



# *Fifth Sunday in Lent*

## *Worship of Almighty God*

*First Presbyterian Church of Warren, Ohio*

**March 22, 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.

Lent is a holy season of 40 days plus 6 Sundays leading up to Easter morning. This is a particular time for reflection, prayer, and devotion to service. May your worship experience here on this day inspire your worship of Almighty God and draw you into deeper and more fruitful discipleship. It is good to have you at FPC Warren for this time of worship, encouragement, and friendship.

*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 in your row.*

### **GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

**WORSHIP BEGINS WITH MEDITATION AND EXPECTATION**      Pastor Greg

**PRELUDE**      "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"      arr. Hudson

### **PICK A SCRIPTURE TO PONDER AS WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

*"I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink...."*      *Matthew 6:25*

*"Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness, and honor."*      *Proverbs 21:21*

*"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me."*      *Galatians 2:20*

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Please remain seated.) based upon James 1

Leader: The Christian life is an invitation to repentance and gratitude.

**All: For while we were still weak, at the right time, Jesus Christ died for the ungodly.**

Leader: Blessed are those who remain steadfast under trial.

**All: Yes, all who have stood the test will receive the crown of life.**

Leader: Take hold of the true life – the eternally – focused life which God offers.

**All: We seek this grace with humility, as we come to worship the Lord.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” No. 213

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION** (Worship Leader)

**\*PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND LAMENT** (In Unison, then Silently)

**Jesus, help us to have the strength to confess our deepest sins, even as You remind us of the abundance of Your mercy.**

**Forgive me for allowing resentment and self-centeredness to have a comfortable dwelling place in my heart. We confess the power we have given over to hatred and lust and anger. Forgive our choices to live in doubt and shame and fear.**

**Search me, O God, and know my heart. Test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. Powerful God, forgive us, and help us, and heal us....**

*by Beth Merrill Neel*

*(A quiet moment for silent individual prayers)*

**\*PRAYER IN SONG** “Shepherd Me, O God” Chorus No. 473

*(The choir leads us the first time; everyone joins as this repeats a second time.)*

**\*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!**

**\*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER** No. 581

## **GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED**

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

**Gracious God, as Your Divine Word calls us together, give us humble, teachable, obedient hearts. Transform our lives through the power of Your wisdom and truth. Through Jesus Christ, the Word-Made-Flesh. Amen.**

**VALLEY OF THE DRY BONES**

Ezekiel 37: 1-10

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

**ANTHEM**

“How Great the Love”

Beale

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT**

Romans 8:1-17

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

**SUNDAY MESSAGE**

“Lent: Giving Up Our Lives”

Rev. Greg Gillispie

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*PROFESSING THE FAITH OF THE CHURCH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

page 35

**\*HYMN**

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

No. 215

**PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Hymnal, page 35

**INVITATIONS AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH**

**WE MAKE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

“The Gift of Love”

arr. Hudson

**\*DOXOLOGY**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

No. 606

**\*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

Heavenly Lord, we offer ourselves before You today with hearts full of gratitude. Thank You for Your countless blessings and Your unwavering love.

I thank You for the gift of life, for the air I breathe, and for the strength You give me each day. Your grace and mercy sustain me, and I am deeply grateful for Your presence in my life.

Lord, may I never take Your blessings for granted. Help us to remain mindful of Your goodness. May our entire lives show Your love and share Your kindness with others. We dedicate these gifts – and our future actions – to the causes of mercy and reconciliation.

Praise be to Jesus Christ, the Lord of our lives. Amen.

**GOD’S PEOPLE GO FORTH TO WORSHIP AND SERVE**

**\*SPIRITUAL SONG**                    “We Are One in the Spirit”                    No. 300

**\*A CHALLENGE AND THE BLESSING**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**                    “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**                    “Before the Throne of God”                    arr. Hudson

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**THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL** are dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of **Dolores Warman by Jay and Kathie Trowbridge and Family.**

**RADIO MINISTRY** is dedicated to the Glory of God and in memory of **Fritz Gillespie** by **Sue Kindelberger**. 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 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.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** There will be a special service on **Thursday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m.** to commemorate the Lord's Supper with communion by intinction. We will have a dinner at 6:00 p.m. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know how many to plan for.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** Spend time on Good Friday to meditate during this solemn day. On **Friday, April 3**, we will hold a vigil from noon to 2:00 p.m. to honor the death of our Savior. At 2:00 p.m. we will have a special Good Friday service. The congregation is invited to experience this event in part or in its entirety.

### **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

**Sunday, April 5, 10:00 a.m.** – Easter Worship - Celebrating the Risen Jesus

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*

*Donna Latessa*

*Julie Trowbridge*

*Rich Coupland, Gracie Lipscomb*

## WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun, March 22	- <b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b> - <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> ..... 8:30 am - <b>Worship</b> ..... 10:00 am - <b>Sunday School, B.</b> ..... 10:15 am - <b>Nominating Committee Meeting</b> ..... 11:10 am - <b>Bell Choir</b> ..... 11:15 am
Mon, March 23	- OA, P ..... 10:00 am - Girl Scouts, B..... 5:30 pm - AA, MC ..... 7:00 pm
Tues, March 24	- Al-Anon, MC ..... 9:30 am - Girl Scouts, B..... 5:30 pm - NA, MC ..... 7:00 pm
Wed, March 25	- Somewhere Safe, B ..... 1:00 pm - AA, MC ..... 6:30 pm - <b>Welcome New Members - Session Meeting, FH</b> ..... 7:00 pm
Fri, March 27	- <b>Church Office Closed</b> - <b>Lent Bible Study, FH</b> ..... 6:00 pm
Sat, March 28	- AA, MC ..... 11:00 am
Sun, Mar. 29	- <b>Palm Sunday</b> - <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> ..... 8:30 am - <b>Worship</b> ..... 10:00 am - <b>Sunday School, B.</b> ..... 10:15 am - <b>Welcome New Members – Session Meeting, B.</b> ..... 11:11 am - <b>Bell Choir</b> ..... 11:15 am

