



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

First Sunday of Lent

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison, pastor

March 9, 2025

Andrew Morris, organist

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Friendship Pads: Please help us maintain good communication with all our members and guests by completing the Friendship Register as it is passed from the end of each pew. Please let us know the best way to communicate with you. Be sure to greet folks new to you at the end of worship!

Cards of Encouragement: Blue cards found in the pew rack ~ please put in offering plate.

Introit

Earth and All Stars!
EARTH AND ALL STARS

Chancel Choir
Adrian Hartsough, director
Andrew Morris, organist

Call To Worship

One: We gather as God's people in a world divided and distressed.

All: Yet we gather as one people, united by God.

One: We gather as God's people, journeying to Jerusalem.

All: Yet we gather as one people, steadfastly traveling forward together.

One: We gather as God's people, frightened by whirlpools of worry which spin us out of control.

All: Yet we gather as one people following in the unfailing steps of Jesus the Christ, whose name we praise.

* Hymn of Praise

Morning Has Broken
BUNESSAN

Glory to God #664

* Call To Confession

One: How reluctant we are to answer the call to confession. Quickly we turn our thoughts to something else instead of faithfully assessing where we have been and what we have done. As we speedily disconnect ourselves from advertising calls, so too do we want to disconnect from admitting our shortcomings to God. But our God is a loving God and listens with love. Let us therefore open our hearts and let God in. Let us pray:

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Forgive us, O God, if we have preferred the old to the new, half life to full life, and our own achievements to your gift of life. Forgive us if we have ignored Jesus' teachings, slighted his gracious love and tried to discover the meaning of our life apart from our Teacher. Forgive us if we have run away from the difficult decisions of life, evading the cross and missing the mark.

Forgive us if we have used the church to support and strengthen privilege and to safeguard a willful way of life, if we have lived on memory and nostalgia rather than on experience and hope.

Forgive us if we have failed to see the signs of your presence in our common life. Forgive us if we have refused to work in cooperation with your Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God, and enable us to lay hold of the life that is life indeed. Restore to us the joy of our salvation and uphold us with your gracious Spirit.

* Silent Prayers of Confession

* Pouring the Water

* Words of Forgiveness

One: You are God's Beloved; with you, God is well pleased. You are renewed and restored. You are forgiven and loved. Amen.

* **Passing the Peace**

One: Knowing the grace and mercy of the Lord, we share it with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.)

* **Hymn**

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

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

Children's Moment

Paul Laird

Prayer of Illumination

Interrupt us, O God, with your presence. Intrude upon our preoccupation, our restlessness, our discontent and our boredom that we might center our hearts and minds on your Word as it is read and proclaimed. Amen.

Sermon

"The King Must Die"

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

Readers: Paul Romine, Margie Dyke, Jeff Southard, Erinn Barcomb-Peterson

Ordinary Life

1 Kings 19:19-20; Ruth 1:1-5; Luke 1:8-10; Mark 1:16

The Calling

Jeremiah 1:4-5; Luke 1:28; Exodus 3:2-4; Ezekiel 2:10

The Refusal

Jonah 1:3; Exodus 4:10-13; Luke 1:18; Jeremiah 1:6

Accepting the Call

Jeremiah 1:9-10; Isaiah 6:8; Luke 1:39;; Ruth 1:16

Hymn

Beneath the Cross of Jesus
ST. CHRISTOPHER

Glory to God #216

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer

(as translated by the Maori people)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

Call To Offering

Offering

My Lord, What a Morning
African-American Spiritual, LEAVITT, arr.

Chancel Choir
Adrian Hartsough, director
Andrew Morris, organist

* **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* **Glory to God #606**
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise God all creatures here below
 Praise God above ye heav'nly host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

* **Affirmation of Faith**

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God who has created and is creating; who has come to us in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new; who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God's presence; to live with respect in creation; to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil; to proclaim Jesus' message of hope, inclusion and grace. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

* **Hymn** *In the Bulb there Is a Flower* **Glory to God #250**
 PROMISE

* **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Andrew Morris, organist

* Stand as you are able – in spirit or in body

Welcome!

We encourage everyone to come as you are, be who you are, and be in community with us! Whether you are joining us virtually or in-person; we are happy to have you with us anytime! If you are new to First Presbyterian Church, please let us know you are here by signing the **Friendship Pad**. If you are worshipping with us online either live or recorded please **email us at firstpreslawrence@gmail.com** letting us know you joined us in worship. We look forward to getting to know you. If you are interested in membership please talk to Pastor Helen.

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Frances Lintecum** died March 1st at Presbyterian Manor. Services will be held at a later date.
- **Prayers for Myron Shipley** as he receives treatment for cancer.
- **Prayers for Eloise Sloan** who has been experiencing issues with her heart. Stan Sloan is her husband and caregiver.
- **First 5 Years teacher, Lisa Marie Benke**, asks for prayers for her husband, Russell, who was diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.
- **Susan and Pat** - dealing with health concerns.
- **Ray Borden, Linda Bridges' dad**, died March 3rd at KC Hospice House. Services will be on Friday, March 14 at 2 pm, Johnson County Memorial Gardens. We are so grateful for all your prayers and support!
- **Kelly Grube** is traveling to New Jersey to consult with MD Anderson. Prayers for more information.

