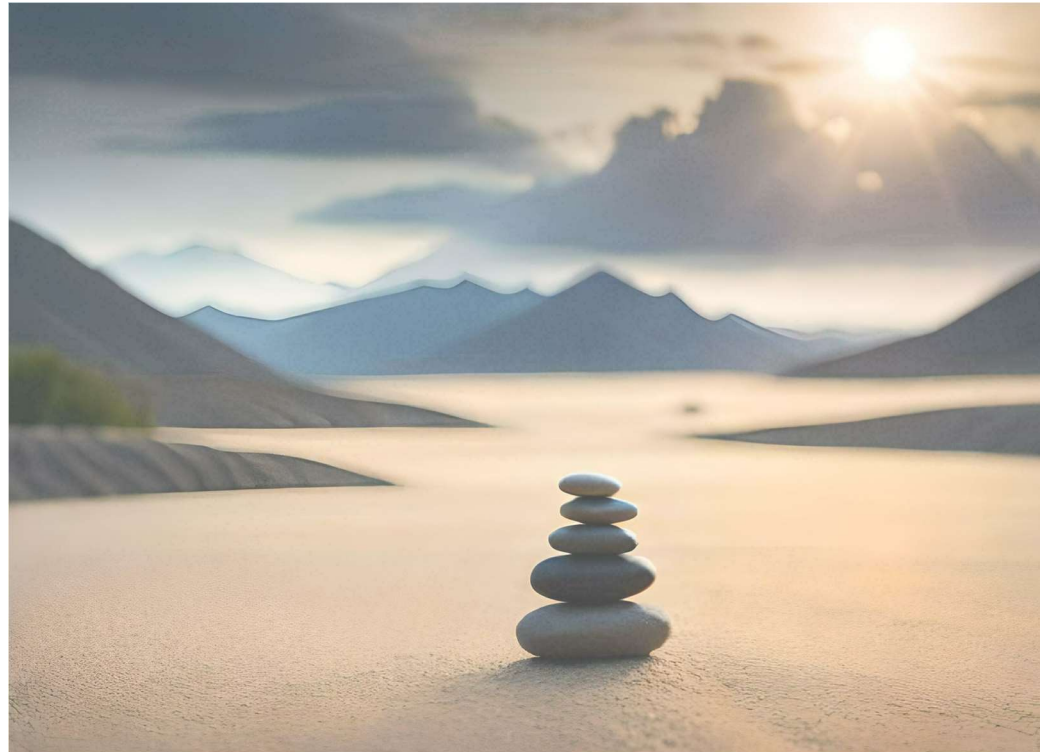


GERMONDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
39 Germonds Road – New City, New York 10956

February 18, 2024

Ten-thirty o'clock



CORE VALUES OF GERMONDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We answer Christ's call by:

Worshiping God

Welcoming All

Caring for Human Dignity

Serving in the World

Participating in Worship

Pastor and Teaching Elder

Music and Choir Director

Guest Musician

Liturgist

Ushers

Fellowship

Rev. Abbie Huff

Melissa Alexander

Susan Buffington

Ryan Fuller

Tom Nimick, Linda Scarantino

Hana and Jiri Marsik, Don Smith



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, February 18 – 1st Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship/Baptisms

11:30 am Fellowship Time

Herald Deadline

Monday, February 19-President's Day – Busy Bee is closed all week

Wednesday, February 21

10:00 am Bible Study at the Manse

Thursday, February 22

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, February 24

8:00 am Men's Group

Sunday, February 25 – 2nd Sunday in Lent

10:30 am Worship/Baptism

11:30 am Fellowship Time

Rev. Abbie Huff – AbbieHuff@germondschurch.org - 267-664-3180

Email: Marion.Stefanoff@germondschurch.org-Office – 845-623-2120

Website: www.Germondschurch.org

Cemetery – 845-641-4192- Cemetery Superintendent – Dan Madar – spookrock@aol.com

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

We extend a warm welcome to all this morning! We invite you to join us for the fellowship time after worship. If you are looking for community, fun, fellowship, and a place to go deeper in your faith, we would be happy to tell you more about Germonds Presbyterian Church. Find out more on our website at germondschurch.org.

We Need Ushers!

One of the simplest volunteer opportunities at the church is helping with ushering. It only requires getting here a little early, turning on lights and putting up hymn numbers, then greeting people and handing out bulletins before taking the offering. Let Marion know if you are interested or available!

