

# First Presbyterian Church of Marysville

## “Connection”

**Worship @ Home**  
**April 6, 2025**  
(5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent)

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Light a candle to remind you of Christ's light.

Take three deep and centering breaths.

*Breathe in “Loving God”*

*Breathe out “Prepare my heart”*

OR

Sing “Surely the Presence of the Lord”

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place*

*I can feel his mighty power and his grace*

*I can hear the brush of angels' wings*

*I see glory on each face*

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place*

### INVITATION TO WORSHIP

One: Break open our hearts this morning to hear your word, O God.

**All: Let our fears be vanquished, our spirits restored!**

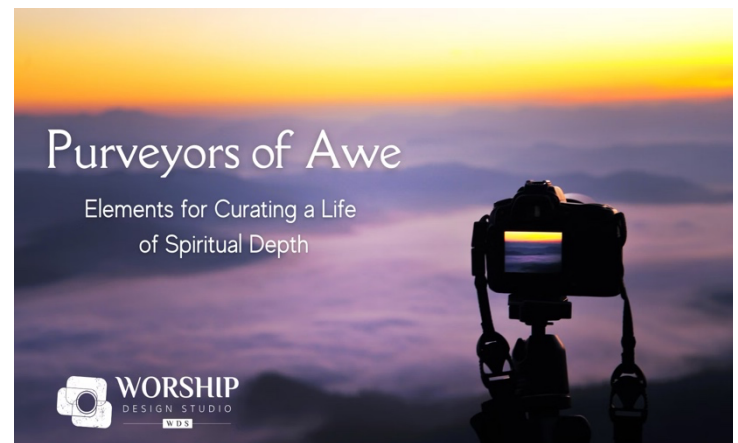
One: Come and let us worship with great joy!

**All: Let us drop the things of the past which weighed us down!**

One: God is about to do something new in our lives!

**All: Let God's will become strong in our lives.**

Pastor: Lent is often considered a solitary journey as we traditionally use it as a time to examine ourselves and engage in practices that bring us closer to God. While this is a part of the spiritual journey, we also know that human beings were made for relationship. This is why it is so vitally important that we experience collective awe. As we continue to explore what it means to be “purveyors of awe,” we learn of the powerful benefits of togetherness. In a time when we have been through one of the most isolating times in human history, we remember and are grateful for a renewed ability to seek connection.



**All:** Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me. Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for Thee, ready, my God, Thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

**HYMN:** "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" #483 Blue (*words are attached*)

## **CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

**One:** Trusting in God's great love for us, let us join in our confession together.

## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Awe-inspiring God, we come together this day because we need to be reminded to see through the lens of connection. It is too easy to have everything we need without seeking out relationship or connection to another human being. Open us to perceive anew. Inspire us to receive our surroundings with awe. Forgive us when we hold back unnecessarily from wholehearted participation and dedication to eradicating loneliness. Be with us on this journey as we seek again to marvel at your works. (Silent Prayer)

## **CLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS**

**One:** God does not sever connection. Ever. God forgives us. Jesus embraces us. The Spirit enlivens us. We are whole.

**All:** With awe, we accept God's belovedness. Thanks be to God!

**HYMN:** "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds" #438 Blue (*words are attached*)

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Psalm 149: 1-4

## **MESSAGE: "Connection"**

**Rev. Grace Suwabe**

Awe is a gateway to connection. As we have experiences that give us a sense of being part of something larger than "just us," our penchant for self-preservation and obsession with the competitive default-self gives way to a renewed commitment to the greater whole. We need moments of "collective effervescence" that increase hope and joy at being part of the human family. (Please contemplate on these words and spend some time with God in prayer.)

## **GATHERING AND DEDICATING OUR OFFERING**

**One:** Every good gift comes from God.

**All:** Let us continue our worship of God through the giving of our gifts.

*Consider what gifts you could offer to God and to God's people. Speak them out loud or write them down and after worship, make a plan to share these gifts.*

*Some examples include – acknowledge someone's presence with a smile and "Hello!", perform a random act of kindness, pray for those on our prayer list*

\*Please continue to support the church by mailing your offering (checks only) to the church office:

*First Presbyterian Church of Marysville – 1900 Ahern St, Suite B, Marysville, CA 95901*

You may also drop off your offering at the church office on Thursdays from 10 am – 4 pm or Fridays from 11 am – 2 pm or use the wall mail slot next to Suite B door. (Please do not put anything in the outside mailboxes.)

Online giving is also available! Copy and paste the below link into your browser and follow the prompts:

[https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco\\_ver3.vps?appver3=wWsk24ZWJSTZKsGd1RMKlg0BDvsSG3VIWQCPJNNxD8upkiY7JIDavDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSo8LdUKGuGuF396vbZpZISnR1aL6Jy6aLfKsLAIYnTg5dP4O6rpX5QvPEWIBhHDN59kLZFffwKfYERpQrqXrEYxb09pApAL3pdNN38=&ver=3](https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=wWsk24ZWJSTZKsGd1RMKlg0BDvsSG3VIWQCPJNNxD8upkiY7JIDavDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSo8LdUKGuGuF396vbZpZISnR1aL6Jy6aLfKsLAIYnTg5dP4O6rpX5QvPEWIBhHDN59kLZFffwKfYERpQrqXrEYxb09pApAL3pdNN38=&ver=3)

*Thank you for your continued support of the church!*

## **THE DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heaven-ly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, A-men.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Offer prayer for the needs of the world, paying particular attention to those who are feeling lost, alone, and scared.  
May God's presence and love envelop them and comfort them.*

*Let us join together in prayer for the following people:*

*Aurel, Betty, Lorraine, Marilyn, Peggy, Joe, Joe, Judy, Jackie, Pearl, Adam, Carrie, Christina, Herm, Huang,  
Jackie, Joanne, Joyce, Justin, Kenneth, Luann, Luke, Mindy, Nathan, Raelynn, Timothy, Vicki, Wayne*

*If you are in need of prayer or assistance, please let Pastor Grace know at [fpcmsvlpastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcmsvlpastor@gmail.com).*

## **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.*

**HYMN:** "Let Us Break Bread Together" #513 Blue

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Table**

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion of the People**

**HYMN:** "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" #422 Blue (*words are attached*)

## **CHARGE**

**One:** Be a purveyor of awe this week. Seek out connection with others whose life and love can be multiplied because together you help light up the world. Invite renewed connections to live and breathe new life in you.

**All:** **We go to be purveyors of awe, curating a life of spiritual depth that inspires others to join us on the journey.**

## **BENEDICTION**

May the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of Awe, the Holy One-in-Three, be with you all now and throughout these days. Amen.

*(Extinguish the candle if you lit one at the beginning of worship and allow the smoke to billow as a reminder of Christ's abiding presence.)*

OR

You can sing "Surely the Presence of the Lord"

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place*

*I can feel his mighty power and his grace*

*I can hear the brush of angels' wings*

*I see glory on each face*

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place*

## **FPCM Contact Information**

Pastor Grace Suwabe – [fpcmsvlpastor@gmail.com](mailto:fpcmsvlpastor@gmail.com)

Church Office – [fpcmsvl@comcast.net](mailto:fpcmsvl@comcast.net) or (530) 742-5541

*Hours during week of Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> – Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>*

*Thursdays 10 am – 4 pm*

*Fridays 11 am – 2 pm*

Website: [www.firstpresmarysville.church](http://www.firstpresmarysville.church)

## **Announcements:**

Holy Communion is celebrated today.

Deacons meeting today at 12 noon.

Bible study will occur this Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm in the fellowship hall.

Easter Schedule:

Maundy Thursday Service at 6 pm on April 17<sup>th</sup>

Good Friday Service at 12 noon on April 18<sup>th</sup> at United Methodist Church on D Street

Easter Sunrise Service at 6 am on April 20<sup>th</sup> at the Gazebo at Ellis Lake.

Wrapped candy & small toys are needed to fill plastic eggs. Please bring by April 13<sup>th</sup>.

The food pantry (1905-C Covillaud St.) is open on Fridays from 10 am – 12 noon. Help is welcomed.

\*Items needed – *canned fruit, pasta, cereal*