

VAN WYCK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday March 10, 2024

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE Janesta Williams  
PASTORAL WELCOME Rev. Carson Montgomery  
ANNOUNCEMENTS George Baker

CALL TO WORSHIP George Baker

Leader: On our worst days, God is good.

**All: On our best days, God is good.**

Leader: When life is consistent, God is good.

**All: And when life turns on its head, God is good.**

Leader: Day and night, Monday through Sunday, God is good.

**All: God is here. God is love.**

Leader: Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

\*HYMN NO. 385 All People That On Earth Do Dwell

CALL TO CONFESSION George Baker

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense. Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!" We want to control scenarios beyond our reach. We want to hold your world in our hands. Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity. Forgive us for arguing when we could listen. Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many. Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen. With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, no matter how many times you have dug your heels in, no matter how many fights you have wanted to pick with God, no matter how many times you have disagreed, raged, or clung to what you know instead of embracing holy change— we worship a God of

grace. Nothing can separate us from God's love, not even a stubborn attitude or a tense heart. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: God's love for us will always be deeper than we can imagine. We are seen. We are loved. And we are forgiven. Now follow Peter, and go be the Church in the world. Amen.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 475

***Come thou fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing; call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet; sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!***

ANTHEM The Old Rugged Cross Choir  
MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Rev. Carson Montgomery

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION George Baker

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 16: 21-23

SERMON **Wandering Heart: I'm Fixed Upon It**  
Rev. Carson Montgomery

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (written by Rev. Sarah Are Speed)

**I believe in a God of second chances, a God who sees through my stubbornness and holds my fear with tenderness. I believe that this God of second chances uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world. Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too. I believe that from time to time, God invites us to imagine the impossible. I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds. This change is holy and important work, although**

challenging. When fear and scarcity plague me, or when the impossible feels out of reach, I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

PRAISES AND PRAYER CONCERNS                      Rev. Carson Montgomery  
PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE & 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; lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

THE CALL FOR THE OFFERING\*\*

OFFERTORY

Rob Johns

\*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: Lord God, your steadfast love endures forever. Accept our tithes, pledges, and offerings as a response of gratitude. Bless our giving and our ministries that they may tell the deeds of your love, O God. Amen.**

\*HYMN NO. 720              Jesus Calls Us

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Carson Montgomery

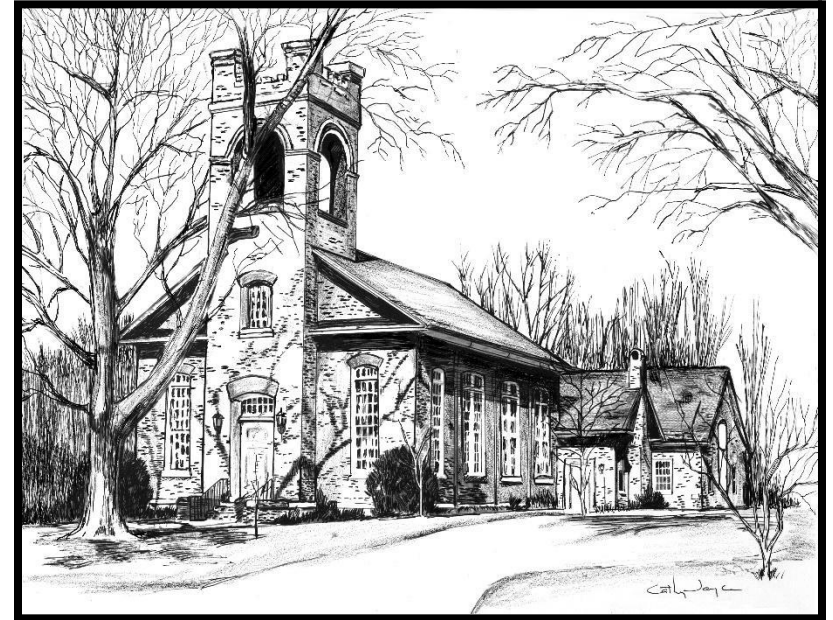
\*Stand as you are able

All liturgy and prayers written by Rev. Sarah Are Speed. Lenten Series Theme, "Wandering Heart" from Sanctified Art, LLC.

