of food in the right places at the right time.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Adagio from Sonata I

Felix Mendelssohn

*DOXOLOGY 698

Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O Take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

*HYMN 754

Help Us Accept Each Other

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

As you leave Worship today, please tie a purple ribbon to the cross outside as a sign of your commitment to practicing forgiveness.

POSTLUDE

Elegy II on *Nettleton*

Paul Fey

*As the acolyte recesses with the light,
we affirm that Jesus Christ, the light of the world, leads us out for discipleship.*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY



Leading and supporting worship today:

Preacher: Lisa Hebacker

Liturgists: Brandon Melton,
Maggie Barlow

Ushers: Leisa Glantz, Nathaniel Davis,
Kim Stall

Children's Church: Debi Collins

Counters: Fran Lawrence,
John McKinney

Livestream: Rick Bell, Chuck Nicotera

Music Director: Terri Nicotera

Elder in Charge: Debbi Freer

Interim Organist: Bo Lloyd

Chancel Guild: Gay Strickland

Nursery: Jen & Rebekah Judy

SRT: David Syme

Acolyte: Juliet Uhland

*All are invited to help lead and support worship at NRPC.
If you are interested in volunteering,
please email the church office. Thank you!*

Liturgy is from *The Book of Common Worship* and *The Call to Worship*

| February 2023 | Actual | Budget |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Contribution Income</i> | \$81,027 | \$70,087 |
| <i>Expenses</i> | \$69,751 | \$81,079 |
| <i>Capital Campaign</i> | \$64,562 | \$20,000 |
| <i>Capital Campaign annual need is \$120,000 minimum</i> | | |

NRPC NEWS AND EVENTS

Anniversaries: Margaret & George Spransy, 3/20; Roger & Stacy Askew, 3/22; Roger & Leigh Anne Carter, 3/23; Tom & Susan Wilkat, 3/24; Terri & Stuart McIrvine, 3/26; Fred & Cynthia Fetty, 3/27

Birthdays: Adrian Chamberlin, 3/20; Mike Antoun, 3/22; Fran Lawrence, 3/23; Leigh Anne Carter, 3/25; Carson Collins, 3/28

New Member Welcome/Youth Reception please join us after Worship for a reception honoring our new members and youth from Youth Sunday.

One Great Hour of Sharing offering is a PC(USA) offering that supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Fund, and Self Development of People. We will dedicate our One Great Hour of Sharing offering on Easter.

Trip to Israel Join church friends for a trip to the Holy Land April 10-20, 2024. Details are in Friday News.

Microscope is an opportunity for short term, in-depth, topic-based Bible study for a group of 3-4 individuals who share common interests. You decide the topic, when to meet, and how many sessions. For questions, resources, or more information contact brandonmelton@nrleighpc.org.

Outreach Committee please place your food donations for the March madness contest in the bins located in the Narthex. See Friday News for details.

Nominating Committee encourages you to submit nominations now for Deacons and Elders for the Class of 2026. Forms are available via Friday News, the website or in the Narthex.

THIS WEEK AT NRPC

| | | |
|----------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday 3/19 | 9:00 AM | Cornerstone Class (Z) |
| | 9:15 AM | Youth Music (S) |
| | 9:45 AM | New Member Welcome (N) |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship Service (S, Y) New Member/Youth Reception |
| | 11:45 AM | Bible 101 |
| | 4:00 PM | Pioneer Class (N) |
| | 4:30 PM | Youth Group (Off) |
| | 6:00 PM | Sharing God's Story@Home(C) |
| Monday 3/20 | 6:30 PM | Deacon Meeting (Z) |
| Tuesday 3/21 | 4:00 PM | Worship Committee (Z) |
| | 6:30 PM | Adult Bells (S) |
| Wednesday 3/22 | | Prayer Ministry (C) |
| | 10:00 AM | Staff Meeting (A) |
| | 4:30 PM | Children's Music (N, S) |
| | 7:00 PM | Adult Choir (S) |
| Thursday 3/23 | 9:15 AM | Thursday Morning Bible Study (S) |
| | 10:30 AM | Joyful Ringers (S) |
| Friday 3/24 | 7:00 AM | Men's Bible Study (Z) |
| Saturday 3/25 | | |
| Sunday 3/26 | 9:00 AM | Cornerstone Class (Z) |
| | 9:15 AM | Youth Music (S) |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship Service (S, Y) |
| | 11:45 PM | Bible 101 (S) |
| | 4:00 PM | Pioneer Class (N) |
| | 4:30 PM | Youth Group (Off) |
| | 6:00 PM | Sharing God's Story@Home(C) |

Legend: A=Admin C=Constant Contact F= Faith Ministries Building
 Y= You Tube S=Sanctuary N=Narthex Z=Zoom O=Outdoors OFF=Offsite
Ministers: All the Congregation

| | |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Pastor:</i> Lisa Hebacker | LisaHebacker@nrleighpc.org |
| <i>Assoc Pastor:</i> Brandon Melton | BrandonMelton@nrleighpc.org |
| <i>Director of Music:</i> Terri Nicotera | TerriNicotera@msn.com |
| <i>Church Organist:</i> | Search in process |
| <i>Office:</i> Caroline Parker | Office@nrleighpc.org |