

First Presbyterian Church

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March 1, 2026

We welcome you not as strangers but as a part of God's family! We are a community of faith that gathers to praise our Lord and Savior, serve others, search for answers, and enjoy the fellowship of one another. We hope today you will be challenged and discover encouragement. The peace of Christ be with you!

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 1st, 2026

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

*Worship begins with the Prelude. Please use this time for **silent** preparation.*

PRELUDE

“Cross of Sorrow”

Suzanna Keeny

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

CHORAL INTROIT

Richard Hillert

“Create in Us a Clean Heart, o God”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) (Psalm 121:1-2)

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills-

People: *From where will my help come?*

Leader: My help comes from the Lord,

People: *Who made heaven and earth.*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN OF ADORATION # 12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are aware of our need for your presence, your love, your guidance on life's journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don't run deep enough and don't last. We come to your well this Lent desperate and thirsty for Christ's living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace ... (silent confession) ... Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

*HYMN OF PREPARATION # 37

“Let All Things Now Living”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

... Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 12:1-4a, Page 10

ANTHEM

Svein Ellingsen

“Seed that in Earth is Dying”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 3:1-17, page 93

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Susan Hudson

“Being Birthed by the Spirit”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 35

“Apostles’ Creed”

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

William Walford

“Sweet Hour of Prayer”

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn # 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT # 634

“To God be the Glory”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Traditional

“Return to the Lord Your God”

*POSTLUDE

Theodore Dubois

“Hear Me, O Lord”

**Please stand if able.*

Opportunities for the Week of March 1st – March 8th

- Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service / 2 Cents a Meal / Rev. Susan Hudson
11:05 a.m. Budget & Finance Committee Meeting
5:00 p.m. Youth Group
- Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. Administrative Committee, *conference room*
6:15 p.m. Men’s Group
- Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. PW Bible Study
11:00 a.m. PWCT Meeting
12:00 p.m. Community Lenten Service – John Hall
5:45 p.m. Choir Practice
- Saturday: 7:30 a.m. Robbins Food Bank

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Worship Service / Dr. Edna Ann Loftus
 11:15 a.m. Session Meeting
 5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Announcements

Please take a moment and welcome Rev. Sue Hudson. Rev. Hudson and her husband, David, have served the Presbyterian Church (USA) as mission co-workers in Korea, Pakistan, India, and Japan. They have also served congregations in the U.S., including Bethesda, in Aberdeen, NC, where they were co-pastors. Rev. Hudson's most recent call was to serve as Stated Supply pastor at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church. Having completed a certificate in Spiritual Guidance through the Shalem Institute in Washington, D.C., Rev. Hudson offers Spiritual Direction to individuals and small groups. Rev. Hudson has shared her own faith journey in *Spirited Voyager: A Memoir of Motherhood, Mission, and Ministry*, published by Xulon Press.

Please keep the Scottie Scott family in your prayers. The funeral service for Scottie has been rescheduled for March 21, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at Rocky Fork Church Rd, Sanford, NC.

Just a Reminder: There will be a Budget & Finance Committee Meeting immediately following this morning's service.

The Community Lenten Series will be held at John Hall Church, on Wednesday, March 4th at 12:00 p.m. (noon). A lunch and time of fellowship will follow the service.

The Sandhills Crop Hunger Walk will be held on March 29, 2026, at Union Pines High School track. Please visit the link provided for more information or to start signing up teams.

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chw/event/sandhillsnc>

The flowers in the church are given in the Glory of God by Ann Key.