



First Presbyterian Church
OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent

The good news is... rooted in justice, mercy, and faithfulness

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

Melody

Johannes Brahms

Michael Johnston, clarinet

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

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 - 1 John 3:2**

Leader: Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed.

What we do know is this:

People: When he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

All: Let us worship God!

***HYMN 366**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)**

Creator God, 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, 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 (Unison)**

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near. Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. (silent confession)

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***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 after worship in Room 215.

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

Prayer of St. Francis

Allen Pote

Sanctuary Singers

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love. Where there is injury, thy pardon, Lord. Where there is doubt, let there be faith. Where there's despair, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, let there be light. Where there is sadness, let there be joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console. To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned. And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 8:2-11 (pg. 630)

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

SOLO

His Mercy Is More

Matt Papa & Matt Boswell

Marina Quintanilla, mezzo-soprano

What love could remember no wrongs we have done? Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum. Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore, our sins, they are many; His mercy is more. What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father, so tender, is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor. Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more. What riches of kindness He lavished on us. His blood was the payment; His life was the cost. We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford. Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more. Praise the Lord, His mercy is more: stronger than darkness, new every morn. Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 23:23-24 (pg. 26)

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

SERMON

Justice, Mercy, and Faithfulness

Rev. John C. McKinnon

We Respond to God's Word

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRESENTATION

Kate Beals, Sherrill Bouchereau, Jennifer Buford,
Lynn Ellen Cupit, David Hadlock, Richard Williams

PROFESSION OF FAITH

RENUNCIATIONS

*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.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

PRAYER

WELCOME

Let us welcome Kate, Sherrill, Jennifer, Lynn, David, and Richard as they join us in the worship and mission of the church.

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in Him.

*HYMN (Insert)

Let Us Remember

ADELAIDE

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

Kyrie Eleison

William Hunt

Karen Schiler, Andrea Day, and John L. Edwards, flutes

*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 445

God, How Can We Forgive

LEONI

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Folk-Song

C. Armstrong Gibbs

Let Us Remember

ADELAIDE 5.4.5.4 D (“Have Thine Own Way”)

Words: Anna Strickland (2025)

Music: George C. Stebbins (1907)



What is im - por - tant? What mat - ters more?
We've been shown mer - cy all of our lives
Fol - low - ing Je - sus, liv - ing in truth
What does the Lord re - qui - re of us?



Hu - man con - nec - tion or keep - ing score?
By the cre - a - tor of hu - man - kind
We re - main faith - ful to our roots
To re - main hum - ble, lov - ing, and just



In our pur - suit of jus - tice and truth
So when we're in a po - si - tion to judge
When those roots lead us out - side the lines
Keep - ing the heart of the gos - pel in mind



Let us re - mem - ber: we fall short, too
Let us re - mem - ber: they're just like us
Let us re - mem - ber: faith is a - live
Let us re - mem - ber: do what is right

445 God, How Can We Forgive

1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
 2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an-guish flow,
 3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,

How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
 how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
 when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?

When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
 The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
 No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.

your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
 A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
 As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

This text reflects both the struggle to deal with a deep personal hurt and a keen awareness of biblical language and content. The opening line of stanza two, for example, draws on the root meaning of the Greek word for sin, and the beginning of stanza three alludes to John 8:3-8.

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.

Ferncliff Mission Trip Meeting | 12:00 & 1:00 p.m. | Reception Center

Interested in joining this year's Ferncliff Mission Trip (April 12-17)? Come learn more at an informational meeting today in the Reception Center! Meetings will be held immediately after worship and following Pastor John's Visio Divina Focus Group.

If you're unable to attend but would like more information, please contact Roane Pittman (johnpittmanmd@gmail.com).

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

Give to
FPC today!



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!**

Saturday Worship (Marathon Weekend) — Saturday, April 25 | 5:00 p.m.

Due to the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon route surrounding the church, we will not have Sunday activities or worship on April 26. Instead, please join us on Saturday, April 25, at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for worship.

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 will take turns keeping a vigil of prayer and devotion as we await the sunrise that celebrates the empty tomb on Easter morning!

All volunteer slots are now taken. Thank you to everyone who volunteered.

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.