

9 March 2003
1st Sunday in Lent
Seasonal Color: Purple

Lectionary Readings for Today
Genesis 9:8-17; *Psalm 25:1-10*
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Announcements

The Week at a Glance:

Today 9:30 Sunday School
10:45 Worship
Tues 7:00 Session
Wed 8:00 Underwood & Assoc. - Dr. Kelly
1:00 Presbyterian Women
Sat 9:00 Presbytery at Huntington

Presbyterian Women will meet this Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Teresa Spencer will host and Lois Beard will lead the devotions. Our Bible Study is the second and third lesson on Ephesians.

In Our Prayers Our Nation & Church, Paul Alkire, The Anderson Family, Virginia Buttrey, Joe Dennis, The Dittman Family, Anita Freeland, Lucille & Kenneth Hall, Dottie Hart, Sam Himmeger, Ralph Miller, Wavoline Murray, Harold Neff, and Frieda Northrop. Kagwathi church, Teays Valley Presbyterian, Scott Depot First Presbyterian, and Welch Edgewood Presbyterian churches.

Next Sunday's Lessons: *2nd Sunday in Lent*
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; *Psalm 22:23-31*;
Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

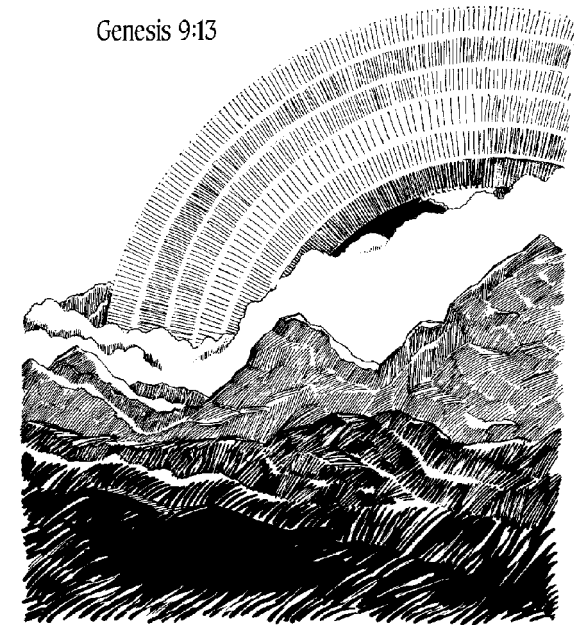
Announcements may be printed if received by the pastor by Wednesday and don't forget to let Michael know if you are ill or in want of a visit. He can be reached at 684-0941 home, or 299-2759 cellular. The cellular number is local. In addition Michael's EMail address is mhanderson@charter.net and the church's Internet web page is:

<http://www.creeds.net/churches/smpres.htm>

St. Marys
Presbyterian Church
303 Washington Street

"I have set my bow in the clouds,
and it shall be a sign of the covenant between
me and the earth."

Genesis 9:13



*Where Jesus is Lord,
the Bible is God's Word, and
Family is Sacred.*

On this first Sunday in Lent we turn our hearts inward as we consider our relationships with God. In the passage from Genesis God pledges he will always be with us in the symbolism of the rainbow in the clouds, a covenant with humankind. Peter picks up on this covenant and extends it with the way God came in Christ to keep us from being overwhelmed by the flood of our sins. In Mark Jesus prefigures our observance of Lent as he goes into the wilderness for forty days to be tested by the devil.

Members of Session

Moderator Michael H. Anderson
Clerk Bari Brake

Class of 2003

Bari Brake

Class of 2004

Jay Gerber
Arthur Olds

Class of 2005

Ken Hall
Betty Stuart

Greeters Lois & Bob Beard
Flowers for March Opal Northrop & Marion Olds

Prayer Before Worship

Eternal God, we ask by the power of your Spirit that all that keeps us from you would be revealed to us this day. We seek forgiveness for any and all sin, pride and impurity in our lives. We relinquish all at your atoning altar in preparation for the Lenten season before us. Cleanse our hearts, O Lord. Help us submit to holy refining fire so that we might become clean vessels through which your Spirit can work to redeem a lost world. AMEN.

