

On Mount Nebo,
where Moses looked
across the Jordan
to see the Promised
Land, there is a
modern metal
sculpture of a snake
on a pole. Or is it a
cross? Mount Nebo
is in modern day
Jordan.



Moses made a bronze snake and placed it on a pole. If a snake bit someone,
that person could look at the bronze snake and live. Numbers 21:9

Service for the Lord's Day

March 10, 2024

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering Around the Word

Striking of the Hour

Welcome

Prelude

Abide, O Dearest Jesus
Beth Pope, organ

James Coe

God's call invites
us to worship.

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship

The Lord lifted up on the cross is our salvation.

And so, let us look up and live!

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,

That everyone who believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Hymn 223

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

Declaring our sins is the first step toward removing them as obstacles.

This biblical story is so fantastic it begs an allegorical reading. Snakes = Sin The snake bite is sin's poison. The snake lifted up is our opportunity to look at sin and see its danger clearly. The snake on a pole is God's mastery of sin.

Sin, its harm, and God's mastery over it are also seen in the figure of Jesus raised on the cross.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

Great God, Easter hope leads us to look up, expectantly; and we look up to the cross. As we look up, put our sins beneath us. Place the destructive things under our feet, where we may trample them. Let us look ahead for what is good, and let us put the harms of the day behind us and away.

We long for Easter, but let us receive Lent's blessing. We wander in a wilderness now, but soon we will come home.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Kyrie

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

Declaration of Good News

Passing the Peace of Christ

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the First Covenant

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Anthem

The Music of Thy Name

Craig Courtney

All Stand

Gospel Reading

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.
"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.
"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

All Sit

Sermon

Look Up and Live

Curry Davis

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 137

He Came Down

HE CAME DOWN

A statement of what we believe about the cross.

Affirmation of Faith

A Declaration of Faith (4.3)

We believe that in the death of Jesus on the cross God achieved and demonstrated once for all the costly forgiveness of our sins. Jesus Christ is the Reconciler between God and the world. He acted on behalf of sinners as one of us, fulfilling the obedience God demands of us, accepting God's condemnation of our sinfulness. In his lonely agony on the cross Jesus felt forsaken by God and thus experienced hell itself for us. Yet the Son was never more in accord with the Father's will. He was acting on behalf of God, manifesting the Father's love that takes on itself the loneliness, pain, and death that result from our waywardness. In Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not holding our sins against us. Each of us beholds on the cross the Savior who died in our place, so that we may no longer live for ourselves, but for him. In him is our only hope of salvation.

All Sit

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.

Today, Buck-in-a-Basket will go toward the PLC Scholarship Fund.

The Offering

Offertory

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

SOJOURNER/arr. Edwin T. Childs

Beth Pope, piano

Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

Closing Hymn

Let There Be Peace on Earth

*Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.*

Benediction

Postlude

Warrenton

WARRENTON/arr. Mark Hayes

Beth Pope, piano

The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

270-843-4707 • www.bgpres.org

WELCOME VISITORS!

We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the Right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by ministers, officers, and congregation.

The Presbyterian Church Staff

*Choir Director
Youth Ministries
Financial Administrator
Treasurer
Children's Music Director / Pianist
Secretary
Office Assistant
Director, Preschool Learning Center
Custodian
Clerk of Session
Sunday Sexton
Sound Attendant*

*Dr. Wayne Pope
David Clarke
Terry Johnson
Steve Moore
Beth Pope
Cheryl Gregory
Robin Watkins Tolbert
Kimberly Watkins
Cedric Whitney
Debbie Trickey
Sara Parkerson
Lillian Hargesheimer*

Calendar

Sunday, March 10

8:30 a.m. Fellowship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Eating Out Sm. Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, March 11

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love

Tuesday, March 12

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
11:00 a.m. Special Care
6:00 p.m. Sunny 16 Camera Club

Wednesday, March 13

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group (Teresa's)
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:05 p.m. Lenten Dinner & Program

Thursday, March 14

6:00 p.m. DRITI

Friday, March 15

7:30 a.m. Mens' Breakfast (Lisa's)

Donate Online: The church website accepts online donations. Just go to our website, and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You may also scan this QR code.

<https://bgpres.org/give>



Elders: Class of 2024-Frederica Kernohan, Tim Leigh, Bobby Rabold, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2025-Karol Kirby Ahmed, Buzz English, Pamela Napier, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; Class of 2026-Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan **Deacons:** Class of 2024 Trudy Burkeen, Evan Goad, Linda Leigh, Catherine Reber, Susan Thomison; Class of 2025-Barbara Brindle, Craig Long, Teri Polen, Ernie Small, Dan Stelling, Fred Trickey; Class of 2026- Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Brianna Trickey

Announcements

USHERS: The Kernohan and Hines Families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE: Wyatt Edmunds, Hailey Goodwin, Darcy Merriman, Jeremiah Simpson, Johnna Smith

LAY READER: Kelly Goad

MEDIA PERSONNEL: David Clarke, Lillan Hargesheimer

NURSERY: Alisia Simmons, Yamilet Bruno Sanchez, Hailey Gadberry

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY March 17: Jeremiah 31:31–34; Psalm 51:1–12 or Psalm 119:9–16; Hebrews 5:5–10; John 12:20–33.

