

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

March 6, 2022 • 9:30 a.m.



Welcome Table
Joel Schoon-Tanis



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
Ann Arbor | Michigan

Please join in reading and singing those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

* When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit.

The season of Lent

is often marked by a journey: our traveling from the mountaintop of transfiguration back into the treacherous terrain leading to Holy Week and Easter. Turning to the cross leads us to reflect, remember, repent, and then reclaim our identity as children of God. We welcome you as you listen for God's invitation in your life.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Prelude No. 5*

Heitor Villa-Lobos

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: For forty days and nights the rain fell,
and the waters covered the face of the earth.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Moses spent forty days on the mountain,
learning the commandments of God.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness
to hear the voice of God in the silence.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh,
"Repent, or in forty days you will perish."

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

All: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

One: This is Lent and into its wilderness God welcomes us.

All: Let us worship the Triune God of grace and mercy.

* **HYMN 166**

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

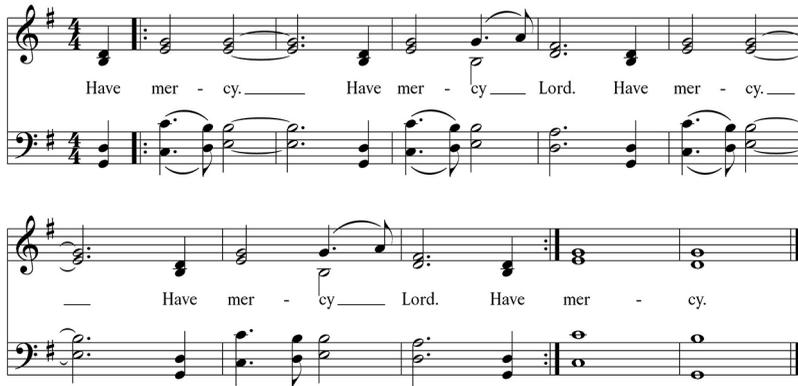
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Led by the crafter of lies, Lord God, we wander into the wasteland of wrong-doing. We hunger for more and more, and feel emptier and emptier. We seek power, especially over others, only to do harm. By our choices, we worship the false gods of success, wealth, and spectacle.

Have mercy on us, God of love, and forgive us for the power we give to temptation in our lives. Help us to become as vulnerable as Jesus, for in that vulnerability, we find the humility to trust you in all things; in that trust, we discover the grace which sets us free from the grasp of the shrewd one; in that freedom, we can leave our badlands behind, in order to follow Jesus in this life, and into the next...

SILENT PRAYER

KYRIE



Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy Lord. Have mer - cy. Have mer - cy Lord. Have mer - cy.

This is *Psalm 123: Have Mercy* by Greg Scheer.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart.
Rise to all eternity.**

This is Stanza 4 of Hymn 440, *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* (ABERYSTWYTH).

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 91:1–2, 9–16

God is a shelter where we can hide from the storm,
the shadow where we can be safe from the hot sun.
Here's what I say: "God, I know I can always trust you.
I run to you and grab on to you when I need you."

**When I call God's name, God answers.
God is beside me when I'm in trouble.**

If you make God the house you live in,
nothing bad can happen to you.
God will assign angels to you, to follow you, to keep you close.
They will hold you in their arms, and watch your back.

**When I call God's name, God answers.
God is beside me when I'm in trouble.**

This season of Lent we join together as a community in faith, building love and support for all as we seek ways to turn wilderness into welcome. Our first scripture reading each week will be in the form of a responsive reading. Many of these readings come from *God's Word, My Voice: A Lectionary for Children*, in our continued growth as a church to invite us into unity – one body of Christ. These adapted readings create an entrypoint of biblical understanding for our younger readers, while still wrapping us in the comfort of God's Word with which we are familiar.

This week's Growing in God's Love Bible story, "A Wild Test," is found on page 204.

Nothing can hurt you—not lions, not snakes.
In fact, lions and snakes will be scared of you!
God will say, I will protect that one there, because I know she loves me.
I will rescue her from trouble,
because she knows my Name and knows how to use it.
When she calls out my Name I will answer. I will be with her
in trouble. I will bring her back to a place where she can be
proud of herself, and not frightened.
I will reward her with a good long life,
and show her what real living is all about."
**When I call God's name, God answers.
God is beside me when I'm in trouble.**

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 4:1–13

The grass withers, the flower fades; **the word of the Lord endures forever.**

SERMON

RESPONDING AND SEALING

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Offertory

My Song Is Love Unknown
Chancel Choir

Edwin Childs

My song is love unknow, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day hosannas to their king.
Then "Crucify" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Why, what has my Lord done to cause this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, and gave the blind their sight.
What injuries! Yet these are why the Lord most high so cruelly dies.