Soup Angels – March 18, May 6, July 8, September 16, November 4, December 30

CIS has created a Germonds Team for an ongoing volunteer opportunity to assist Soup Angels in Nyack on Mondays, approximately every 7 weeks, from 4pm to 7pm. Volunteers will be working in their Food Pantry, including helping with the distribution of prepared meals-to-go. If you are interested in serving, please contact Des Olori at Descobb@gmail.com.

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

February 18 is the Herald deadline for the March issue. Please forward your contributions to me and Karen Ostertag, our editor.

Lenten Study, March 3, 10, 17 after worship (12pm in Walkthrough Room)

This Lenten season, we will take a journey wrestling with some of the more difficult aspects of life in this world. Why is there evil, why is there suffering, how can this be part of God's plan? How do we live in faith and hope when there is war and violence, death and disease? Over these three conversations we will read excerpts from Leslie Weatherhead's sermon series on "The Will of God," compiled and published in the wake of London's bombing during World War II, and discuss what it means for our lives and our faith. Join us for these difficult, but powerful, conversations.

Lenten Devotional – Pick one up in the Narthex

Our Lenten devotional booklet is from Sanctified Art and highlights our theme of Again and Again – both our lament and joyful refrain in a world full of suffering and hardship. Read an entry each day through this season of self-reflection and re-dedication.

Upcoming Dates:

March 24, Palm Sunday – Fellowship Brunch, Easter Egg Hunt, Joyful Noise singing

March 28, Maundy Thursday – 7:30 pm service

March 29, Good Friday – 7:30 pm service at New Hempstead

March 31, Easter Sunday – 6:30 am sunrise service, 10:30 am Easter service

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

First Sunday in Lent

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit. ~Edward Abbey

PRELUDE *Prelude in B Minor, Opus 28, No. 6* Frederic Chopin

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

INTROIT *Worship the Lord* Lloyd Larson

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God meets us in the night—

**All: Before the sun rises, before the wound heals, before there are answers,
before there is closure.**

One: God meets us in the light—

**All: Where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious, where flowers bloom
from cracks in the sidewalk, and where people gather around the table.**

One: God meets us at the threshold—

**All: At the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness,
at the start of something new, on the edge of faith.**

One: And if God meets us in all those places, then surely God meets us in between—

All: Staying with us through the wilderness.

One: We are not alone. God is all around.

All: Let us worship the God of the here and now.

*HYMN *Ho, All Who Thirst* GG:479

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God who meets us where we are— there is nowhere we can go that you are not.

**All: You were with Jesus at his baptism. You were with him in the wilderness, and
even in between, you were there, saying aloud, “This is my beloved.”**

One: We know that you are with us too—in the good, the bad, and everything in
between— but so often we act like we are alone.

**All: Instead of coming to you with our hurt, we hold it in or cast it onto others.
Instead of coming to you with our joy, we credit ourselves and offer
you nothing.**

One: How can we long for a deeper relationship with you while living like you are
nowhere to be found?

**All: Forgive our self-centered ways. Remind us that in every breath, in every step,
you are there.**

One: You are the God who meets us where we are.

All: Before and behind, above and below, within and around.

One: Let us silently confess our sins before God.

(A time for silent examination and confession.)

Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, hear this: God is here.
God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new
beginning, and God calls you beloved.

**All: We are washed by the water. We are called beloved. Thanks be to God for a
love like that.**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

GG:791

**Lord, hear my pleading voice, and let me know you hear!
As sleepless ones feel rest approach, I know my God is near.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one
another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM *I Can See the River Jordan* Jay Althouse

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Conrad William Mahoney, son of Brian and Julie Mahoney
Luke John Bitts, son of Valerie Bates and Paul Bitts

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*HYMN *I Will Come to You* GG:177

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 9:8-17, pg. 7

SCRIPTURE: Mark 1:9-15, pg. 34

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Thrown into the Wilderness" Rev. Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *View Me Lord* Thomas Campion/R.H. Lloyd

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* GG:606

All: **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **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.

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* GG:475

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Grace to You* Lloyd Larson

POSTLUDE *Chorale: "O Mensch, Bewein Dein Sünde Gross"* J. S. Bach
(O Man, Bewail Thy Sins so Great)