

May 10, 2009

Fifth Sunday of Easter
and
Mother's Day



Fearless Love

Rev. Dr. Dale E. Southorn

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE COVENANT

Where tradition comes to life!

250 West 7th Street, Erie, PA 16501 • Phone: 814-456-4243 • Fax: 814-454-3350
www.firstcovenanterie.org

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
May 10, 2009
5th Sunday of Easter and Mother's Day

GATHERING

Gathering Music *Prelude on "Morning Has Broken"* Eckhardt

Welcome Rev. Dr. Dale E. Southorn
Moment for Ministry *Lefever Awards* Steve Skinner

Prelude 8:30 a.m.—*When All Thy Mercies, O My God* arr. Peeters
 11:00 a.m.—*Canto de Esperanza (Hymn No. 432)* Argentina
 Covenant Bells

Call to Worship Brian Lasher

Leader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord.
People: To sing praises to your name, O most high;
 Leader: To declare your steadfast love in the morning;
People: And your faithfulness by night.
 Leader: You, O Lord, are exalted forever.
All: It is good to praise your name, O most high!

***Hymn No. 476** *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!* Lyons

PRAYING

***Prayer of Confession** (*Unison and Silent*) Brian Lasher

Gracious God,
Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer
bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to
grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus
Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon** Brian Lasher

***Response** *Jesus Lifted Me*



I'm so glad, I'm so glad,
 Satan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me, Satan had me bound,
 When I was in trouble, When I was in trouble,



I'm so glad,
 Jesus lift-ed me,— Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing
 When I was in trouble,



glo-ry, hal-le-lu-jah! Je-sus lift-ed me.—

***Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer (*debts...debtors*)

Dr. Southorn

11:00 a.m.—Children's Blessing

After the Blessing, children up through 4-years-old who leave the service will be escorted to Classroom A and children 5-years-old through Grade 3 who leave the service will be escorted to Children's Worship in Reed Chapel.

***Hymn, No. 316**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Trentham

LISTENING

Old Testament Scripture *Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16*
Page 477, Pew Bible

Brian Lasher

11:00 a.m.—Anthem

Love One Another
Covenant Choir

John Bell

*Love one another for love is of God.
Those who live in love, God lives in them.
Those who show love are the children of God;
Father and mother is God to them.
God showed his love in the face of the Son.
Christ lives in us so that we might live through him.
Love has no place for the menace of fear;
Fear is abandoned where love is found.
Love has its purpose in God's holy will;
We learn to love from the one who loved us first.*

New Testament Scripture *1 John 4:7-21*
Page 991, Pew Bible

Dr. Southorn

Sermon

Fearless Love

Dr. Southorn

RESPONDING

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *8:30 a.m. Allegro*
11:00 a.m. Grazioso
Covenant Bells

C.P.E. Bach
Arnold B. Sherman

***Doxology**

Old Hundredth

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn No. 441**

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

St. Thomas

***Benediction**

Dr. Southorn

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

Karg-Elert

* Congregation will please stand, if able to do so.

Liturgist: Brian Lasher

THE FLOWERS AT THE LECTERN are given by Cecily and Bill Sesler, in loving memory of their parents, Harriet and Kenneth Parke and Pauline and Frederick Sesler.

THE FLOWERS AT THE PULPIT are given by Alan G. Engstrom, in loving memory of his grandmother, Jennie M. Engstrom and his mother, Edna K. Engstrom.

At the conclusion of the service, the Sesler and Engstrom families invite you to take flowers from the sanctuary bouquet and distribute them to a shut-in, hospitalized friend, or person you wish to reach out to in Christ's name.



THIS YEAR IN HONOR OF MOTHER'S DAY, our Local Mission Committee has made a donation to *House of Healing*.

The *House of Healing* is a local community resource that gives women in the criminal justice system the opportunity to build a better future for themselves and their children in a structured, caring, learning environment.

This donation to the *House of Healing* was made in lieu of purchasing and distributing carnations to the mothers who are a part of our church family. For more information on the *House of Healing* and their ministry, you may visit their website by pointing your web browser to www.houseofhealing-erie.org.



