



Please speak with an usher if you would like to use a **large-print bulletin** to follow the service.

## FIRST SUNDAY *in* LENT

February 26, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

As we enter a holy space and time this morning, please silence all electronic devices. The opening voluntary is the call to silent meditation.

\* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol, and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

### GATHERING

#### OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Benedictus from An Armed Man: A Mass for Peace* Karl Jenkins  
Judith Vander Weg, cello

#### POURING OF THE WATER

#### WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

#### FAITH IN ACTION

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

When we are afraid of the wilderness,  
**God's love is courageous.**

When systems of abuse ask us to join in the ways of power-over,  
**God's resistance is sturdy and steadfast.**

When we feel destructive ways banging on the door of our hearts,  
**God protects us, shouting "Away!"**

When sorrow threatens to pull us under,  
**God encircles us with Holy Presence.**

Let us worship God who does not leave us stranded,  
**but joins us as Protector, Companion, Compass, and Hope.**

\* **HYMN 166** *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* ST. FLAVIAN

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Day or night, it is always the right time to come before God,  
**For God already knows what lies in our hearts.**

Let us offer up our hopes yet unmet:  
**For peace, for reconciliation, for grace.**

Let us offer up the wrongs we have done:  
**Our greed, our apathy, our meanness.**

Let us offer up the good we have left undone:  
**Forgiving another, offering mercy, choosing compassion.**

And in silence, let us offer God the whole of our hearts.

#### SILENT PRAYER

The **Call to Worship** is from *enfleshed*.

The **Prayer of Confession** was written by Beth Merrill Neel, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'

## KYRIE

GHANA

Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer-cy, \_\_\_\_\_ Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have  
mer - cy. Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ have mer - - cy.

## 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

DETROIT

"For - give our sins as we \_\_\_\_\_ for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,  
but you a - lone can grant us \_\_\_\_\_ grace to live the words we say.

## PROCLAIMING *the* WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 32

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

### A CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*Please join in singing the refrain of Hymn 20, All Things Bright and Beautiful, as the children come forward.*

**All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.**

### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 4:1-11

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

### SERMON

This week's Growing in God's Love Bible story, *Something Big from Something Small*, is found on page 224.

The musical transition following the first scripture reading invites all ages to be active participants while signaling to children an important moment in worship focused toward them.

**Worship LAB** is a place where children explore the flow of worship through multi-sensory experiences. Children age 5 through 5th grade are invited to join in Worship Lab each week. This week's LAB focuses on Communion.

## RESPONDING

\* HYMN 459

*O Word of God Incarnate*

MUNICH

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

**Offertory**

*Lenten Carol*

Marc Robinson

Chancel Choir and Judith Vander Weg, cello

The days are long, the nights are longer still,  
Lord, grant to us the will to walk these forty days.  
The way is hard, the end is harder yet  
Lord, help us not forget to mix our cries for help with praise.  
Glory to the Song, who walks these forty days.  
Walks beside God's people and walks to bring them grace.  
Let us voices raise unto the Lamb who saves  
people who he shepherds by going to the grave.

We walk as one, and yet we walk alone,  
Lord, can it be your home lives through this door of death?  
And may our journey bring your death to mind,  
Lord, grant that we may find renewed life through the Spirit's breath.  
As we journey through this season of Lent,  
our bodies weary and our spirits are spent,  
Grant us strength to face whatever may be.  
Grant to us, grace to witness calvary.

Though private burdens bring our spirits low,  
Grow from winter's chill to spring.  
Amid life's storms and cares that weigh us down,  
Give us your grace profound and teach our wounded souls to sing.  
Glory to the Lamb, who dies to set us free.  
Dies a man of sorrow, for our iniquity.  
Walk with us we pray whatever may be  
and grant to us the grace to witness calvary.

\***Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

\* **Prayer of Dedication**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Blessed One, our Father and our Mother,  
May your love be enacted in the world.  
May your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread  
and forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us in the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For all that we do in your love,**

#### Ways to give:

##### Cash/Check

Place in the offering plate or in the mail

##### Text-to-Give

Text the amount you would like to give to 855-904-1523

##### Online

<https://bit.ly/FPCvanco>

##### Vanco Mobile App



During the season of Lent we will say or sing various versions of the **Lord's Prayer**. Today's prayer is from A New Monastic Handbook.

and all that your love brings to birth,  
and the fullness of love that will be  
are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## SENDING

\* HYMN 440                      *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*                      ABERYSTWYTH

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY      *Psalm XIX*                      Marcello/Ployhar  
FPC Orchestra



*The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Mary Layher.*



*Please remain seated for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation which begins  
immediately following the Closing Voluntary.*

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“Temptation  
of Christ in the  
Wilderness” by  
Briton Rivière

# We are glad you are here!

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First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and diverse faith community, led by the Holy Spirit, who welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith.

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## GET CONNECTED

Please use the Friendship Pad located in the pew to let us know you joined us in worship. To stay up to date with what's happening at First Pres, sign up for our weekly email "Our Life Together" using this QR code.



## CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to Worship LAB — a multi-sensory worship experience just for them.

Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level from 9 a.m. to noon. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship. We encourage you to pick up a worship activity bag, try sitting near the front, and sing along with the music.

