

Ministry Staff — How can we serve You?

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Burns; matthew@psrc.org / Children Ministries: Kate Martinka; kate@psrc.org / Worship Leader: Steve Martinka; steve@psrc.org / Office/Finance: Sadie Perkins; churchoffice@psrc.org/finance@psrc.org

Shepherding Pastorates — Alphabetical by last name:

A-Br — Elder Sandy Wynja & Deacon Ruth Haringa
Bs-Eo — Elder Eric Wierenga & Deacon Karyn Schneider
Ep-HI — Elder Chuck McGrath & Deacon Mike O'Rourke
Hm-Mc — Elder Sue Cooper & Deacon Tanya Anema
Md-S — Elder Dawn Lefrancois & Deacon Cathy Greene
T-Y — Elder John Woudenberg & Deacon Jodie Woudenberg

PLEASANT ST. KIDS — We would love to help your children become devoted followers of Christ! Check in and get a name tag at the kids cart in the fellowship hall before service.

- **NURSERY** (babies-age 3) during the service for Bible stories, music, play, and more!
- **KIDSTREET** (age 4-2nd grade) dismissed before sermon for a Bible story, craft/activity, music, and more!
- **ECHO** (3rd-5th grade) dismissed after the sermon to reflect and get to know each other, lasting 10 minutes. We don't meet on the last Sunday of each month.
- All ages are welcome to stay in the service. There is space under the balcony and in the fellowship hall if you need to get the wiggles out.

CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER — Our deepest condolences to Sally Masnoon in the passing of her son, Amir. We pray for all the WCS families traveling to and from vacation on their spring break next week. Happy Birthday to Winifred Nydam celebrating her birthday next Wednesday and Karen Masso who celebrates her birthday next Saturday—*The Lord be with you all!*

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS — Please visit the table in the fellowship hall and write a wee note to Mike Bienema who will be celebrating his *100th* birthday next Friday. 🍷

MANY THANKS — I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the congregation for the cards, phone calls and prayers after my recent surgery and continued recovery at home—*Dick McMahon!*

GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

FREE SEMINAR: "A GOOD DEATH" — Please join us on Saturday, April 6 at 9:30am as we create a space to discuss aspects of what a Good Death can mean today. We will be joined by a panel of practitioners who specialize in various aspects of funeral and final arrangements; legal, medical, and logistical planning. They can help us be a little more prepared, and a little less surprised when we get there.

OUR COUNCIL — has established a Christian Education Assistance Fund to encourage and assist families in providing a Christian education for their children. All active church members who will have children attending WCS (K-12) during the 2024-25 school year are eligible to participate. Application forms are located by the entrances to the sanctuary. Please return the application to your pastorate deacon by April 15. Thanks!

NEW MEMBERS CLASS — We are considering hosting a new members class this spring. Want to know more about the mission and ministries of Pleasant street? Please contact Pastor Matthew and let us know you're interested. We are looking at hosting 3 classes in April or May, each class being 90 minutes.

CRC SOFTBALL OUTREACH MINISTRY — Men 16 years and older interested in fun, competition, and fellowship are invited to join the combined Pleasant Street and Fairlawn CRC team. Games are played most Monday evenings at 6pm from mid April through early August. For more information, contact Scott Schneider at SMSchneider68@hotmail.com or Jonathan Steele at jsteele1964@gmail.com.

SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

NAC EASTER FOOD CARDS — Please see Deacon Kelly Lariviere or Keith VandenAkker in the Fellowship Hall. We are helping 27 families in our community by giving them food cards for Easter to celebrate our risen Savior! Thank you for your generosity.

WHITINSVILLE RETIREMENT SOCIETY, INC. — Annual meeting will be held right here at Pleasant Street Church on Wednesday, April 3 at 7:30pm. We're encouraging all church members and interested people to attend, even if you have not paid your dues.

WELCOME

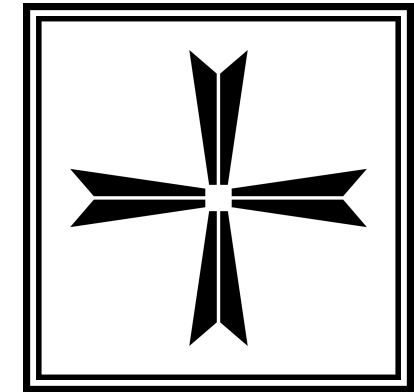
We're glad you joined us!

508.234.5268 +

Office Hours: 8am-4pm Mon-Fri

March 17, 2024 + 9:30am

"Traveling Light: The Gospel of Mark in Lent"



If you have been worshiping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries.

LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

M 9:30a Women's Bible Study: Fellowship Hall
6:30p Celebrate Recovery: Fellowship Hall
W 6:30p Prayer Meeting: Prayer Room
Th 7:30a Men's Bible Study: Fellowship Hall

Prayer of preparation

Holy and Loving God, May our praise never cease in this season.

May our worship be unending. May our love for you find new depths. May this season bring new hope and new healing. May we journey toward the cross prayerfully and purposefully, even through the pain, doubt, questions, and searching. We Pray this in your Holy Name. Amen.

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship — from Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

SONGS: *God so Loved*

You Are My King (Amazing Love)

RENEWAL

Prayer of Confession — H.C. 104

Lord, you ask us to honor our fathers and mothers. We confess that, as we grow, we struggle to know how to honor and love our parents—their needs, their advice, their wounds.

Loving Father, have mercy on us.

Lord, you ask us to guide and correct the children entrusted to us. We confess that, as parents, we struggle with discipline; we minimize the concerns of our children, we are

sometimes too rough with rebuke. We don't know how to guide them to you.

Loving Father, have mercy on us.

Lord, you ask us to honor you by submitting to the authorities placed over us. We confess that too often we deride leaders when they fail or follow them with unquestioned obedience. We forget to treat our leaders as God-given. Many times, Lord, we also forget that our authority is God-given, too.

Loving Father, have mercy on us.

Loving Father, like lost sons and daughters, we return to you now confessing that we have spurned your authority while we spend your blessings. We have grieved you and caused hurt to others, and we are not worthy to be called your children.

Loving Father, have mercy on us and receive us again into your household. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of God's Deliverance — from Luke 15; Philippians 2

A father had two sons. One despised him; going far away to squander his father's wealth. The other son stayed close to home but disparaged the father; giving him only cold obedience. Both sons spurned the father's love. And yet, the father sought them both. The father ran to his younger son. **And while he was still a long way off, embraced him.**

The father went out to his older son.

And invited him to share his joy at the feast.

Friends, Jesus told this story in order for us to know that God seeks lost children, both near and far. He is the gift of the Father, the faithful Son, and our good Older Brother.

Who, being equal with God, did not use it to his advantage but emptied himself, becoming a servant. He was obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross, all for our sake. Glory to God our Father. Amen.

Lord Jesus, by your obedience, teach us to honor those over us. Loving Father, by your love, teach us to correct and guide our children. Holy Spirit, by your wisdom enable us to use faithfully the authority given to us. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Response of Gratitude

COMMIT

Morning Offerings: Ministries of Pleasant Street



SONG: *Good Good Father*

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

KidStreet Dismissal [age 4 through 2nd grade are dismissed]

WORD

Morning Prayers

Mark 13: 1-13; 24-37 + "Looking out for New Things"

SEND

ECHO Dismissal [Students in grades 3-5 are dismissed]

SONG: *How Firm a Foundation*

Apostle's Creed

Benediction

SONG: *In Christ Alone*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Jesus Christ.