

**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT  
GATHER IN GOD’S NAME**

(\*=**please stand if you are able**)

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer**

L: I will sing to the Lord, for the Holy One has triumphed gloriously.

**P: The Lord is my strength and my might. The Holy One has become my salvation.**

L: This is my God, and I will praise her, my mother’s God, and I will exalt her.

**P: Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods?**

L: Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in splendor, doing wonders?

**P: The Lord will reign forever and ever.**

L: Sing to the Lord,

**P: for the Holy One has triumphed gloriously.**

**Hymn of the Month GTG#646**

**“Sing Out, My Soul/Magnificat”**

**Call to Confession**

Since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach our Creator with a true heart in full assurance of faith.

**Litany of Confession**

L: O mighty God, who created us in your image, we confess to pressuring ourselves to be all things to all people.

**P: Have mercy on us.**

L: O wise God, who created the Sabbath for us, we confess to busying ourselves to fulfill every tenet of a metaphorical woman.

**P: Have mercy on us, O God.**

L: Merciful God, who created guides for us, we confess that we have forced ourselves and others to measure ourselves against impossible standards.

**P: Forgive us, O God.**

L: Restful God, who offers your light yoke, we confess to perpetuating tropes of individual strength and radical self-sufficiency.

**P: In your mercy, O God, forgive us.**

L: As a result, we have neglected our well-being, others and the actual work you have called us to.

**P: Forgive us, merciful God.**

L: You have modeled rest for us.

**P: Help us to embrace it.**

L: You have shown us truth.

**P: Help us to live it.**

L: That we may live in wisdom and purpose.

**P: In Christ, Amen.**

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

As Jesus tells us, “For my yoke is easy and my burden is light, in me you will find rest for your souls.” Siblings in Christ receive the good news of the gospel. In Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.

**ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri GTG#581**

**“Glory Be to the Father”**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son,

And to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen, amen.

**Prayer for Illumination**

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 10:38–42

While Jesus and his disciples were traveling, Jesus entered a village where a woman named Martha welcomed him as a guest. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his message. By contrast, Martha was preoccupied with getting everything ready for their meal. So Martha came to him and said, “Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to prepare the table all by myself? Tell her to help me.” The Lord answered, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. One thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the better part. It won’t be taken away from her.”

L: This is the word of God. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:**

**Scripture Reading**

Proverbs 31:10–31

A competent wife, how does one find her? Her value is far above pearls. Her husband entrusts his heart to her, and with her he will have all he needs. She brings him good and not trouble all the days of her life. She seeks out wool and flax; she works joyfully with her hands. She is like a fleet of merchant ships, bringing food from a distance. She gets up while it is still night, providing food for her household, even some for her female servants. She surveys a field and acquires it; from her own resources, she plants a vineyard. She works energetically; her arms are powerful. She realizes that her trading is successful; she doesn’t put out her lamp at night. She puts her hands to the spindle; her palms grasp the whorl. She reaches out to the needy; she stretches out her hands to the poor. She doesn’t fear for her household when it snows, because they are all dressed in warm clothes. She makes bedspreads for herself; fine linen and purple are her clothing. Her husband is known in the city gates when he sits with the elders of the land. She makes garments and sells them; she supplies sashes to traders. Strength and honor are her clothing; she is confident about the future. Her mouth is full of wisdom; kindly teaching is on her tongue. She is vigilant over the activities of her household; she doesn’t eat the food of laziness. Her children bless her; her husband praises her: “Many women act competently, but you surpass them all!” Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Let her share in the results of her work; let her deeds praise her in the city gates.

L: This is the word of the Lord. **P: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

“Are We Competent Enough?”

