

# First Presbyterian Church

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March 8, 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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

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

PRELUDE

Lani Smith

“Elegy”

### 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) (from Psalm 95)

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

People: *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving and songs of praise.*

Leader: For the Lord is great.

People: *In his hands are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.*

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it, and the dry land which his hands have formed.

People: *O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.*

Leader: For he is our God.

People: *We are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.*

## PRAYER OF PRAISE

\*HYMN OF ADORATION # 8 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

## \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

*Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. You know what we have left undone. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that can never bring salvation. We neglect those in need. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, merciful God. By your grace, may we receive that living water that we may never thirst again. Strengthen us to follow in your way of love and peace, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and savior. 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 # 451 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

## 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

Exodus 17: 1-7, Page 64

ANTHEM

Karen Lafferty

“Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

John 4: 5-30; 39-42, Page 94

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Dr. Edna Ann Loftus

“Living Water”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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“Apostles’ Creed”

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Fanny Crosby

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymn # 606

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT # 65

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

\*CHARGE AND BLESSING

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

Traditional

“Return to the Lord Your God”

\*POSTLUDE

Charity Boyles

“The Spotless Lamb”

*\*Please stand if able.*

**Opportunities for the Week of March 8<sup>th</sup> – March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service / Dr. Edna Ann Loftus  
11:15 a.m. Sesson Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Youth Group  
Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee Meeting  
Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. Community Lenten Service, *Grace Church*  
5:45 p.m. Choir Practice  
Sunday: 8:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service / Communion / Rev. Laura Lupton  
11:00 a.m. Fellowship & Mission Committee Meeting  
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

## **Announcements**

Please take a moment and welcome back, Dr. Edna Ann Loftus as she brings forth our message today.

The Adult Sunday School class is planning a luncheon at Pik N Pig on Sunday, March 22, after Worship Service. Come on out and join us for some amazing fun, food and fellowship. We will meet there, so come on out and bring a friend. We would love to have you.

The Community Lenten Series will be held at Grace Church, on Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at noon. A lunch and time of fellowship will follow the service.

Easter Lilies will be placed in the church in honor of our RISEN LORD. Please bring your Lily on Easter morning and place it on the pulpit. If you wish to honor someone, please call the church office by Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and provide the names.

We will be having our Easter Sunrise service at 7:00 a.m. on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Fellowship & Mission Committee will be hosting Sunrise Service breakfast which will follow the service. Don't forget we will decorate the cross with flowers on Easter morning.

The flowers in the church are given in the Glory of God by Jackie and Jim Muse.