

Parma-South Presbyterian Church

Parma Heights, Ohio



"There Is Good" — by Hannah Garrity

Fifth Sunday Of Lent
March 22, 2026 10:00 AM

Rev. Christin Moreland, **Senior Pastor**
Gina Hansen, **Lay Reader**
Chris Venesile, **Music Director**
Laurie Archibald, **Organist/Pianist**
Chris Kurka, **A/V Coordinator**
Thomas Molua, **A/V Team Member**



Reminder: Please sign the attendance pad located in the pew OR scan the code on the front of the bulletin. Thank you!

**Indicates: Please stand in body or spirit, as you may.*

† Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

WELCOME

THE CHURCH LIFE AND MINISTRY — ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“My Savior’s Love”

arr. M. Bober

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome to the weary and the worn.

Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

This is God’s house.

You can make yourself at home here.

Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

***OPENING HYMN** No. 442

“Just as I Am, Without One Plea”

***† UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules.

We love clear answers.

We love right and wrong. We love swift justice.

We love to pick up stones,

but you show us another way.

You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation.

You prioritize mercy over legality.

You prioritize people over tradition.

You prioritize love over everything.

Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters.

Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you.

Forgive us. Soften our hearts.

Root us in mercy, justice, and love.

With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray. Amen.

*† DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Church family, Jesus saw a crowd ready to throw stones and invited them to choose another way.

Jesus offered them grace, mercy, and compassion, and the same can be said for us.

So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

Our God is a God of mercy. Our God is a God of compassion.

Our God is a God of grace.

We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way.

Thanks be to God for yet another second chance.

Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 581

CHORAL ANTHEM

“40 Days He Tarried There”

J. Douglas

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURES John 8:2-11 (NRSV)

Early in the morning he came again to the temple.

All the people came to him, and he sat down and began to teach them. ³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and, making her stand before

all of them, ⁴ they said to him, “Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. ⁵ Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?” ⁶ They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him.

Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the

ground. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, “Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” ⁸ And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and said to her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹ She said, “No one, sir.” And Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.”



“Epilogue” — by Rev. T. Denise Anderson

Let Us Remember

ADELAIDE 5.4.5.4 D (“Have Thine Own Way”)

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: George C. Stebbins (1907)



What is im - por - tant? What mat - ters more?
We've been shown mer - cy all of our lives
Fol - low - ing Je - sus, liv - ing in truth
What does the Lord re - qui - re of us?



Hu - man con - nec - tion or keep - ing score?
By the cre - a - tor of hu - man - kind
We re - main faith - ful to our roots
To re - main hum - ble, lov - ing, and just



In our pur - suit of jus - tice and truth
So when we're in a po - si - tion to judge
When those roots lead us out - side the lines
Keep - ing the heart of the gos - pel in mind



Let us re - mem - ber: we fall short, too
Let us re - mem - ber: they're just like us
Let us re - mem - ber: faith is a - live
Let us re - mem - ber: do what is right

PRAYER REQUESTS

Submit requests using the cards in the pews back of the attendance sheet or Prayer Request cards available in the pew holders. Place completed cards in the offering plate during the Hymn of Meditation.

Barb Carrig chemo treatments
Tod Merritt in hospice
Wendy's family - mother passed away
End to Iran war
All those that are homeless
Chris Kurka recovering from surgery
Pastor Christins' mother

Ben Chu immigration case 3/30
John/Jane health issues
Sandy DeMoss
Summers Family
Gary Tresise in hospice
Rose and Kaye Djukic
Brandmeier baby in NICU

Megan Severson - recovery after liver transplant
RECOVERY ADDRESS in Texas through to April:
1912 Arbor St, Unit 1, Houston, TX
77004

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENT WEEKLY SOUP SUPPER—Each Tuesday During Lent at 5:30PM in the Dining Room. Please RSVP for this event and tell us if you are attending and if you will be bringing a SOUP.

Everybody's Got Talent Show 2026– by A Place 2B Me — Friday, March 27 at 5:30PM, Valley Forge Auditorium, 9999 Independence Blvd, Parma Heights.

Enjoy an evening of music, dance, comedy, art and special talents while connecting with others in a welcoming space where everyone belongs.

PALM SUNDAY — The Sunday School children will be passing out palms during the worship service on Palm Sunday, March 29th. Please meet them in the library at 9:50AM to line up for the processional. The Sunday Schoolchildren will also be doing their annual Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School.

REMINDER FOR EASTER.....There will be no Sunday School April 5th. We invite all children and families to join us for our worship service to celebrate the Resurrection together as a church family. Nursery care will be available.

SUNDAY LIFE GROUP — Meets live on Zoom(r) at 2:45PM. This is an opportunity to discuss today's lesson and look deeper into today's sermon and currently scripture lessons verse by verse in the book of Colossians.

MONDAY LIFE GROUP — Meets in person in the Parlor at 7:00PM. We are currently studying verse by verse in the Book of Matthew.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, March 22

10:00AM – Worship Service — Sanctuary

Coffee Hour

11:30AM — Adult Book Study — Parlor

2:45PM — Life Group Meeting — Online

3:00 PM — Al-Anon — Parlor

3:00PM — Scouts BSA— on site

Monday, March 23

5:30 PM — Stated Presbytery Meeting — Korean Central PC

7:00PM — Life Group Meeting — Parlor

Tuesday, March 24

5:30PM — Weekly Lent Soup Supper—Dining Room/Gym

Thursday, March 26

6:00 PM — 4H Spin Groups/3D Printing — Parlor

7:00PM — Choir Rehearsal– Sanctuary

Friday, March 27

5:30PM – Everybody’s Got Talent 2026 Show

Valley Forge Auditorium, 9999 Independence Blvd, Parma Heights

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS & COMMUNICATIONS

OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Thursday from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Weekly Announcements: Submit by 10:00 AM on Wednesdays.

Meetings: This includes scheduling requests or cancellations notices.

Events: All upcoming events should be communicated to the church office. ***All office communications should be sent to the Office Administrator at officeadmin@parma-south.org.**

Easter Luncheon



Please join us for fellowship and an Easter meal immediately after church on Sunday, April 5th. Please bring a side dish to share. We Hope you can join us!! Please RSVP with this QR code, or call the church office.

About the front cover art →→

Fifth Sunday in Lent the good news is... rooted in justice, mercy, & faithfulness

Read Matthew 23:23

Artist Statement | Hannah Garrity

In this series of scriptures, gathered crowds drew my attention.²¹ Jesus always drew a crowd, but so did the voices of hate in his time. In our current historic moment, this dichotomy of crowds for justice and crowds for injustice confounds me. Are all crowds worthy of joining? In the background of this piece, I dyed and collaged together torn newspaper, representing the fabric of the world, to portray the cacophony of crowds gathering. What is drawing them in? Is everything that compels us to gather right and good? No.

The clarity comes in this scripture: “For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith” (Matthew 23:23). Most especially, in the context of Jesus denouncing the scribes and Pharisees, the crucial point is that gathering to enact justice *is* good and gathering to enact injustice *is not*.

The crowd depicted in this artwork is inspired by the 100,000 who gathered strong in Budapest, Hungary, in June, 2025. The Hungarian parliament had outlawed Pride as part of a larger systemic effort to take away the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community in Hungary, and a “wider effort to curb democratic freedoms ahead of a hotly contested national election next year.”²²

In the four corners of the artwork, symbols of justice, mercy, and faithfulness echo the clarity of Jesus. Gathering for justice *is* the work of the gospel.

Look

If you could place yourself in this image, where would you be and why?