**Rev. Jeniffer Rodriguez**

**Hymn (See Insert)**

**“God of the Women” (to the tune of Be Thou My Vision)**

**Celebration of the Gift of Women**

**Litany of Gratitude and Celebration**

L: For the gifts of women throughout the ages,

**P: we give thanks.**

L: For the ways that they have shown up—from Shiphrah and Puah to Miriam and Hagar, from Deborah and Jael to Ruth and Rahab, to Vashti and Esther,

**P: we celebrate you.**

L: For their courage and strength, resistance and rest, wisdom and subversiveness,

**P: we celebrate you.**

L: For Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah, we recognize your groundbreaking advocacy,

**P: we give thanks for you.**

L: For Mary, the mother of Jesus, and Elisabeth, her cousin; we see your brave faith,

**P: we honor you.**

L: For Jephthah’s daughter and the Benjamite’s concubine, for Leah and Peninnah and all the women who have been

reduced to their reproductive abilities,

**P: we give thanks and honor, for you are so much more than that.**

L: For Mary Magdalene, Martha, Mary, Joanna, Susanna, Rhoda, Dorcas, Tabitha, and the countless unnamed women of the sacred texts,

**P: we center you from the margins and celebrate you.**

L: For mothers, aunts, wives, daughters, sisters; for all the women—in every walk of life, throughout all space and time,

**P: we give thanks. We celebrate you. We honor you. All: Hallelujah! Amen.**

**Words of Gratitude**

From the providence of God, all that we need has been given to us, in sufficient abundance that we might share. Let us return our offerings as a sign of our commitment to follow the one who has loved us, even unto death.

**Offertory GTG#205**

**RESPOND IN GRACE**

**“Live in Charity / Ubi Caritas”**

Live in Charity and steadfast love.

Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

Ubi caritas et amor,

ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

**\* Doxology**

**“Amen We Praise Your Name O God”**

Sing amen.

Amen, we praise your name, O God. (Sing amen.)

Amen, we praise your name, O God. (Sing amen.)

Amen, amen, amen, amen.

Amen, we praise your name, O God.

Masithi.

Amen, siakudu misa. (Masithi.)

Amen, siakudu misa. (Masithi.)

Amen, bawo, amen, bawo.

Amen, siakudu misa.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, from the overflowing of your love, we have been given abundance upon abundance. Receive, we pray, our offerings and bless them. May we be blessed by their work, as we see your reign among us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayers of the People**

Eternal God, our story together is one of your unending faithfulness to us, even as we are not always faithful to you. Holy source of all that is good, you have shown us yourself in abundance and mercy, in grace and abiding care. Knowing of your enduring providence, we may come to you with the concerns that weigh heavily on us.

We pray to you for world affairs beyond our control. For the people of Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, we pray for peace, knowing that you alone are the source of true shalom, peaceable kingdom. Where there are those in harm's way, we pray protection. Where we ourselves harbor enmity and prejudice, we pray awareness and grace that we may learn forgiveness. Teach us how we may serve you more fully in ways we cannot imagine.

We pray for needs closer to home, for our own community. As we enter the season of Lent, we ask that you open our eyes to the needs on our very doorstep. May we see those whose names are known to you and offer compassion and goodwill. We pray for victims of violence, and gun violence in particular. We offer our prayers for those who seek solutions for intractable problems. Let us not give up hope. Let us not abandon the work of healing the world — we remember that all healing comes from you.

We pray as well for ourselves, our own material and spiritual needs. Where our members suffer from illness and affliction, grant your healing touch, bringing wholeness. For any in our midst who suffer from depression or addiction, give us understanding and compassion. For those who are lonely, may we be a place of friendship, a warm haven where love is shared. To that end, we pray for the church: Universal, Presbyterian, and our own congregation. Enrich our lives with your grace that we might also be repairers of the breach.

We make these and all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together, **“Our Father ...”**.

**\*Lord’s Prayer**

**Hymn GTG#324** **“For All the Faithful Women”**

**Announcements**

**Benediction**

God is Good! All the time! All the Time! God is Good!  
Go into the world, liberated ones. Remember God has liberated us from over-producing. Remember the gift of Sabbath. Embrace your gifts, knowing that you are enough. Amen.