Here might I stay and sing of him my soul adores.
Never was love, dear king, never was grief like yours!
This is my friend in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.
My song is love.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

In the rich tradition of the Jewish Passover, the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving gives thanks for what God has done, and asks God to remain in covenant faithfulness, fulfilling God's promises for mercy, fellowship, and salvation. As Jesus likely sang the Hallel psalms at the meal with his disciples, we will sing our communion liturgy this morning. We invite you to sing the refrains printed in the bulletin while we intersperse our prayer with spoken words. After the last refrain, we'll join together in the Lord's Prayer.

Use these offertory moments to savor your gratitude for the abundance of God's love — and to consider your own response in loving service.

Ways to give:

click here:
<https://secure.myvanco.com/YM88/home>
or give via "Text-to-Give" (855-904-1523) ... use the Vanco Mobile app ... put a check in the mail ... or scan the QR code below.

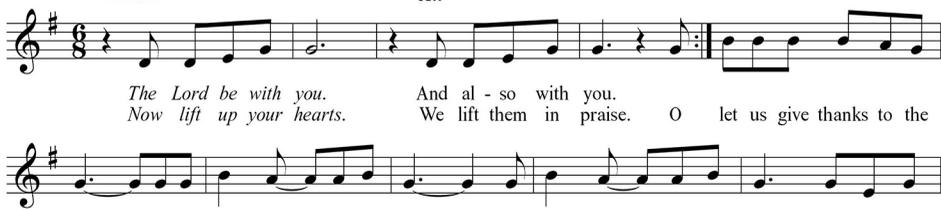


Invitation to the Lord's Table

During his ministry, Jesus shared meals as a sign of community and acceptance. As we gather for communion, know that you are welcome in this community and accepted at Christ's table.

Please come forward to receive the elements and return to your seat before partaking. The wafers are gluten-free. Those who prefer not to come forward will be served in place.

Leader *All*



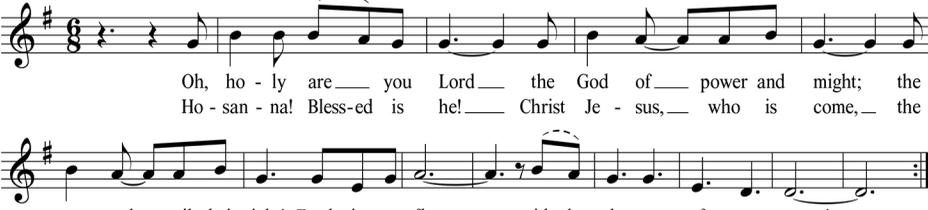
The Lord be with you. *And al - so with you.*
Now lift up your hearts. *We lift them in praise.* O let us give thanks to the

Lord. ___ it is good and ___ it is right ___ our joy and ___ our de - light to give God

praise _____ at all times and in all ways! _____

From the deep wilderness of chaos...

...with insiders and those who have stood outside we offer our songs of praise to you:

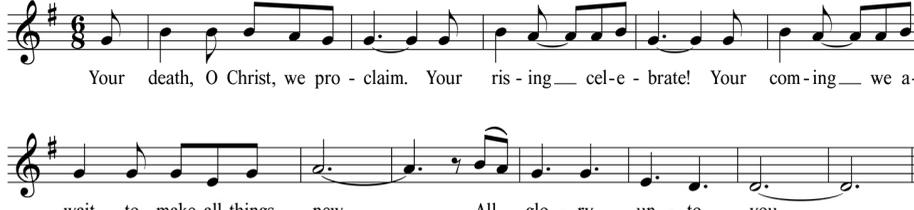


Oh, ho - ly are ___ you Lord ___ the God of ___ power and might; the
Ho - san - na! Bless - ed is he! ___ Christ Je - sus, ___ who is come, ___ the

an - gels veil their sight! Earth is a - flame ___ with the glo - ry of your name! ___
Lord's a - noint - ed one: He comes a - gain! ___ Ho - san - na, Lord, A - men. ___

Holy are you, God of mercy and hope...

