5th Sunday in Lent

10:00 AM March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024

<sup>1</sup> Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.<sup>2</sup> Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:1-2

PRELUDE Debbe Picerno

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Our hope and our joy

P: Is to glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus.

L: As we worship together,

P: May the Lord make our love increase, may he strengthen our hearts so we shall be blameless and holy.

# **OPENING PRAYER**

\*HYMNS "Cornerstone" "10,000 Reasons"

# \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Loving God, our hearts are wandering and distracted. You invite us to serve and love You now, but we refuse because we have places to be and things to do. Our excuses blind us to Your call. The urgent and temporary crowd out what You consider truly important and eternal. Forgive our lack of conviction, discernment, and purpose. Restore to us the joy of serving and loving You. May our lives give You glory and honor. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Silent Confession)

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: Believe the good news of the Gospel.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

\*CONFESSION RESPONSE: "Gloria Patri"

**CALL TO OFFERING** 

**OFFERTORY** 

\*OFFERING RESPONSE:

"Doxology"

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

ANTHEM "Faithful Is God"

Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 21:1-13

**SERMON** 

"A Faithful God"

Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin

\*CONFESSION OF FAITH

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*HYMN "It is Well with My Soul"

No. 705

**POSTLUDE** 

Debbe Picerno

\*Those who are able please stand.

**Ushers:** Elders **Greeters:** Sue Boettner & Nikki Hromyak

Welcome Desk: Cora Murtha

Fellowship Hour: Bonnie Fiel

Liturgist: Bonnie Fiel

Childcare: Sarah Murtha

|                                  | THIS WEEK | THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR  |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday:                          | 10 AM     | Worship               |  |
| •                                | 11 AM     | Sunday School         |  |
| Tuesday:                         | 1 PM      | Quilting              |  |
| Wednesday:                       | 9 AM      | Coffee & Conversation |  |
|                                  | 5:30-7 PM | Faith & Fellowship    |  |
|                                  | 7 PM      | Choir                 |  |
| Friday:                          | 7 PM      | Youth Group Lock In   |  |
| Sunday, March 24 <sup>th</sup> : | 10 AM     | Palm Sunday Worship   |  |
|                                  | 11 AM     | Easter Egg Hunt       |  |

Good Friday Breakfast- Join us Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 AM for breakfast, followed by guest speaker Tammy Summers as she tell her "Story of Hope Out of Heartbreak." We are looking for volunteers to help serve breakfast. There is a signup sheet in the Library if you are available.

**Faith & Fellowship Nights-** This week will conclude our Faith & Fellowship Nights from 5:30-7 PM. We would like to thank everyone who helped make this program a great success.

Easter Egg Hunt- Palm Sunday, March 24th following worship, bring your Easter basket.

**New Members Discovery Night-** If you are interested in joining the church or would like more information about who we are and what we do, join us on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM. Dinner will be provided. There is a signup sheet in the Library.

**AED Classes-**We will be having several demonstration classes to familiarize those who have not seen or used an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). The classes will be about 1 - 2 hours in length. We will be using a manikin and AED simulator for demonstration so, each class will be limited to 10 people. There are signup sheets in the Library with dates and times. Please see or email Tim Rausch at <a href="PLNC@zoominternet.net">PLNC@zoominternet.net</a> if you have any questions.

**Blood Drive-** We will host our next blood drive on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 12-5 PM at the Meridian Firehall. Please sign up at redcrossblood.org if you are able to donate.

**Mission Trip Fundraiser-** The Youth Group has reached over 70% of their goal with two weeks remaining. Thank you for your generosity!

**Save the Dates-** This year's Vacation Bible School with be July 28<sup>th</sup>-August 1<sup>st</sup> and Summer Blast for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade will be July 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. More information coming soon.

# Meridian Presbyterian Church

www.meridianpres.org 724-482-2630



March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 "A Faithful God" Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin