WELCOME TO THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF FARMINGTON

**Fifth Sunday in Lent March 17, 2024**

Prelude

Ring the Chimes

Welcome and Announcements

Passing the Peace of Christ

\*Call to Worship

Wonderful Covenant Maker, we come before you.

**We are your people and you are our God, and we rejoice!**

Great Teacher from the beginning, we come before you.

**We are ready for fresh understanding; your Word will open up new ideas.**

Source of all Forgiveness, we come before you.

**Our sins and shortcomings trouble us; we are ready to begin again.**

Eternal Loved One, we come before you.

**We know that your love at the depth of our being, your love at the heart of our church, will transform everything.**

\*Opening Hymn # 22 “God of the Sparrow”

\*Call to Confession:

\*Prayer of Confession

Sometimes we have lost our way, O God.

**We know the right course of action, but lack the courage to follow it.** Sometimes we have missed our cue, O God.

**We are aware of what needs to be said, but are afraid of the consequences.**

Sometimes we have labeled others unfairly, O God.

**We are quick to judge on the basis of race or speech, slow to accept the worth of the person.**

Sometimes we have avoided the challenge, O God.

**The call to justice or to compassion comes clearly to us, but we let it pass.**

Sometimes we have been unfaithful, O God.

**The example of Jesus Christ is before us, but we deny our discipleship.**

*(Time for silent reflection)*

\*Assurance of Pardon

Jesus said to the reformed tax collector Zacchaeus, “Today salvation has come to this house.”

**We rejoice that we can confess our shortcomings fully and openly, and can make a fresh start, as he did.**

God’s pardon and peace are yours.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri

Children’s Sermon

Scripture Readings Luke 19:1-10

Sermon “Come to the Table to Right Wrongs”

\* Hymn #649 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

Birthdays

Joys/Concerns/Prayers of the People

Call to Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving for our Tithes and Offerings

In our giving, O God, the life of Jesus is before us.

**We will give to maintain Christ’s values, we will give to sustain Christ’s work, we will give to show Christ’s compassion, we will give to strengthen Christ’s community, we will give because we remember Christ’s cross, and experience his risen hope.**

And you, O God, will receive our gifts, and bless them.

**Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn #726 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

\* Charge and Benediction

Go the extra mile!

**We will go out of the way to strengthen our faith.**

Stay the course!

**We will endure with the person to whom trouble has come.**

Forgive generously!

**We will put hard feelings aside, and restore the ties of friendship.**

Live fully!

**We will rejoice in each day’s opportunities, and make the most of them.**

\*Postlude