...we sing the word of faith that is so mysterious:



Your death, O Christ, we pro - claim. Your ris - ing ___ cel - e - brate! Your com - ing ___ we a -

wait, to make all things new. ___ All glo - ry un - to you. ___

Led by you, we come to this Table...joining the voices of the powerless,
...offering our lives in grace and hope to all.



A - men. A - men. A - men! _____

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.

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

HYMN 698

Take, O Take Me as I Am

TAKE ME AS I AM

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

In the name of Jesus —

Let us Love...**with Open Hearts!**

Let us Learn...**with Open Minds!**

Let us Serve...**with Open Arms!**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Psalm XX

Benedetto Marcello

Please remain seated until the conclusion of the Closing Voluntary.

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Welcome Table by Joel Schoon-Tanis, is used with permission from the artist.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

We are glad you are here! Please sign our Friendship Pad. If you are worshipping with us via YouTube, Facebook, or radio, please sign the pad on our website to let us know you are here or you may click here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd2OFFlvBmiZ1jQUGxeXcsAIDITp2WEYepSmnjyQYMXbHHndA/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>.

The 9:30 worship service is broadcast on WAAM 1600 radio at 11:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Welcome – Melissa Anne Rogers; Liturgist – Evans McGowan and Hannah Lundberg; Scripture Reader Lindsey Gudritz; Tableau Participants – Gavin and Liam Phillips, Jackie Vercler, Elspeth, Ezra, and Heather Gerety, Byron and Lindsey Gudritz, Ann Ringia, Marti and Tim Wendler, Chloe Majorprice, Nicholas Music, and Jenny Rhodes; Children's Message – Beca Torres-Davenport; Preacher – Mark Mares; Musicians – Chancel Choir; Guitarist – Erik Gibelyou; Pianist – Don Saliers; Organist – David Hufford; Conductor – Dave VanderMeer; Ushers – Ken Westfall (captain), Beth Gerwig, Angela Yang, Greta Krapohl, Clem Gill, and Beth Sanderford

Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Nancy Avery Webster by her brother Earl Avery; and in loving memory of Dolly Millard on her birthday by the Millard family.

A red rosebud celebrates the birth of Caleb Yongjia Duan, born January 11, 2022. Caleb is the son of Alexa Lindley and Kevin Duan and the grandson of Mark Lindley and Sandy Talbott.

A red rosebud celebrates the birth of Ferris Trace Hutcheon, born February 17, 2022. Ferris is the son of Brett and Amanda Hutcheon and the grandson of new members Karen and Brian Hutcheon.

The prayer team is available for those desiring prayer in Hillegonds Chapel after the 9:30 service. Prayer team volunteers are Nicole Jolliet and Dianne Knibbs. "God can pick sense out of a confused prayer." – Richard Sibbes

Join us for Coffee Hour today in the Social Hall immediately following the Closing Voluntary.

FIRST SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION: PACKING LUNCH SACKS

All children, youth, and adults are invited to join in this activity in the Social Hall at 11:00 a.m. Lunch sacks for community members in need will be prepared using donations that have been dropped off during the last month. Sacks will be delivered to Hope Clinic for distribution this week. Participants in **The Bible at 11 o'clock, First Friends, and Exploring the Faith** will join our children and youth in this activity.

Lent Art Exhibit

All are invited to attend the opening of this special art exhibit **today**, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., in the Social Hall. Join us for a simple supper and seminar with Don Saliers, about the work of *Visio Divina* based on two different Stations of the Cross art exhibits. Child care is available.

FEATURED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fast-Track to Membership today, Sunday, March 6, at 11:00 a.m. Interested in joining? We make it easy! Join us in the Lead Pastor's office for about 20 minutes to meet with a pastor and two Elders. A new member class follows, offered multiple times per year, for those who feel moved to join. For more information, contact Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firsptresbyterian.org or 662-4466, ext. 390).

Our March donations and financial contributions support Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti. Non-perishable food may be placed in the bin provided in the Social Hall on Sundays, Mondays–Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Financial gifts may be made by check or online. Donations will be coordinated by Presbyterian Women.

Expand Your Faith with Presbyterian Women. Join us for Bible study this week.