- **Alisa Stucky** is asking for prayers in support of her Mother's health. Her mother is **Ruthanne Stucky**.
- **Jenny Skridulis Vellon, a former member of FPC**, had breast cancer surgery recently. She will rest for a few weeks before starting radiation.
- **Nancy Brink**, a friend of Lois and Dave Dutcher, asks for prayers as she copes with brain and lung cancer diagnosis.
- **George Crump** is asking for prayers in support of his health and well-being.
- **Linda Wilson, Carol Fleeger's sister-in-law**, asks for prayers while dealing with her continuing her fight against cancer.
- **Prayer for our local community organizations struggling with loss of funding including LINK, Bert Nash, and Haskell**, and we expect to hear about more in the coming days. Lord, hear our prayer.
- **Allison Clunn-McPlin and family**, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, is facing serious health challenges.
- **Liz Cloutman** is receiving treatment for breast cancer.

Deacon Family Groups - 2025

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| A-Ca | Deborah Norwood | N-Q | Sandy Groene |
| Ce-Do | Joyce Carroll | Mc-Mz | Becky May |
| Dr-F | Diana Schoneweis | R-Si | Linda Longino |
| G-Ha | Lucille Eggenberger | Sl-T | Russ Heikes |
| He-Ko | Mary Warren | U-Z | Allen Macfarlane |
| Kr-Ma | Lois Dutcher | | |

Birthdays in the Congregation

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| March 11 | March 13 |
| Susie Emert | Sarah Freese |
| March 12 | Claire Lindemyer |
| Debby Ziegler | March 16 |
| Conner Morrison | Stephen Bradley |

Sunday Helpers

Ushers:

Greeters:

Offering: Erinn Barcomb-Peterson, Cherie Elo

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Bag Brigade Volunteer: Dede Dresser

Calendar

March 9

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| 9:15 am | Names for the Messiah |
| 9:15 am | Sunday School for Children |
| 10:30 am | Worship |
| 11:30 am | Lunch, Chocolate Extravaganza, & Auction |

March 10

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| 9:00 am | First 5 Years Classes |
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| 1:15 pm | Staff Meeting |
| 2:00 pm | Pastor Helen's Class |
| 3:00 pm | Finance Meeting |
| 6:00 pm | Cub Scout Den - Schwaller |
| 6:00 pm | Westminster Ringers Rehearsal |

March 11

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| 9:00 am | First 5 Years Classes |
| 1:00 pm | Small World Classes |
| 6:30 pm | Session Meeting |
| 7:00 pm | Kaw Valley Fiber Guild Meeting |

March 12

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| 9:00 am | First 5 Years Classes |
| 7:00 pm | Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting |
| 7:00 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal |

March 13

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| 6:30 pm | PW Ruth Circle Meeting |
| 7:00 pm | Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting |

March 14

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| 10:00 am | Men's Group |
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March 16

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| 9:15 am | Names of the Messiah Class |
| 10:15 am | Worship |

Children and Youth

• Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth

- Pre-K and Kindergarten – Room 9 – Joan Golden and Nancy Hodges
- 1st and 2nd Grades – Room 12 – Anne Emert and Nikki Barcomb
- 3rd – 5th Grades – Room 14 - Chris Heider and Linda Longino
- The Youth are invited to attend Helen's class, names for the Messiah. On 3/16m there will not be a separate youth class.

Youth Activities

• March

- MISSION - On Saturday, March 22, First Pres will be serving an Italian dinner at LINK between 11:30 AM-2:30 PM. We are looking for volunteers to give their time and donate food. You can sign up in the Narthex starting this week and reach out to Claire Boyette for more information. It is always good to be with our neighbors, so we're looking forward to being together on Saturday, March 22.
- FUN, FAMILY: Bowling with FPC Youth – Everyone is invited to Royal Crest Lanes on Sunday, March 23rd at 3:00 pm. RSVP to Kelly at 785-979-2713.

Adult Sunday School Classes

- **On March 9th** Helen will begin a class called "Names for the Messiah." For this Lenten season we will look at some of the names for Jesus and spend time thinking about the ways Jesus lives into those names.

Adult Offerings during the week

- **The Men's Group** meets on Friday morning at 10:00 am in the Library.
- **Pastor Helen's Monday Class** – On March 10th we will look at King Solomon in our class on the Kings and Prophets of ancient Israel and Judea. The class meets 2 pm in the Fireside Room.

Pastor Helen's Lenten Sermon Series begins March 9th

When I was in seminary, I was a youth director for Central Presbyterian Church in downtown Denver. She hosted a Star Wars Movie Marathan at the request of the youth. What was wonderful is that we had a deep theological discussion after those movies. The young people debated big questions about the force (i.e the force is not evil or good it just is and it is the way people use the force that makes something good or bad...) **That is the inspiration for our Lenten sermon series entitled The Prophets Story**

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| March 9 th | First Sunday of Lent | Episode 1: The King Must Die |
| March 16 th | Second Sunday of Lent | Episode 2: A New Hope |
| March 23 rd | Third Sunday of Lent | Episode 3: Willing to be Surprised |