Order of Worship

9 March 2003

1st Sunday in Lent

"I am now making my covenant with you and with your descendants."

- Genesis 9:8

Assemble in God's Name

(☞ Those who are able, please rise)

PRELUDE

In Babilone

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

INTROIT ³²⁰

"I Am Thine, O Lord"

Doane

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Lent calls us to journey along the edge, to anticipate that final trip to Jerusalem.

People: **Lent calls us to the cutting edge, when the wheat falls to the ground and new life comes forth; the cutting of a new covenant.**

Leader: Lent calls us not only to give up something, but also to take upon ourselves as community the intention of true participation in the mystery of God-with-us.

People: **Lent calls us to corporate penitence, accountability and preparation.**

Leader: Lent calls us to concentrate upon our baptismal vocation to be a sign of the New Earth.

People: **Lent calls us to face the darkness without holding a flashlight.**

All **Lent calls us. Let us worship God.**

☞ OPENING HYMN # 235

Trentham

"Breath on Me, Breath of God"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of all the colors, we confess to you that our lives are too often monochromatic. You present us with all the opportunities of the rainbow, and we restrict ourselves to safe neutrals. We do not risk bright yellow love, or deep purple justice. We keep our choices to a minimum, preferring to stick with what we know. Wrap your rainbow around us, O God, and liberate us. Your covenant reminds us that we do not need to be afraid to take risks. Let us be a rainbow people for you. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Proclaim God's Word

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 9:8-17 pg. 9

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 3:18-22 pg. 318

CHOIR ANTHEM ³⁸⁶

Tack O Gud

"Thanks to God for My Redeemer"

Thanks to God for my Redeemer,

Thanks for all Thou dost provide!

Thanks for times now but a memory,

Thanks for Jesus by my side!

Thanks for pleasant, balmy springtime,

Thanks for dark and dreary fall!

Thanks for tear by now forgotten,

Thanks for peace within my soul!

Thanks for prayer that Thou has answered,

Thanks for what Thou dost deny!

Thanks for storms that I have weathered,

Thanks for all Thou dost supply!

Thanks for pain and thanks for pleasure,

Thanks for comfort in despair!

Thanks for grace that none can measure,

Thanks for love beyond compare!

Thanks for roses by the wayside,
Thanks for thorns their stems contain!
Thanks for home and thanks for fireside,
Thanks for hope, that sweet refrain!
Thanks for joy and thanks for sorrow,
Thanks for heav'nly peace with Thee!
Thanks for hope in the tomorrow,
Thanks thru all eternity!

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:9-15 pg. 47

SERMON

Mr. Anderson

"The Dow Is Not the Tao"

☞ APOSTLES' CREED

pg. 12

Prepare to Serve God

☞ HYMN #9

Nun Danket

"Now Thank We All Our God!"

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

Offertory

Hall

"Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord"

☞ Doxology #544

☞ Prayer of Dedication

Faithful God, we thank you that you have given us your promise, and we know that you will never go back on it. We can count on you to be there for us in any difficulty and in every joy. You have brought us through the storms of adversity and given us the perspective to enjoy the goods of the earth as gifts from you, not as items we deserve. In your Son's name we pray. AMEN.

THE PRAYERS

Announcements

Joys and Prayer Requests

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

☞ CLOSING HYMN #181

St. Flavian

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

☞ THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

☞ CHORAL BENEDICTION ³⁷⁸

Olivet

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

POSTLUDE

Sicilian Mariners

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing"

Welcome Visitors! We are glad you chose to worship with us today!

You may find today's hymns, the service music and liturgical readings, which aren't printed in the bulletin, in *The Hymnbook*.

Please help us to get to know you by signing our guest book and making yourself known to the pastor and those around you. May God bless your worship experience this day and go with you through the week.

Ministers This Week: all the members of the congregation, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Michael Anderson, pastor.