



Second Sunday in Lent

First Presbyterian Church
Communion/2 Cents a Meal

March 1, 2026 **Indicates you are invited to rise up.* **10:00 A.M. Worship**

WELCOME! It is good when people gather in God's presence for worship, for reflection, and for prayer. It is good that you have chosen to be here.

As you have any requests or questions – about matters of faith, about this congregation, about Presbyterian-styled worship, please ask one of our greeters or ushers, or request to schedule a time for conversation with the pastor or one of the Elders.

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

PRELUDE

"Jesus Paid It All"

arr. Larson

AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper offers an abundant feast of theological meaning, including: thanksgiving ("Eucharist") to God the Father; remembrance of Jesus Christ; invocation of the Holy Spirit; common union in the body of Christ; and a meal of the realm of God.

Our tradition understands the Lord's Supper to be a sign of God's covenant. The bread of the Lord's Supper is linked with the bread of Passover and the gift of manna in the wilderness. The Lord's Supper thus connects us with God's saving power and providential care from generation to generation. The Lord's Supper also represents God's gracious invitation to an everlasting covenant.

-- from the "Worship" section of the PCUSA Book of Order

CALL TO WORSHIP

based upon Ezekiel 36 and Matthew 4

Leader: The Lord God said: "I will give you a new heart and a new mind."

All: The Lord God will provide a new heart and a new mind. God will take away stubborn hearts of stone and replace them with obedient hearts.

Leader: The Lord says: "One does not live by bread alone."

All: We live through every word that comes from the mouth of God.

*** OPENING HYMN** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

No. 65

***CONFESSION OF SIN** (*In Unison, then Silently*)

**My sisters and brothers, not out of dread and fear
but believing that God is faithful to forgive,
I ask God to rid me of the burden of sin. This burden, I no longer need to
carry.**

Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:

The ways I wound my life. The ways I wound lives of others.

The ways I wound the life of the world.

O Jesus our Redeemer, You know our weakness.

O Christ our Messiah, may we know Your power to save....

***KYRIE** "Lord, Have Mercy upon Us"

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*Worship Leader and In Unison*)

Leader: Friends, put your trust in the Good News of the Gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are fully forgiven!

***CELEBRATION SONG** "Glory Be to the Father"

No. 581

GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED

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

**O Blessed Lord, You have caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our
learning. Grant that we may hear Your truth. Help us to read, learn, and
inwardly digest Your Word. Teach us to embrace and hold the blessed hope of
everlasting life.**

O Bread of Heaven, feed us until we want no more. Amen.

HEBREW TESTAMENT

Genesis 12: 1-4a

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

ANTHEM

"In the Wonder of His Grace"

Rush/Stevens

On Sundays, when we celebrate Communion, younger worshippers are encouraged to stay in the worship space to participate with their families and the congregation and to learn first-hand more about worship. Other weekends, we provide an option for children to go to special age-appropriate activities where they continue to worship and to grow in faith.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

John 3: 1-17

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

SUNDAY MESSAGE

“Lent: Giving Up Expectations”

Rev. Greg Gillispie

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***PROFESSING OUR FAITH**

“The Apostles’ Creed”

No. 35

***HYMN**

“Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”
Verses 1, 3 and 5

No. 494

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS & THE LORD’S PRAYER

No. 35

WE MAKE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“Allegro Spiritoso”
Alyssa Lydic, Bassoon

Senaille

***DOXOLOGY**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

No. 606

***OFFERING PRAYER**

(In Unison)

God of compassion, we praise You that You look upon our frail lives with love and understanding. You desire that Your people would live abundantly in the new life Jesus Christ offers to us.

Now, take what we offer back to You.

Use these dollars and these decisions for Your purposes, in the name of our crucified and risen Lord. By Your Spirit, strengthen our souls to be brave and bold in Christ’s service. Amen.

GOD'S WORD IS SHOWN IN THE SACRAMENT

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you... **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts... **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy...

PRAYER OF "GREAT THANKSGIVING"

...and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever praise the glory of Your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One Who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE BREAD AND THE CUP ARE SHARED

Everyone is invited to hold the bread until all have received, as a sign of our unity.