Women's Morning Horizons Bible Study: Murder, Politics, Survival

Thursday, March 10, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Curtis Room or Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84155918470>)

"Evenings with Jenna" Bible Study

Thursday, March 10, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., Curtis Room or Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84155918470>)

This friendly and informal group, led by Jenna Mares, is open to ALL ...women, men, members, visitors! Discussion is varied and lively. Contact Jenna for more information at jenna.harms66@gmail.com.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD COMMUNITY DURING LENT

Lenten Email Devotions

Begin each day with a Lenten email devotion written by church members and staff. Sign up with Rev. Rogers (mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org).

Easter Flowers

Flowers are \$18 each and may be ordered in memory of a deceased loved one or in honor or recognition of someone still living. All orders must be placed by Palm Sunday, April 10. Use [this link](#) to order flowers: <https://firstpresbyterian.wufoo.com/forms/easter-lilies/>.

Home Worship Gatherings

Simple worship gatherings will be held in various homes on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. throughout the season of Lent. Gatherings are limited to a maximum of 15 people. Please use this link to sign up for a home worship gathering: <https://bit.ly/3uD4fr6>.

Wilderness | Walking

Join your church family for a weekly walk in Lent. All are welcome! Information on dates, times, locations, and sign up is available online using this link: bit.ly/3oAMTY9.

AGO Organ Series

Join us throughout Lent for a free concert series weekly, March 11 through April 8, at 12:00 p.m., in our Sanctuary. On March 25, David Hufford, FPC Organist, and Lucy Trumbull Baum, Artist, will create a rich organ concert and visual art in a concert titled A Feast for the Eyes and Ears. All are welcome to attend these free, hour-long concerts!

En la Mesa de Dios // At God's Table: A Stations of the Cross Experience

April 3–17 | Sundays, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Mondays – Thursdays, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Experience the Holy Week narrative by taking in the art of *En la mesa de Dios / At God's Table*, illustrated by Joel Schoon-Tanis. Both an audio track to help in the walk-through and a pamphlet will be available to guide you as you experience multi-sensory stations of the cross in this unique format. All ages are welcome! *En la Mesa de Dios* is located in the Children's Wing on the third level.

Wilderness | Welcome is our theme for Lenten worship. Each Sunday we will wrestle with Scripture passages that deal with questions of hospitality, loneliness, discovery, loss, and hope in the midst of wilderness moments. Many of us have been living in the wilderness for far too long.



WILDERNESS

welcome

LENT 2022

This Lent, we enter our third year of pandemic life with losses and hard realities all around us. Often, as we navigate these places of uncertainty and pain, our first instinct is to turn inward and to clench our fists until we can make it to the other side. Our faith invites us to a different response: one where fear leads us to turn toward one another, to rely on God's presence, to build love and support for all, and to trust that we do not journey on difficult roads alone. God calls us to welcome the wilderness and to turn wilderness into welcome.

Worship Themes:

Sunday, March 6	A Table in the Wilderness
Sunday March 13	Wondering in the Wilderness
Sunday, March 20	Lost in the Wilderness (Youth Service)
Sunday, March 27	Found in the Wilderness
Sunday, April 3	Alone in the Wilderness
Sunday, April 10	Stories of Wilderness

Pastoral & Program Staff

Eric Banitt
Accompanist / Pianist

Rev. Megan Berry
Resident Minister

Barbara DeLancey
Parish Nurse

David Hufford
Organist

Rev. Hannah Lundberg
Resident Minister

Rev. Mark Mares
Minister of Youth & Families

Rev. Evans McGowan
Assistant Pastor of Faith Formation and Campus Ministries

Stacey Pakela
Parish Nurse

Shayla Powell
Children's Choir Director

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Associate Pastor

Rev. Jay Sanderford
Associate Pastor

Beca Torres-Davenport
Coordinator of Children's & Family Ministry

David VanderMeer
Minister of Music & Fine Arts

Rev. Matthew J. Warfield
Resident Minister (In Memoriam)



Administrative Staff

Robin Agnew
Administrative Assistant

Nick Dibacco-Vaidya
Finance Assistant

Pat Gilbreath
Welcome Center Coordinator

Almer Harris
Maintenance Specialist

Kathy Houser
Technology Coordinator

Diane Knibbs
Administrative Assistant

Anna Miller
Finance Manager

Allie Milot
Communications Coordinator

Adrian Prundeanu
Facilities Manager

Linda Robinson
Office Manager



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