



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Transfiguration Sunday

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison, Pastor

Linda Maxey, liturgist

February 15, 2026

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 and we will send them out in the mail.

Introit

Echoes from a Weary World
JASON W. KRUG

Westminster Ringers
Carol Fleeger, director

Call to Worship

One: Loving God, we come to you in worship and thanksgiving. You are greater than we can understand.

All: Open our eyes that we may see the wonderful truths you have shown to us in Jesus.

One: You are more loving than our hearts can respond to.

All: Help us to give ourselves to you in worship so that we learn what you want us to be.

One: You are wiser than we can know.

All: Quiet our minds as we worship you so that we can understand the things you are saying to us.

One: Loving God, in Jesus you chose to come to the world in humility. You chose the path the world saw as foolish. You used what the world considered weak.

All: We worship and adore you. Amen.

* Hymn of Praise

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!
DARWALL'S 148TH

Glory to God #305

* Call To Confession

Linda Maxey, liturgist

One: We know that we have not lived according to God's desires for us. The brokenness in the world threatens to consume us as a mighty flood. Yet God is our hope and our firm foundation. Let us confess our brokenness before our gracious God.

* Prayer of Confession

Linda Maxey, liturgist

O God, we live our lives as best we can — dealing with difficult relationships and situations, putting failures and disappointments behind us, and moving into each new day with as much energy, goodwill and optimism as we can muster. But here, right now, we seldom have the right answers, we seldom seek your higher wisdom in our lives, we just move ahead. Forgive us for not asking for your insight. Fill us with your wisdom, that we may live lives of goodness and peace.

* Silent Prayers of Confession

* Pouring the Water

* Words of Forgiveness

Linda Maxey, liturgist

One: God has called us and blesses us when we live God's ways and not the world's. God's love embraces us even when we fall short of what God desires for our lives and actions. Know that the God of blessing loves and forgives us with a fierce tenderness. And in so knowing, may our lives and souls be transformed.

- * **Passing the Peace** Linda Maxey, liturgist
 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.*
- Prayer of Illumination** Linda Maxey, liturgist
 Gracious God, as we turn to your Word for us, may the Spirit of God rest upon us. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing and in our living. Amen.
- Gospel Reading** Matthew 5:13-20 Linda Maxey, liturgist
- Epistle Reading** 1 Corinthians 2:1-16
- Sermon** *"Smartphone and Smartcross"* Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison
- Hymn** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* **Glory to God #12**
 ST. DENIO
- 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 Offertory**
- Offering** *O My Love's Like a Red, Red Rose* Chancel Choir
 Text by Robert Burns, Music by René Clausen. Adrian Hartsough, director
 Joy Laird, flute, Paul Laird, cello
- * **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 affirm that we are created in God's image, befriended by Christ and indwelled by the Holy

Spirit. We celebrate God's goodness that is embedded in all creation and God's promise to redeem that creation. We trust that God is always at work in us and in this world -- at all times, in all places, in all people. We serve you by serving others, seeking to lift up the fallen, bind up the wounds, give comfort to those who mourn and to be your presence as a light in the darkness. We believe that God continues to speak, continues to call, continues to draw us in to God's life. We rejoice in the church's invitation to participate in the unfolding purposes of God. We hope in God's sure and certain reign as we begin to live that future reality now.

* **Closing Hymn**

God of Grace and God of Glory
CWM RHONDDA

Glory to God #307
Andrew Morris, organist

* **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 linda@firstpreslawrence.org** 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

- **Betty Thomas, Joy Laird's mother**, is receiving hospice care at Presbyterian Manor. Prayers please.
- **Judy Lebestky** died February 7 here in Lawrence. She is survived by her husband, Dean. Services are pending
- **Diana Schoneweis' great nephew, Luke (11)**, is dealing with brain cancer and all the treatments that brings
- **Myron Shipley** took a fall that injured his back and also caused a brain bleed. Myron is back at LMH recovering and getting stronger. Prayers please.
- **George Crump** asks for our prayers as he navigates life issues.
- **Kathryn Roblee** could use our prayers as she receives some rehab for strength.
- Please keep **Ruthanne Stucky, Mother of Alisa Stucky**, in your prayers as she undergoes treatment for cancer.
- **Sammie Locke** has entered hospice care at Bridge Haven where she lives.
- **Angela Randall's sister has a cancer diagnosis**. Angela teaches for First 5 Years.
- **Please keep Cyndy Glogau and her family** (of First 5 Years) in your prayers as they work on health issues.

- **Joan Snodgrass** is in rehab in Overland Park after a fall at her home.
- **Susan and Pat** - dealing with health concerns.
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, is facing serious health challenges.
- **Nancy Brink**, a friend of Lois and Dave Dutcher, asks for prayers as she copes with brain and lung cancer.
- **Allison Clunn-McPlin and family**, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- **Prayers for our pastor and church leaders**, for those leading our community, our state, and our nation.

Deacon Family Groups - 2026

A-B	Dorothy Devlin	Lf-Me	Deborah Norwood
C-Di	Lois Dutcher	Mf-N	Becky May
Dj-F	Sandy Groene	O-R	Diana Schoneweis
G-Ha	Melinda Fischer	S-Si	Charles Tuttle
Hb-J	Lucille Eggenberger	Sj-To	Mary Parkinson
K-Le	Linda Longino	Tj-Z	Nikki Barcomb

Birthdays in the Congregation

February 18	February 20
Caroll Tucker	Myron Shipley
Carolyn Dixon	February 22
Karen Johns	Jayne Dreweis
February 19	
Deb Teeter	

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Mark and Diana Schoneweis, Larry Schlosser
Greeters: Linda Watts
South Door Greeter: Judy Wilson
Offering: Suzanne Galle, Larry Schlosser
Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson
Bag Brigade Volunteer: Julie Simon

Calendar

February 15	
8:30 am	Presby Pickers Rehearsal
9:15 am	Children's Sunday School
9:15 am	Earth Care Forum

10:30 am	Worship	7:00 pm	Troop 59 Boy Scout Meeting
11:30 am	Annual Meeting of the Congregation	7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
2:00 pm	Brownie Troop 5621	February 19	
4:00 pm	Game Night and Soup Supper	9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes
February 16		1:00 pm	Small World Classes
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes	4:00 pm	Girl Scout Meeting
1:15 pm	FPC Staff Meeting	February 20	
2:00 pm	Pastor Helen Class	9:00 am	First 5 Year's Classes
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal	10:00 am	Men's Group
February 17		2:00 pm	PW Sewing Tablecloths
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes	February 21	
1:00 pm	Small World Classes	9:00 am	PW Sewing Tablecloths
1:00 pm	Parkinson's Support Group Meeting	February 22	
5:00 pm	Justice Matters Network Meeting	9:15 am	Children's Sunday School
6:00 pm	Deacon Meeting	9:15 am	Lenten Study
February 18		10:30 am	Worship
9:00 am	First 5 Years Classes	11:30 am	Souper Bowl Tailgate Party
10:30 am	Grieving Together	1:30 pm	Girl Scout Day Camp Committee
5:00 pm	Personnel Committee Meeting		

Youth Sponsored Activities

- **All Church Winter Game Night** – February 15th – Soup Supper and games for everyone! This is hosted by our youth and they challenge you to whatever game you wish to play. Come and see what is available – or bring you own favorite game to play.

Children Sunday School

- **Sunday School Classes for Children**
 - Our Children gather for fun and adventure in Room 14 at 9:15 am. Everyone is welcome to be a part of the fun!

Adult and Youth Sunday School

- **Earth Care Forum for 2026** – *An Alternative to Capitalism that Affirms Earth Care* – A panel of presenters will discuss Practical ways that Jason Hickel's "transformative vision for a sustainable future" could be implemented. In addition, discussion of how faith communities and others might reconsider their way of educating / advocating for earth care.
- **Lenten Study** - Beginning Sunday, February 22, Pastor Helen will offer a Lenten Study on Sunday mornings at 9:15 am in the Fireside Room. The class is called *The Grace of Les Misérables*. We will focus on the story of Victor Hugo's book and subsequent movies and musicals which challenge us to wrestle with the nature of grace, the fault of unwavering justice, the tragedy of poverty, the victory of love, the struggle for justice and ultimately hope.

Pastor Helen's Monday Class is meeting on Mondays at 2 pm in the Fireside Room. They are currently studying the Lord's Prayer. Everyone is welcome!



Lenten Theme: Jesus' words are easily distorted and sanitized in our modern world. Following Jesus leads to a richer, more expansive life, but it's not necessarily comfortable. Jesus' ministry can be described as "radical" which comes from the Latin word "radicalis," meaning "root" or "ground." Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be "good news" people in a world too often burdened by bad news? This Lent we will focus on what was central to

Jesus' life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus' teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.

Ash Wednesday Services are the beginning of Lent and will be held on February 18th from 12:30 to 1:30 and 6:00 to 7:00 in the Chapel. This experiential service will help us focus on the Season of Lent which starts this year with an invitation to come and join us because we all want to be invited! Everyone is welcome to this come and go service. Our theme for lent is "Tell Me Something Good". Let's start off the Lenten season by grounding ourselves in the good news and inviting someone to share in that news with us.