



First Presbyterian Church
OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent

The good news is... protection and care for the vulnerable

A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

When you see an asterisk *, please rise in body or spirit, however you are comfortable.

Children are welcome in worship! A nursery is also available for infants and toddlers in Room 119.

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

This Little Light of Mine

Charles Callahan

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

CHURCH UNDER THE BRIDGE

Holly Guadiana

EASTER VIGIL

Erica Taylor

CHIME

INTROIT

Open Our Ears

Warren Puffer Jones

Sanctuary Singers

Open our ears to hear your voice. Open our eyes to see your face. Open our hearts to love one another. Open our minds to understand.

***CALL TO WORSHIP - Psalm 138:7-8a**

Leader: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

People: **The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

***HYMN 407**

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers NUN DANKET ALL' UND BRINGET HER'

Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers 407

1 Spir - it di - vine, at - tend our prayers, and make this
 2 Come as the light. To us re - veal our emp - ti -
 3 Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sac - ri -
 4 Come as the dove and spread your wings, the wings of
 5 Spir - it di - vine, at - tend our prayers. Make a lost

house your home. De - scend with all your
 ness and woe. And lead us in those
 fi - cial flame. Let our whole soul an
 peace - ful love. And let the church on
 world your home. De - scend with all your

gra - cious powers. O come, great Spir - it, come!
 paths of life where all the righ - teous go.
 of - fering be to our Re - deem - er's name.
 earth be - come blest as the church a - bove.
 gra - cious powers. O come, great Spir - it, come!

The subtle changes between the first and last stanzas here are important; they reveal how the gift of the Holy Spirit transforms and widens our concern from ourselves to the world around us. The tune is named for the text it first set, "Now let all thank and bring honor."

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Mary Su Forsman

O God, glorious and faithful, to those who seek you with a sincere heart you reveal the beauty of your face. Strengthen us in faith to embrace the mystery of the cross and open our hearts to its transfiguring power; that, clinging in love to your will for us, we may walk the path of discipleship as followers of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION/ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:

To the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

People: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Leader: Amen.

People: Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:

To the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Leader: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

People: Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

To this peace we are called as members of a single body.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 581

Gloria Patri

H. W. Greatorex

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.

We Proclaim God's Word

DISCOVERY TIME Children are invited forward for a special message. Cyndi Lockwood

Children seated on the Chancel steps will be in view of the livestream image;

those on the floor facing the steps will not.

Children—5 years old to 4th grade—are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 215.

Parents may pick up children from there after worship.

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.

ANTHEM

Offertory

John Ness Beck

Sanctuary Singers

(Micah 6:6-8) With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before with burnt offerings? Shall I come before him with yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give him my first-born for my transgressions, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man. He has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 19:13-15 (pg. 21)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

The Least of These

John Tibbs, Matt Maher

Ronn Burton, baritone

I'm a stranger in a foreign land, passing through. When will I be home again? You remind me: nothing here is permanent but Your word and Your faithfulness. I was hungry; I was thirsty; I was weary; You let me in. When love became a refugee, He became my refuge. When love became a prisoner, He set me free. The widow and the orphan became the bride and children when He stole my heart between two thieves. That's when love became the least of these. I'm a beggar on the pilgrim's road chasing echoes of a voice I hear among the poor. I'm a stranger here in a foreign land, the memories of the love that calls the broken things to man. Where you're hungry, where you're thirsty, wherever you're weary, I will let you in.

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 24:17-22 (pg. 179)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Protection and Care for the Vulnerable

Rev. John C. McKinnon

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty; Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*HYMN (Insert)

See the Precious Children

BEACH SPRING

(on next page)

See the Precious Children

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D (“As We Gather at Your Table”)

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: B. F. White (1844)



See the pre-cious chil - dren seat - ed on the lap of Christ our Lord
See the pre-cious wi-dowed wo - men glean-ing har-vests from the field
See the pre-cious for - eign stran - gers as they car - ry all they own
See the pre-cious dis - poss - essed ones ask - ing for some food to eat
See the pre-cious world im - pov - erished by our ma - lice and our greed



Called the great - est in the king - dom, held so gent - ly and a - dored They
Then re - turn - ing to their kit - chen to pre - pare their dai - ly meal They
To a land that's full of dan - gers for the pow - er - less and prone They
Sleep - ing un - der star - ry heav - ens, dai - ly liv - ing on the streets They
Hu - mans, a - ni - mals, and pla - net cry - ing out for some re - lief We're



are pre-cious in the sight of God who made each ti - ny toe In their
are pre-cious in the sight of God who holds their bro - ken hearts In their
are pre-cious in the sight of God who made their home - land, too In their
are pre-cious in the sight of God who loves them as a child In their
all pre-cious in the sight of God who made each ho - ly thing In our



weak - ness they're held by love as each day they learn and grow
sor - row they're held by love that re - deems each fra - gile part
jour - ney they're held by love as they start each day a - new
hun - ger they're held by love as they guard their hu - man pride
liv - ing we're held by love as we care for ev - ery being

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE

We Pray to You, Eternal God

Hal Hopson

Sanctuary Singers

We pray to you, Eternal God, who gives us life and light and love!

We lift our prayers up to you and sing your praises evermore!

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Children of the Heavenly Father

Dale Wood

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 547

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Aria on "Jewels"

Dale Wood

Today

Sunday School Classes

- Evergreen | Room B-14 (9:30 a.m.)
- New Beginnings | Fireside Room (9:30 a.m.)
- Young Adult Class | Room 215 (9:30 a.m.)
- Builders | Room B-8 (9:45 a.m.)
- High School | Youth Lounge (9:45 a.m.)
- Middle School | Room B-10 (9:45 a.m.)
- Children | Room 213 (9:45 a.m.)

