



Third Sunday in Lent

Worship of Almighty God

First Presbyterian Church of Warren, Ohio

March 8, 2026 **Those who are able, please stand.* **10:00 A.M. Worship**

WELCOME! First Presbyterian Church Warren is a worshipping, welcoming, community of faith. We are called by God to be ambassadors of Christ to all people through preaching the Gospel, teaching discipleship, and serving in the name of Christ Jesus.

May this welcome and hospitality be strong and vibrant for everyone who has chosen to worship here today, especially our recent newcomers.

Everyone: Please note your presence and provide contact information and any requests in the “Ritual of Friendship” booklet. Then return it to the first person.

GOD’S PEOPLE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WORSHIP BEGINS WITH MEDITATION AND EXPECTATION Pastor Greg

PRELUDE “French Suite II” Bach
1. Allemande

SOMETHING TO PONDER AS WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

If there is one area that illuminates the ways we have been too formed by culture, it might be in the areas of pride and humility. It doesn’t matter where you look, the issue surfaces all around us. Perhaps I should not be surprised, given the cultural realities of our time. Social media has certainly played a role in exacerbating this problem. In our carefully curated online worlds, we are always the center of our own universe. Instagram, Facebook, X, and the like are all designed to make our opinions and content the center of attention....

From start to finish, the Christian life is a pathway to greater humility. It would be hard to think of a theme that is more pervasive in Jesus’ teaching. “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 18:3-4).

-- Matt Reynolds, Firebrand Magazine

GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED

WE SEEK GOD'S ILLUMINATION *(In Unison)*

Kind Heavenly Father, as we continue this Lenten journey, guide our steps. Brighten our souls with Your wisdom. May Your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our paths. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

FIRST BIBLE READING The Unexpected Conversation

John 4: 5-26

ANTHEM

“Hunter’s Moon”

Rory Sensabaugh, French horn

SECOND BIBLE READING The Aftermath

John 4: 27-30, 39-42

SUNDAY MESSAGE “Lent: Giving Up Superiority”

Pastor Greg Gillispie

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***PROFESSING THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH** *from A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)*

We trust in Jesus Christ.

We trust in God, Whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

We trust in God the Holy Spirit.

God sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The Lord rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.

The Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of people long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL are celebrating the 114th birthday of Girl Scouts.

GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY: The Girl Scouts will be helping with worship today along with providing cookies after worship in Fellowship Hall.

LENTEN FELLOWSHIP: Join us **today** following worship in Fellowship Hall for a light lunch, fellowship, and Lenten activities.

CORTLAND FELLOWSHIP GROUP will meet on **Monday, March 9, at 11:00 a.m.** in Otterbein of Cortland Chapel (Lake Vista). Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you plan to attend and if you will be staying afterwards for lunch. (*Please bring exactly \$8.50.*)

RADIO MINISTRY is funded by **an anonymous donation.** Our service is broadcast at 10:00 a.m. Sundays on 1570 AM and 97.7 FM and talk 977.com. Donations for the Radio Ministry may be placed in the offering plate; contributions may also be mailed to the Church Office with “Radio Ministry” in the memo of the check.

THE DEACONS would like to thank all who remember the Deacons’ Cupboard while shopping. They are requesting **shampoo, toilet tissue, and bar soap** for the month of **March.** You may leave your items in the Deacons’ box in Fellowship Hall.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: The next Lenten study will be on **Friday, March 13.** We will enjoy a sloppy joe dinner and fellowship at 6:00 p.m. followed by a video and discussion. The studies are self-contained, so you can pick the evenings that fit your schedule. Join us! Sign up in Fellowship Hall and mark your calendars!

LENTEN PRAYER STATIONS: The stations are based on the Lenten practices of Prayer, Fasting, and Giving. Take time to look at these practices in a new light. They are available now through Easter.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE is a mission that provides beds for children who are without. The Deacons and the Lenten Committee have decided to make this our mission for Lent. We are accepting monetary donations or twin-size sheets, comforters, blankets and pillows. Please place your donations on the table in the Sanctuary or in the Church Office.

THE GOSPEL OF MARK: Accept the challenge to read the Gospel of Mark throughout Lent. A day-by-day schedule was included in the February SPIRE. You can also check the FPC Facebook page for reminders and encouragement. It's never too late to start.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Sunday, March 29, 10:00 a.m.** – Palm Sunday
- Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.** – Maundy Thursday Service
- Friday, April 3, 12:00 p.m.** – Good Friday Vigil
- Friday, April 3, 2:00 p.m.** – Good Friday Service

- PASTOR:
- DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:
- DIRECTOR OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY:
- WORSHIP LEADERS:
- RADIO, LIGHTS AND SOUND SYSTEM:
- VIDEO PROJECTION:

- Rev. Greg Gillispie*
- Melanie A. Vlad*
- Marissa Welke*
- Girl Scouts*
- Julie Trowbridge*
- Bob Stahl*



EASTER FLOWERS – Easter is **Sunday, April 5, 2026**. We are now taking orders for flowers to grace our Sanctuary. We will again offer a variety of flowers. Please complete the form below and include payment with your order. Checks should be made payable to First Presbyterian Church. Please turn in the completed form (with payment) to the Church Office or put it in the offering box. Orders must be received by **Wednesday, March 11**, in order to secure your selections. (If orders are received after the deadline, choices cannot be guaranteed.)

-----Tear here-----

In memory/honor of (circle one) _____

Given by _____

Easter Lilies/**\$10.00** each _____

Hyacinths/**\$8.00** each _____

Daffodils/**\$8.00** each _____

Tulips/**\$8.00** each _____

\$ _____ for FPC Endowment Fund

\$ _____ for FPC Deacons' Pantry

Your Name _____

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun, March 8	- Third Sunday in Lent - Choir Rehearsal 8:30 am - Worship 10:00 am - Sunday School, B 10:15 am - Officer Nominating Committee, P 11:01 am - Lent Fellowship and Girl Scouts Celebration, FH 11:15 am - Bell Choir 11:15 am
Mon, March 9	- OA, P 10:00 am - Cortland Fellowship Group, Otterbein, Cortland 11:00 am - Girl Scouts, B..... 5:30 pm - Building, Grounds, and Assets Meeting, FH 6:30 pm - AA, MC 7:00 pm - Voices of Micah Meeting 7:00 pm
Tues, March 10	- Al-Anon, MC 9:30 am - Eastminster Presbytery Gathering, Youngstown 5:00 pm - NA, MC 7:00 pm
Wed, March 11	- Someplace Safe, B 5:00 pm - NAMI Meeting, P 6:00 pm - AA, MC 6:30 pm
Thurs, March 12	- Safety Committee, FH 6:30 pm
Fri, March 13	- Church Office Closed - Lent Bible Study, FH 6:00 pm
Sat, March 14	- AA, MC 11:00 am
Sun, Mar. 15	- Fourth Sunday in Lent - Choir Rehearsal 8:30 am - Worship 10:00 am - Sunday School, B 10:15 am - Bell Choir 11:15 am - Deacons' Meeting, B 11:15 am

FH-Fellowship Hall MC-Mable Culver P-Parlor B-Badger Hall T-Tieffle Lounge Z-Zoom