

**March 15, 2026**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
*4th Sunday in Lent & Service of Baptism*

**We Gather in God's Name**

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Prelude** *Prelude, Fugue, & Chaconne, BuxWV137* Dietrich Buxtehude  
Jackson Alexander, organ

**Welcome** Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**We Worship Together**

**\*Call to Worship (from Psalm 146)** Tracie Phillips

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord:

**Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them.**

Who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

**The Lord sets the prisoner free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.**

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

**The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,**

But the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!**

**\*Hymn** *415 Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* RESTORATION

**Invitation to Confession (from Psalm 103:8)**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Confident of God's character, let us confess our sins together so that we might receive healing and peace.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty and merciful God, we continue to want more, blind to the blessings we already possess. We want everything now, blind to the value of patience and hard work. We take so much delight in our own accomplishments that we are blind to people in need. Forgive us! Cleanse us of our entitlement, anxiousness and pride. Help us see the world with your eyes so that we can be people of gratitude, courage and compassion, because of what we see in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

"The days are surely coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. I will put my law within them; I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more."

**We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and our sins are remembered no more.**

**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** *I've Witnessed It* Austin Davis  
Emma Bass, soloist

**We Receive God's Word**

**Children's Message**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Old Testament Reading:** 1 Samuel 16:1-13

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**New Testament Reading:** Ephesians 5:8-14

This is the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon** *"This Little Light of Mine"* Rev. Maxwell Michaels

**Affirmation of Faith (Psalm 23:1-6)**

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**\*Hymn** *Thine Own Way, Lord* ADELAIDE  
(insert)

**Moment for Stewardship**

**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** *Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639* J.S. Bach  
(Now We Pray)  
Jackson Alexander, organ

**\*Doxology**

**Baptism and Profession of Faith**

**Presentation**

**Profession of Faith**

**Thanksgiving Over the Water**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**The Baptism**

**Welcome**

**We Go Out to Serve**

**Hymn** *Take the Name of Jesus With You* PRECIOUS NAME  
(insert)

**Benediction**

**Benediction Response** *738 O Mater, Let Me Walk with Thee* MARYTON  
(Chancel Choir)

**Postlude** *Toccata in E Minor* Pachelbel  
Jackson Alexander, organ

**\*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:** Charlotte Folger & Ella Morgan

**The Church This Week (03/15/2026)**

Today	10:00 a.m. Sunday School
	11:00 a.m. Worship
	5:00 p.m. 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 15, 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 Gullledge  
 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**

Choir will be having choir practice at 5 pm today.

**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. Arneha 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 15, 2026**

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