Coffee & Cookies Fellowship | 9:30-10:55 a.m.

Coffee, cookies, and fellowship are available in the Reception Center every Sunday before worship!

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

Youth Chorale Rehearsals | 12:00 p.m.

Middle and High School students (grades 5 through 12) are invited to stay after worship on Sundays (except for the 1st Sundays of the month)! We'll meet in Room B-32 and make music until 12:30 p.m.

Visio Divina Focus Group | 12:15 p.m. | Room 122

Give to
FPC today!



Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547

1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here my ten - der com - fort

ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Because this Welsh melody usually sets evening texts, the author was asked to create one for use in daytime. His recasting of the Aaronic blessing in Numbers 6:22–27 imagines that passage as a benediction that might be spoken by God at the conclusion of a worship service.

Upcoming Events

Bridge Group — Mondays | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Wednesdays | 9:00-11:30 a.m.

We meet in Room B-10 (basement) on Mondays from 6:00–8:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9:00–11:30 a.m. Whether you've never played, are returning after a break, or just want to join a friendly bridge group, we've got a spot for you!

Contact Barbara Charlet (barbara.charlet@outlook.com) or David Ligon (david.m.ligon@gmail.com) for more information.

Evening Prayer Service — Wednesdays | 5:00 & 5:30 p.m.

The Sanctuary is open on Wednesdays for individual meditation and prayer at 5:00 p.m., followed by an Evening Prayer Service from 5:30–6:00 p.m. This is a short worship service featuring sung psalms, readings, and prayers, offering a period of respite and contemplation after the workday, to help transition into the restful night.

After the service, we'll have a time of fellowship in the Reception Center from 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Free Yoga Class — Wednesdays | 6:00 p.m.

Our free yoga class is available weekly on Wednesdays! Angela Rose leads the hour-long class in the Rec Room in the basement. All skill levels are welcome.

Choir Rehearsal — Wednesdays | 6:30-8:00 p.m.

The choir rehearses at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays! If you are interested in joining, please reach out to Puffer Jones (puffer@fpcokc.org).

Palm Sunday Matinee — Sunday, March 29 | 1:00 p.m.

Celebrate Palm Sunday with a movie in Watchorn Hall at 1:00 p.m. We'll be showing the animated film *King of Kings*, a retelling of Jesus' life that reflects many of the stories explored during Lent. Popcorn and movie snacks will be provided. All are welcome!

Church Under the Bridge — Sunday, March 29 | 2:00 p.m.

For March's Reserve the Third event, we're serving at Church Under the Bridge during their weekly Sunday service. Church Under the Bridge's vision is to restore hope to the homeless and hurting. CUTB meets for service under the Crosstown Boulevard Bridge. We'll be serving food and helping with their worship service.

You can sign up and find more information at fpcokc.org/CUTB. **Please contact Holly Guadiana (405-202-5410) if you have any questions!**

Holy Week & Easter at FPC-OKC

Palm Sunday Worship — Sunday, March 29 | 11:00 a.m.

The service for Palm Sunday holds the tension between the joyful entry of the palm procession and the somberness of the Passion to follow.

A Sacred Walk (Labyrinth) — April 2-3 | 8:30 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

You are invited to engage in the ancient practice of walking the labyrinth. It will be prepared in Watchorn Hall and available for use from 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Resources will be provided for a self-guided experience, or Pastor John is available to offer an introduction to the labyrinth.

Maundy Thursday — Thursday, April 2 | 7:00 p.m. | Chapel

The service for Maundy Thursday remembers Jesus washing the disciples' feet and the institution of the Lord's Supper. The service concludes with the stripping of the worship space, representing Jesus' abandonment in the garden of Gethsemane.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service — Friday, April 3 | 7:00 p.m. | Chapel

On Good Friday, we stand at the foot of the cross, pondering the wondrous love of God revealed in the death of Jesus. During this service, we will remember the events of the week through readings from the Gospel of Luke and the extinguishing of candles.

Easter Vigil — Friday, April 3–Sunday, April 5

Following the Good Friday service, members are invited to take turns keeping a vigil of prayer and devotion as we await the sunrise that celebrates the empty tomb on Easter morning!

Prayer vigil slots are one hour each (you may sign up for consecutive hours). **Sign up on Sunday mornings in the narthex or by contacting Mary Ann Boucher (405-590-3406).**

Easter Breakfast — Sunday, April 5 | 9:30 a.m.

The Deacons will host an Easter Breakfast in Watchorn Hall. Please plan to attend and bring your family as we gather in fellowship with the whole church family! **Menu:** Baked eggs, roasted potatoes, assorted pastries and fruits, donut holes, and breakfast casserole

Easter Sunday Worship — Sunday, April 5 | 11:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday is the brightest jewel of Christian worship. It proclaims the universal significance of God's saving acts in history. Join us for this special service as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord!

Easter Egg Hunt — Sunday, April 5 | 12:00 p.m.

In celebration of the Resurrection, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt following worship! Children are encouraged to bring their own basket to collect eggs.

Mission Opportunity

Ferncliff Camp — April 12-17

FPC-OKC will return to Ferncliff Camp for a week of hands-on mission work, including light repairs, disaster relief assembly, outdoor projects, and general improvements. Workdays are 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., with lodging and meals provided. Twenty spots available; all expenses covered except travel-day lunches.

Contact Roane Pittman (johnpittmanmd@gmail.com) or visit fpcokc.org/ferncliff to sign up or request more information.

First Presbyterian Church

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