\*\*The ministry of the church continues. Please mail your tithes, pledges, and offerings to the church, Attention: Treasurer, P.O. Box 68, Van Wyck, SC 29744. You may also give online through the "Giving" tab on the church website [www.vwpc.org](http://www.vwpc.org)

# Van Wyck Presbyterian Church

Established 1884



Rev. Carson Montgomery, Pastor

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Like us on Facebook

Director of Music – Janesta Williams ([alwilliams@comporium.net](mailto:alwilliams@comporium.net))

Secretary – Donna Fox ([vwpcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:vwpcsecretary@gmail.com))

Treasurer – Stuart Graham ([stugraham84@gmail.com](mailto:stugraham84@gmail.com))

### Elder of the Day

This Week: Janet Campbell      Next Week: Holly Massey

### Announcements

- Sunday March 10**    10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship (Daylight Saving Ends)
- Monday March 11**    7:00pm Mission Team Meeting  
Grounds and Safety Committee Meeting
- Tuesday March 12**    10:00am Sisters of the Heart
- Wed March 13**        1:00pm Lenten Soup Lunch
- Sunday March 17**    10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship  
7:00pm Presbyterian Women's Evening Group
- Monday March 18**    10:30am Presbyterian Women
- Tuesday March 19**    10:00am Sisters of the Heart
- Wed March 20**        1:00pm Lenten Soup lunch
- Sunday March 24**    10:00am Sunday School  
11:00am Worship Palm Sunday
- Tuesday March 26**    10:00am Sisters of the Heart
- Wed March 27**        1:00pm Lenten Soup Lunch
- Sunday March 31**    9:45am Easter Breakfast  
11:00am Worship Easter Sunday

### Happy MARCH Birthday to YOU!

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 9 – Clayton Massey  | 17 – Olivia Tuttle    |
| 12 – Andrea Helms   | 21 – Paul Korkoubus   |
| 13 – Rose Mary Bean | 22 – Annette Flanagan |
| 16 – Jake Clark     | 23 – Jon McCalmont    |
| 17 – Mark Tuttle    | 31 – Rachel Graham    |

### MARCH Prayer Requests

**Disciples:** Dianne Moore, Donald and Mary Baker, Rebecca Bowyer, Toug Brunson, Glenda Manus, Williams Sims, Carol Johns

**Friends:** David Adams, Bernard Bagley and Niles, Bill Brown, Mary Crenshaw, Sharon Foster, Lauren Foster, family of Joshua Hall, Patti Harris, Kip Hurley, Margaret Jacques, Marion Mackey, Leah Opyrchal and Fern, Paul Walters, Rick Young, Rev. Dr. Dick and Lila Ray, Ronnie McClure, Stephanie Rape (Ryan Rape's grandmother) Pam and Dave Wiltsie, Gail Stogner, Mary Crenshaw (hospice), the family of Eloise Williams

**Community:** Van Wyck and Lancaster communities, our teachers and students

**Providence Presbytery:** Wade Memorial Presbyterian Church (Lancaster) Rev. Paul Smith

**Wider World:** Israel and Gaza, all affected by Hurricane Idalia, Libya, Maui, Turkey & Syria, Ukraine, Russia, our country and elected leaders

**Youth:** Cody Campbell, Harrison Cargill, Rachel Graham, Stuart Graham, Charlie Haynes, Alena Massey, Kate McCalmont

**Vocational and College Students:** Genevieve Cook, Carson Helms, Christian Moss, Ashley Overstreet, Devon Overstreet, Fritz Walker

**Homebound Disciples:** Vicky Lott

**Session:** Class of 2024: Linda Pelletier (Clerk), Laura Clark; Class of 2025: Holly Massey, Craig Denton; Class of 2026: Janet Campbell, Julie Graham

**Staff:** Donna Fox, Stuart Graham, Barbara McAfee, Janesta Williams, Rev. Carson Montgomery

Dear Van Wyck Disciples,

The service arrangements for Eloise Williams are as follows:

1:00pm Saturday March 16 - Visitation with the family at Van Wyck Presbyterian

2:00pm Saturday March 16 - Funeral Service at Van Wyck Presbyterian

The Graveside Committal will follow the funeral at Lancaster Memorial Park (1389 Memorial Park Road, Lancaster, SC).

The family is being cared for by Burgess Funeral Home.

Please do continue to lift the family in prayer in this difficult time.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Rev. Carson