**The Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you**

**Amen**

**Postlude**

**Current Church Officers**

Session		
2024	2025	2026
Rich Ellison	Tom Clemmens	Kofi Boateng
Bob Supina		Duna Fullerton
Deacons		
2024	2025	2026
Lisa Clemmens		Susan Caretta
Nancy McIntyre		Julie Njie
Jonathan Oh		



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Carol Arrucci

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR  
Lindsay Wilkens  
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SEXTON  
Benson Njie

MINISTERS  
All the Members

***“A multicultural congregation worshipping together where Jesus Christ is Lord; where men, women, and children share in leadership; and where the strength of our fellowship builds bridges to the community.”***

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Website: [www.fpcossining.org](http://www.fpcossining.org)  
For offerings please scan the QR code below



## **EVENTS HAPPENING IN 2024**

**In person hybrid worship** is at 11AM

Zoom link is as follows:

By Computer

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 870 270 865

One tap mobile

+16465588656

**Drumming Program** will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. The next session will be March 18 at 6:00PM in the Fellowship Hall

**Hybrid English Bible Study** will be on Thursdays at 11AM in the Fellowship Hall.

Zoom Link bible study

By computer

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 376 838 854

One tap mobile

+16465588656,Spanish

**Spanish Bible Study** will be on Wednesdays.

**Coffee Hour** following worship today

**Annual Congregational Meeting** today following worship.

**Worship Team Meeting** will be March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10AM

**Session Meeting** will be March 25<sup>th</sup> 7PM

**Presbyterian Women 2024 Churchwide Gathering** will be August 8-11, 2024 in St. Louis, Missouri. If you are interested in attending please register at [www.2024pwcwg.org](http://www.2024pwcwg.org)

**Please Share your tithes and offerings** using the QR code below



## **Prayers and Praise**

Please pray for everyone in leadership

Please pray for children/ families

Please pray for the Otu family

Please pray for the Supina/Ruess family

Please pray for the Sevilla family

Please pray for people struggling with cancer for healing

Please pray for people struggling with mental health

Please pray for leaders, people in a position of authority

Please pray for the Denzer Family

Please pray for Heather Blenkinsopp

Please pray for the Carretta family

Please pray for the Yumart family

Please pray for the Sippel family

Please pray for the Quinoy family

Please pray for Joy and Teresa Zeiden

Please pray for Boateng family

Please Pray for Orr family

Please pray for Kiara Taylor's family

Please pray for Bruce and family

Please pray for Bob

Please pray for Curtis

Please pray for the Bonapace family

Please pray for peace in the world

**Praise Songs and Hymns**

**Sing Out, My Soul/Magnificat**

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul.  
Sing out and glorify the Lord who sets us free.  
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul.  
Sing out and glorify the Lord God!

Magnificat. Magnificat.  
Magnificat anima mea Dominum.  
Magnificat. Magnificat.  
Magnificat anima mea!

**God of the Women**

God of the women who answered your call,  
Trusting your promises, giving their all,  
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —  
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,  
Giving their resources, learning to pray,  
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —  
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,  
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,  
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —  
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

**For All The Faithful Women**

For all the faithful women who served in days of old,  
to you shall thanks be given; to all, their story told.  
They served with strength and gladness in tasks your wisdom gave.  
To you their lives bore witness, proclaimed your power to save.

We praise your name for Miriam, who sang triumphantly  
while Pharaoh's vaunted army lay drowned beneath the sea;  
for Ruth, who left her homeland and ventured forth in faith,  
who pledged to serve and worship Naomi's God till death.

We sing of busy Martha, who toiled with pot and pan  
while Mary sat in silence to hear the word again.  
We praise the other Mary, who hastened to the tomb  
and found her Lord arisen, dispelling doubt and gloom.

Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas, who served the sick and poor.  
Her hands were cups of kindness, her heart an open door.  
O God, for saints and servants, our fervent prayer we raise,  
that, faithful in your service, our lives may sing your praise.