

**March 8, 2026**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
*3rd Sunday of Lent*

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Arr. by Mason  
(Youth Bells)

**Welcome** Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**We Worship Together**

**\*Call to Worship (Psalm 95:6)**

O come, let us worship and bow down;  
**Let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.**  
The hour is coming and is now here.  
**In spirit and truth, let us worship God.**

**\*Hymn** *269 Lead On O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

**Invitation to Confession**

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit.  
Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sin.

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. **WE thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon (Romans 8:34)**

Who is to condemn?  
**It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes who was raised, who is at the right hand of God who indeed intercedes for us.**  
Believe the promise of the gospel: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us now greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

**\*Holy Interruption**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Choral Anthem** *My Jesus is My Lasting Joy* Dietrich Buxtehude  
(Brylee Denham & Charlotte Folger, duet)

**We Receive God's Word**

**Children's Message**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 17:1-7  
This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Reading:** John 4:5-42  
This is the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** *"People Everyday"* Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**Affirmation of Faith** *(from the Confession of 1967)*  
**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.**

**\*Hymn** *216 Beneath the Cross of Jesus* ST. CHRISTOPHER

**Announcements**

**Pastoral Prayers & 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.**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory Anthem** *The Wondrous Cross* Derek Hakes  
(Youth bells)

**\*Doxology**

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**Holy God, from abundance upon abundance, you have said that we may freely take, and freely share. As we return to you what is already your own, we ask that you would bless these gifts and multiply them. May we, in turn, be blessed, as we see your reign unfolding before us, through Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**We Go Out to Serve**

**Hymn** *465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus* CONVERSE

**Benediction**

**Benediction Response** *738 O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee* MARYTON

**Postlude** *Giga* Gian Menotti

**\*Please wait until the end of the Benediction Response before exiting.**

\*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk.

**Acolytes:** Dylan Gilpin & Grayson Gilpin

The flowers are placed in the church today to the glory of God by John and Tammy Joyce.

**The Church This Week (03/8/2026)**

Today 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship  
 4:00 p.m. Easter choir practice  
 Mon. 8:30 a.m. MMO  
 Tues. 6:00 p.m. CW Bible Study  
 Wed. 8:30 a.m. MMO  
 9:00 a.m. CW Bible Study  
 3:15 p.m. Fun Program  
 5:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting  
 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir  
 Sun. 10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
 11:00 a.m. Worship

**Prayer List as of March 8, 2026**

Gerry Rogers  
 Bea Sloop  
 Benny Moore  
 Bobbie Jones  
 For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses  
 B.J. Moore  
 Louise Carpenter  
 Shirley Brock  
 Edward Tinsley  
 Ruth Jackson  
 Nadia Harris  
 Lesley Jean Watson  
 Rebecca Harris Ott  
 Pam Cook (Alison Chapman's mother)  
 Wyatt Smith  
 Tommy Gulledege  
 April Quick  
 Summer Cathey  
 Lynn Smith

The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

If you would like to place flowers or a plant in the sanctuary for worship service, there is a sign-up sheet outside of the church office. You can also call, or email Cathy Chapman and she can sign you up for a date.

**Choir Practice**

Extra Easter Choir practice today from 4-6 pm.  
 (Men 4-5 pm; Women 5-6pm)

**Palm Sunday Breakfast**

The Presbyterian Women will host a breakfast for everyone on Palm Sunday, March 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Building.

In order to make sure we have enough food, we are asking that you please sign up by emailing [chap5971@gmail.com](mailto:chap5971@gmail.com), or calling the office by Wednesday, March 25th and asking Danielle to add you to the list.  
**Please let us know the number of adults and children.**

We hope everyone will be able to join us for some delicious food and great fellowship on this very special day.

Thank you,  
 Presbyterian Women

**Nursery Volunteer Schedule for January - March**

Jan. 4	Heather Tucker
Jan. 11	Cathy Chapman
Jan. 18	Jean Page Watson
Jan. 25	Kelli Beck
Feb. 1	Brittany Tillman
Feb. 8	Steve Cook
Feb. 15	Jessie Baker
Feb. 22	Charlene Tillman
March 1	Laura Folger
March 8	Mary Jane Evans
March 15	Lainey Baker
March 22	Alison Chapman
March 29	Marietta Melton Burch

**Session of First Presbyterian Church**

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Mary Anderson	Mike Chapman	John Folger
Andrew McLeod	Christie McLeod	Cam Beck
Kristen Miller	Tracie Phillips	Tammy Joyce
Richard Pierce	Harold Watson	Steve Cook

**The Church Staff**

Rev. Maxwell Michaels, Pastor  
 Mrs. Danielle Self, Office Administrator  
 Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton  
 Mrs. Arneatha Kendall, Housekeeper  
 Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery

Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE

Mrs. Gini Eddins, Director MMO



**Our Vision**

*Rooted by God's Grace,  
 Growing in the Spirit,  
 Reaching Out with Christ's Love*

**Sunday, March 8, 2026**

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