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## WORSHIP LEADERS

### *Preacher*

David Prentice-Hyers

### *Welcome*

Mark Mares

### *Liturgists*

Megan Berry

Hannah Lundberg

### *Conversation with Young*

### *Disciples*

Melissa Anne Rogers

### *Lector*

Mary McKeever

### *Organist*

David Hufford

### *Conductor*

David VanderMeer

### *Chancel Choir*

FPC Orchestra

### *Welcome Center*

Karen Walter

### *Greeters*

Angie Miller

Heidi Dodson

### *Ushers*

Beth Gerwig

Holly Majorprice

Chloe Majorprice

Aidan Majorprice

Jenna Mares

Carol Smith

Paul Smith

Tim Wendler

Angela Yang

## Today at First

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### **Embracing Hope Information Session**

8:30 a.m. | Curtis Room (Level 2)

### **Children's Choir**

10:30 a.m. | Lemon's Chapel

### **Congregational Meeting**

10:30 a.m. | Sanctuary

### **Congregational Potluck Lunch**

11:30 a.m. | Social Hall

### **Youth Group**

4:30 p.m. | Buhr Park Ice Arena

Contact: Mark Mares, [mmares@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmares@firstpresbyterian.org)

### **Parent Conversations**

4:45 p.m. | York (1928 Packard St.)

Contact: Mark Mares, [mmares@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mmares@firstpresbyterian.org)

### **T2A2 Young Adults**

7:00 p.m. | Off site

Contact: Hannah Lundberg, [hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:hlundberg@firstpresbyterian.org)

## News & Events

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**Embracing Hope Information Sessions** — During this month, our entire church community will engage in a collective process to imagine our future and chart the course ahead. Your feedback is important. **This is the final week to participate.** We encourage you to attend one meeting at a time your schedule allows. The meeting will last one hour, and you will have a short questionnaire to fill out at the end. This week gatherings will be held:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. | Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89196426148>

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

7:00 - 8:00 pm | Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89173405190>

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. | Curtis Room

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Curtis Room

**Annual Meeting of the Congregation** — The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held today following 9:30 a.m. worship for the purpose of approving the pastors' terms of call and receiving the 2022 annual report and the 2023 annual budget. Following the meeting, join us for the potluck lunch at 11:30 a.m. in the Social Hall.

**Parent Conversations** — Parents of children and youth are invited to join Pastor Mark and Elder Betsy McCallister at York (1928 Packard St.) at 4:45 p.m. for fellowship and conversation. Come meet other First Pres parents and give feedback on our ministries to families. If you can't make it to York, join us on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89479700742>) on Tuesday, February 28 at 8pm.

**Social Hour Hosts Needed** — We are looking for folks who will help put cookies on trays and on tables in the Social Hall before Social Hour (usually on the last hymn) — and help us at the end to put the cookie trays in the kitchen to be washed by staff the next day. Can you help? Sign up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f45a4ac283-coffee#/>

# Lent

## A SEASON OF RENEWAL

### TAIZÉ SERVICE

Tuesday, March 7  
7:00 p.m.

We invite you to come experience a beautiful form of prayer, inspired by the ecumenical community in Taizé, France.

### HOME WORSHIP GATHERINGS

Tuesdays, March 14 - 28  
6:00 p.m.

Simple worship gatherings will be held in various homes throughout the season of Lent. Limited to 25 people per gathering. Sign up online at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

### PEEPS & PIZZA

Saturday, April 8  
10:00 a.m.

Create a Bible story diorama using marshmallow Peeps. Then, an outdoor pizza lunch and children's egg hunt will be held on the front lawn. Lunch is a suggested \$5 per person donation. We will proudly display the dioramas in the Social Hall on Easter Sunday. Register online at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org)

### ALPHA HOUSE WEEK OF CARING

March 20 - 27

During the week of March 20, volunteer to support guests of Alpha House, a shelter for children and parents. To volunteer, visit [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org).

### EASTER FLOWERS

Give Easter flowers in memory or in honor of loved ones. Your flowers will be used to beautify our worship spaces on Easter Sunday, April 9. Following Easter worship, flowers will be delivered by our Deacons to those in need of extra cheer. Flowers are \$20 each and may be ordered up until noon on Monday, April 4.

### LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays, March 5 - April 9  
8:00 a.m. | Monteith Hall  
9:30 a.m. | Sanctuary & Livestream

Join us throughout Lent for a time of prayer and self-examination in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection of the Lord at Easter.

### LENTEN EMAIL DEVOTIONAL

Begin each day with a Lenten devotion written by church members and staff. To receive the email devotion, contact Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers at [mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org](mailto:mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org)

### LENTEN WEEKLY WALKS

Wednesday, March 1  
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Gallup Park

Tuesday, March 7  
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
The Arboretum (meet at First Pres)

Thursday, March 16  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Bird Hills

Friday, March 24  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Dhu Varren Woods

Saturday, April 1  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Hudson Mills

Friday, April 7 (Good Friday)  
12:00 p.m.  
The Arboretum (meet at First Pres)

All ages and stages of life welcome. A pastoral liaison will guide the group. Sign up at [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org).

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sundays, April 2 & 9

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors in need by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. To give, visit [firstpresbyterian.org](http://firstpresbyterian.org).