DEACONS OF THE WEEK this week will be Trudy and Phil Burkeen. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

TODAY

TODAY IN WORSHIP we again welcome the Rev. Curry Davis to the pulpit. Rev. Davis is a Presbyterian pastor who has served three churches in our Presbytery over the past 28 years. Now retired, he lives in Franklin, Kentucky. We extend our thanks to him for leading our worship this morning.

WEDNESDAY LENTEN DINNER AND PROGRAM As we have read *Draw the Circle - Taking the 40-Day Prayer Challenge* and listened to the author, Mark Batterson on video, we have been encouraged to draw a prayer circle, dream big, and pray hard. This week we will learn what it means to think long. You are welcome to join any time and be part of this inspiring study. We start with a home cooked dinner at 6:05. This week the menu is million-dollar spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert. Call the church office at 270-843-4707 so we know to prepare you a plate!

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP will meet at The Corner Bakery Cafe, 1951 Scottsville Road on March 10. Come have a sandwich and a cup of soup with us!

COMING UP:

SESSION HAS CALLED A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING for next Sunday, March 17 for the purpose of presenting the approved budget to the congregation. The meeting will take place at the end of the worship service on that day.

YOUTH EVENT On March 17th, we will have a joint downtown youth board game night at Christ Episcopal Church. We will meet from 4:30-6:30pm at Christ Episcopal. We are hoping this will be the first of many joint events we will have together. If you would like more information, speak to David Clarke.

OUR EASTER EGG HUNT will be on March 30th at Sandy Franklin's house (1740 Greenview Lane). We'll need lots of candy and desserts for our cake walk. If you would like to bring any donations (either desserts or candy) please bring them to the office. If you would like more information, speak to David Clarke. The event will begin at 10:30am.

HOLY WEEK EVENTS: DATES AND TIMES: **Maundy Thursday** will be on March 28. We will have a Maundy Thursday worship service in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm. On Friday, March 29th you may join us for Good Friday worship at 12:00 noon. Also, our **Easter Egg Hunt** is planned for Saturday, March 30th at the Franklin Farm (1740 Greenview Lane) at 10:30am. Plan to join us for these Lenten season events! On **Easter morning** our Easter Worship will be at our regular time of 10:30am in the Sanctuary. There will not be a sunrise service held this year. Also, look for information coming soon on the community noon worship service downtown (still being organized).

SATURDAY MEALS We need volunteers for Easter all-church Saturday. If possible, we would like at least four (4) people, two drivers and two inside helpers. If you can assist, please call or text Lovelyn at 619/368-2103. Also, the second Saturday in April is the Presbyterian day to host. We will need eleven (11) drivers, six sorter/packers, two kitchen helpers and at least two for cleanup. Please let me know if you can help in any capacity. Thank you everyone for your faithfulness. This is a wonderful program and we are honored to be able to be a part of it.

CECELIA MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH We are now accepting donations for our **Spring Giveaway** (May 25th). Any items that you can definitely live without, please let me know. Arrangements can be made to pick them up, we can meet you at a church, or you can drop smaller items off at your church office. Please contact Lovelyn at lovelynab@yahoo.com, or ceceliamemorial1234@outlook.com. You may call her at 619-368-2103 or 270/935-5110 for more information. Any donation is appreciated. Thanks in advance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES begin at 9:15am.

- Preschool taught by Jimmy and Betsy Tyrie
- Godly Play taught by Mary Evans – Kindergarten through 5th grade
- Middle and high school taught by David Clarke
- The Coffee and Conversation Class offers book study for adults with rotating leadership
- A Bible study class that is currently focusing on God's Big Picture and coordinated by Julia Roberts

OTHER NEWS:

CURRENT ART EXHIBIT Our own Bob Love, professional artist, has hung a sample of his artwork in the fellowship hall. You will enjoy browsing this exhibit, which will hang until March 21st. Be sure to check it out!

PLC ENROLLMENT FOR NEXT YEAR is now open for 2, 3, and 4 year olds. If you or someone you know is interested in preschool classes for children, please reach out to PLC director Kimberly Watkins (plcdirector@bgpres.org) or visit our website to check on enrollments and classes.

ATTENDANCE REGISTERS Tell us you're here, please! There are **navy blue notebooks** at the inside aisle end of every pew. Please write your name and any other information you'd like the church to have so we can better communicate with you. Then pass the notebook to your neighbors in the pew so they can sign in, too. After everyone has signed, please pass the notebook back to the inside aisle, so others in the pew can learn your name. Please also sign up for Wednesday evening dinners during Lent on the register!