Each person is invited to drink from the cup once you receive it, as a sign of the Lord's grace for you individually.

The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed on those who are worthy, but is a privilege given to anyone who comes in faith and repentance and worship. Therefore, Communion in the Presbyterian Church is open to anyone of any age, regardless of congregational or denominational affiliation.

Communion Music

"Of the Father's Love"

arr. Hayes

Prayer

GOD'S PEOPLE GO FORTH TO WORSHIP AND SERVE

***HYMN**

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine"

No. 839

***INVITATIONS AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH**

***A CHALLENGE AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

"Amen"

***WE SHARE A SIGN OF JESUS' PEACE**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you

All: And also with you.

If you are comfortable doing so, please exchange this blessing with several of the people around you.

POSTLUDE

“Like a River Glorious”

arr. Rice



THE FIRST SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES will be held **today**, after worship, in the Parlor. Our speakers will be **Geri Romito and Brittany Kennedy** from Direction Home of Eastern Ohio. Geri, a social worker in the Outreach Department, goes out into the community to raise awareness of the programs and services that Direction Home of Eastern Ohio offers to older adults that can promote independence. Brittany is the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Volunteer Coordinator and works to advocate for residents of long-term care facilities and helps to ensure that the residents’ voices are heard. Join us!

RADIO MINISTRY is funded today by **Marjorie Danganan**. Our service is broadcast at 10:00 a.m. Sundays on 1570 AM and 97.7 FM and talk 977.com. If you would like to contribute to this ministry, donations designated for the Radio Ministry may be placed in the offering box; 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.

THE FPC CRAFTERS will meet on **Wednesday, March 4, at 10:00 a.m.** in Badger Hall. Join them for simple crafting fun.

MIRIAM-ESTHER CIRCLE will meet Thursday, **March 5, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.** in the Parlor to continue Lesson 6 of “Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity.” Please join us! Bring a bag lunch; dessert will be provided.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: The next Lenten Bible Study will be on **Friday, March 6**, we will enjoy a pizza tasting 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. Mark your calendars and sign up in Fellowship Hall!

DON'T FORGET...turn your clocks one hour ahead on **Saturday, March 7**, before going to bed. Daylight Saving Time begins on **Sunday, March 8**.

LENTEN FELLOWSHIP: The Lenten Committee is planning a Lenten Fellowship on **Sunday, March 8**, following worship in Fellowship Hall. Join us after worship 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 having lunch. *(Please bring exactly \$8.50.)*

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: The new Daily Bread and Upper Room devotionals are available in the rack outside the Church Office.

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.

PASTOR:

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

WORSHIP LEADER:

RADIO, LIGHTS AND SOUND SYSTEM:

VIDEO PROJECTION:

Rev. Greg Gillispie

Melanie A. Vlad

Marissa Welke

Brian Annandono

Alexis Musgrove

Rich Coupland and Gracie Lipscomb

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 1	- Second Sunday in Lent - Communion / 2 Cents-a-Meal - Choir Rehearsal 8:30 am - Worship 10:00 am - Bell Choir 11:15 am - First Sunday Speaker, P 11:15 am
Mon, March 2	- OA, P..... 10:00 am - Girl Scouts, B..... 5:30 pm - AA, MC..... 7:00 pm
Tues, March 3	- Girl Scouts, FH 8:00 am - Al-Anon, B..... 9:30 am - Girl Scouts, FH 5:00 pm - Girl Scouts, B..... 5:30 pm - NA, MC..... 7:00 pm
Wed, March 4	- FPC Crafters, B 10:00 am - AA, MC..... 6:30 pm - Church Growth Meeting 7:00 pm
Thurs, March 5	- Miriam Esther Circle, P 11:00 am
Fri, March 6	- Church Office Closed - Lent Bible Study, FH 6:00 pm
Sat, March 7	- AA, MC..... 11:00 am - Turn Clocks Ahead before bed
Sun, March 8	- Third Sunday in Lent / Girl Scout Sunday - Choir Rehearsal 8:30 am - Worship 10:00 am - Sunday School, B 10:15 am - Officer Nominating Committee Meeting, P 11:00 am - Bell Choir 11:15 am - Lent Fellowship, FH 11:15 am

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