CHOCOLATE KEEPERS SPRING TEA...Do you recall as a little girl getting dressed up to go off for a special event in May with your mother? The Chocolate Keepers Women's Ministry is planning a spring tea to honor women and girls of all ages on Saturday, May 16, 2009 from 9:30-11:00 in the parlor. All mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts, from young to senior, are invited. Either dress up or dress casual is appropriate. At 10:30 there will be a puppet show put on by SonLight Puppeteers (our own Mary Cooper is a member of the group.) Of course there will be "special-teas" that include delicious beverages and dainty goodies. And perhaps a few spring surprises as well. There is no charge for this event. For those of you who like to bake, if you can make something for the tea please contact Stephanie Rose Briggs by telephone or email as soon as possible.

Please RSVP to Stephanie Rose Briggs 866-3283 or by sending an email to: briggs1927@roadrunner.com by May 11th.

We are looking forward to seeing you on May 16th!



Sunday Christian Education Schedule

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. through Sunday, May 31st

Children

Nursery.....Room 109 and 113
PreschoolRoom A
Kindergarten, Grade 1.....Room C
Grades 2-3..... Room 313
Grades 4-5..... Room 315

Youth

Grades 6-7.....Middle School Lounge
Grade 8 Confirmation Class..... Room 119
Grades 9-12.....Senior High Lounge

Adults

"Christianity for the
21st Century"..... Room 116
"Don't Know Much About
Sunday School"..... Fidelis
"Exploring the Text"..... Parlor
"Wrestling with the Text"..... Witherspoon

WELCOME

WELCOME TO ALL, especially guests and newcomers to Erie. Please take the Welcome Pad (burgundy folder in each pew) from the center aisle, sign it, and be sure to include any change of address information. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be added, please include your address. Then pass the Pad to the others sitting in your row. Once the Pad reaches the outside aisle, please pass it back to the center aisle.

AFTER EACH WORSHIP SERVICE, we invite you to join us for a time of fellowship in the Parlor.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: Please switch off cell phones and pagers upon entering the Sanctuary and McBrier Chapel. Welcome and make room for those who arrive during the service by leaving space at the ends of the pews. Please do not take flash photographs during the service.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN: We have childcare available during both entire worship services, with an infants' and toddlers' nursery in Room 113, and—during the 11:00 a.m. service only—for preschool-age children in Classroom A. After the “Children’s Blessing” in the 11:00 a.m. service, children through age 4 who leave the service will be escorted to Classroom A. We welcome children in the worship service. We have special children’s bulletins available from the ushers.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED is available for worship. Please contact an usher if you wish to use the system.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.

IF YOU NEED HELP ENTERING OR LEAVING THE SANCTUARY OR CHAPELS, our ushers will gladly assist you and provide whatever help you may need.

RESTROOMS are located at the rear of the Sanctuary, in the Narthex. Please use the side aisles to reach these preferred facilities in order not to distract the worship leaders or other worshippers.

PARKING AVAILABLE at the southeast corner of 7th and Myrtle Streets. Additional parking is available at the municipal parking ramp (7th Street); Altman Hall, 235 West 7th Street; Dr. Kohler’s office, 219 West 7th Street; and Carney and Good offices, 254 West 6th Street.

WOULD YOU LIKE SOMEONE TO LISTEN TO YOU OR PRAY WITH YOU? A Stephen Minister will gladly meet with you, listen to you, and pray with you in McBrier Chapel following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

MEANING OF THE LITURGICAL COLOR: The color white symbolizes special days in the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ, such as Christmas, Epiphany, Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration of the Lord, Easter, Ascension of the Lord, Trinity Sunday, and Christ the King Sunday. We also use the color white as a symbol of the Sacrament of Communion. Finally, the color white symbolizes the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ and always serves as an appropriate accent color.

SERMON TAPES or CDs are available for \$2.00 each. Please place your order with the church office by calling 456-4243. You may also listen to the sermon free of charge, or view a manuscript of the sermon, at www.firstcovenanterie.org.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: If you wish to submit information for inclusion in this weekly bulletin, the information needs to reach the church office no later than Noon on Monday to appear in the bulletin for the following Sunday.

