



Roland Park
Presbyterian Church



*Forgiveness is not always easy.
At times, it feels more painful than the wound we suffered,
to forgive the one that inflicted it.
And yet, there is no peace without forgiveness.*

~ Marianne Williamson

First Sunday of Lent

Welcome to Roland Park Presbyterian Church. We're glad you're here!

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

March 10, 2019

10:30 AM

First Sunday of Lent

CENTERING OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

We welcome our guest musician today, Valentina Ross. Ms. Ross is a junior Bachelor of Science in Music Education major at Towson University with a concentration in jazz/commercial guitar. Thank you for sharing your talents with us again today!

Prelude

Arioso

Gordon Young

Words of Welcome

Thank you for joining us today. We hope that today's service will be meaningful for you. Welcome cards are located in the pews. Please feel free to fill one out and place it in the offering plate later in the service.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

written by Thom Shuman

Here, at the outer limits of Lent,
we are called to walk:
to the paper-thin edges which cut us
to the soul;
to the workplaces which weary us;
to the people who confuse us;
to the faith which threatens us.

Here, at the corner of Steadfast Love and Faithfulness,
we are called to wait:
when our clenched stomachs awaken us;
in the moments of unbearable sorrow;
with the angels who would carry us.

Here, where time is fulfilled,
where God's Kingdom is as near to us
as our neighbor,
we begin Lent:

**with the Beloved,
whose tears wash away our fears,
with the God who will not let go
of our hands.**

***HYMN #716**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Here we are again, God
With all that makes us who we are,
all that fills our lives;
Carrying into this place of joy and freedom
the burdens we just can't seem to lay down,
The weight of all the scores we long to have settled,
the justice we want to demand
for the wrongs we have suffered.**

**Yet we also know what would happen if you were to deal with us justly;
with our greeds and violences, our betrayals and lusts.
If justice was served in our lives we could not stand.**

**So forgive us our wrongs, God,
forgive us as we do not deserve;
forgive us against the demands of justice;
And forgive our obsession that justice be done
to those who have wronged us.**

**May our worship lead us to the place
where our hunger for grace and mercy may be filled,
And where we may be freed from the tyranny of vengeance.**

Time for Silent Reflection

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Instead of Passing the Peace during Lent, we will share God's love by sharing words of God's love and forgiveness with your neighbor. Please be sure to greet at least 3 or 4

people around you to ensure that everyone both offers and receives these words. Each week during Lent we will share different words of assurance. Today's words are:

You are forgiven!

The chime will ring indicating our transition to our silent reflection.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

As the chime rings, please return to your seat for a moment of silent reflection on the experience of receiving and sharing God's love and forgiveness with your neighbors.

SUNG RESPONSE #470 There Is a Longing in Our Hearts

LONGING

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in your, our God.

TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

ANTHEM

Day By Day from *Godspell*
Chancel Choir & Guitar

S. Schwartz

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

GOD'S STORY

Matthew 18: 15-35

"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle

accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?" And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

One: For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

How Often Should I Forgive?

Pastor Mark

***HYMN #753**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

During the prayer there will be a time for you to give voice to your own prayers, after which the leader will say, "Lord, in your mercy," or "Lord, we give thanks," and the entire congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

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.**

OFFERING

Offertory

Still Small Voice
Chancel Soloists

Ian Assessersohn

*Doxology

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

*Prayer of Dedication

***HYMN #475**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Postlude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

SUNDAY, March 17, 2019

9 AM Education for All Ages

10:30 AM Worship

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

Message: Still Greater

HEAD USHER: David Patterson

LITURGIST: Daniel Martin-Minnich

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TODAY: *We look to our Lord for strength and healing. We look to each other to see our Lord in action.* We remember all those in harm's way, those recovering from natural disasters, refugees and people in conflict, and facing new challenges. Among our church family: **Darryl Fritze** (Wayne Fritze's brother), **Paula Belt, Darlene George, the sister and niece of Holden McAleer and their family, Joan Buttner, Kent Moore, Claudia Neely Tiebout, Patti Lyall, Sharon Halm,** the friends and loved ones of **Courtney Sieck,** the friends and loved ones of **Bob Haight** (grandfather of Amy Paronto), the friends and loved ones of **Gene Robles** (father of Mike Robles), **Richard Petersen** (father of Fatima Petersen) and **David & Danny Guillaume along with the staff and children of Kay Papa Nou & Unity House.**

ROLAND PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 AM - 2:30 PM, Friday 9 AM - Noon

Church Staff

Mark W. Hanna, *Pastor*
Phillip Collister-Murray, *Director of Music*
Esther Lee, *Organist*
Shayla Redfearn, *Director of Christian Education*
Jennifer Ronald, *Director of Church Relations*
Caroline Mapp, *Bookkeeper*
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Board of Session

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Jackie Capecci (2019*)
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Neil McCabe (2019*)
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Mark W. Hanna, Moderator
Nelson Murphy, Treasurer

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Bill Olsen (2021**)

Youth Deacons

Audrey Hanna, Nathan Letocha,
Zach Lutzky & Annelise Olsen

* indicates 1st term, ** 2nd term

*An inclusive and welcoming congregation
of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of Baltimore.*

