



Second Sunday in Lent and Communion March 1, 2026



Prayer of Preparation

I lift up my eyes to the hills-- from where will my help come?
My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. -Psalm 121:1-2

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

How Great Thou Art

arr. Brent Edstrom

Welcome / Greetings

Pastor Craig Aue

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

*Call to Worship

Liturgist Deb Hemmye

Children of God, in Lent we remember that our salvation is an unearned gift, that new life is a matter of faith, not of works.

We gather to lay down the burden of trying to earn our salvation.

Like Nicodemus, who met Jesus in the dark of night, we struggle to accept that new life is not just possible but given as a free gift of grace.

We gather to bring our struggles into the light and embrace God's grace with open arms.

Like Paul writing to the Romans, we remember God's promise of new life has always rested on grace.

We gather to receive the promise of salvation by grace through faith.

Like the many who have followed, questioned, and grown in the faith, we submit ourselves to be formed by grace as we work out our salvation day by day.

We gather as people guided by the promise of new life, a promise fulfilled by Christ, whose path we follow.

Prayer of Confession - (Responsive)

Pastor Craig Aue

Loving God, help us.

**When we have run away, when we have turned our backs on love,
when we have sought immediate satisfaction and not long-term healing, help us.**

Merciful God, forgive us.

**When we have been selfish, when we have been mean,
when we have neglected the cries of others, forgive us.**

Powerful God, heal us.

**When we are so broken we cannot move,
when we don't know how to stem the bleeding of our wounds,
when we are too ashamed to seek community, heal us.**

**Give us the courage, the strength, and the hope
to accept your grace and embrace your call in Christ.**

(Silent Prayer)

Words of Assurance

Pastor Craig Aue

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Liturgist Deb Hemmye

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving Word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts — a spring of hope for a thirsty world. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a (pg.10 Old Testament) Liturgist Deb Hemmye

Anthem

Go Out in Joy

Joseph Martin

Gospel Reading

John 3:1-17 (pg.93-94 New Testament)

Pastor Craig Aue

Reflection

Can You be Born Again?

Pastor Craig Aue

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards

Pastor Craig Aue

***Doxology #606**

**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.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Song of Invitation # 701

Sanctuary

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor Craig Aue

May the God of great adventures be with you!

And also with you!

It is God who is able to keep our hearts filled with hope and peace.

We will offer our hearts to the One who is our Keeper.

Trust in the promises whose fulfillment we cannot see.

We lift our songs to the One who is always with us.

You went into the shadows of nothingness,
bearing your Light of creation,

...with those who have responded to your call,
we lift our thanksgivings to you:

Holy, holy, holy are you, Who neither slumbers nor sleeps.

All creation blesses your glorious name.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes to answer our questions.

Hosanna in the highest!

Holy One, you are the God of blessings,...

...as we seek to leave our comfortable lives to follow,
we would talk about that mystery we call faith:

Christ died, faithful to the end;

Christ was raised, so all creation might be saved;

Christ will come, to bring us to that home he will show us.

What then are we to say, Keeper of our lives? ...

...we will sing our glad songs to you forever,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

Litany of Lent (responsive) and The Lord's Prayer

Liturgist Deb Hemmye

Christ of the comfortable,
you would call us
from our security and sameness,
down that unknown path
which leads to God's heart:
**with trust, we would place
our hands in yours, and follow.**

Companion of our sleepless nights,
you would beckon us
out of the shadows of our fears,
calling us to bring our doubts
and questioning hearts along:
**with humility, we would listen
to those answers we do not
expect, or even understand.**

Word which creates out of nothingness,
you would fill us with life
where we see only emptiness,
you would keep your promises
when all ours lie littered on the ground:
**we would let your grace transform
us into faithful disciples.**

(Silence is kept)

Keeper of every moment,
walk with us, we pray.

Watcher in the night:
stay with us, we pray.

Spirit of new life:
be in us, as we pray together saying,

**“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.”**

We Follow God's Word into the World

*Hymn of Sending #515

I Come with Joy

*Benediction

Pastor Craig Aue

Postlude

The Master Has Called Us

arr. Franklin Ritter

Lenten Study: "Unanswered Prayer" (Mondays in March at 10:00 a.m.)

Join us this Lenten Season for a five-week journey through the second Prayer Course called "Unanswered Prayer", every Monday morning, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., in Room 208/210 (with the new A/V equipment!) The course consists of a video, discussion questions, and practical prayer activities.

Sign up on the sheet on the "Sign-up Kiosk or online: <https://tinyurl.com/FPCF-Lenten2026>

Questions? Ask Sharon Cressman or Colleen Tavor.

"My eyes pour out tears to God." (Job 16:20)

EUCHRE!

Join us! We are playing euchre on the first Friday of each month from 2-4pm in the church library. Add these dates to your calendar: March 6, April 10, May 1, and June 5. All are welcome - and bring a friend! Sign up on the Kiosk or see Nancy Prieskorn if you have any questions. We will teach you!

Daylight Saving Time starts: Sunday, March 8, 2026

Remember to set your clocks forward before going to bed Saturday night, March 8, and take a moment to check smoke alarm batteries and review your home safety plans.

Hospitality Training

Sign up for our Hospitality Training to learn about how to help our congregation fulfill our mission to "Welcome All". We will be teaching how to serve as greeters and ushers. You can see if you can help in those roles but also learn skills to share the gift of hospitality.

QR Code for Donations!

If you ever forget to go to the ATM, or simply do not carry cash on you, we're including the church QR code for a more streamlined donation process. To donate, just scan the QR code and follow the prompt.



Hospitality Time Schedule

You are invited to bring ONE food item on ONE Sunday each month. Your Sunday depends on the first letter of your last name. It would be greatly appreciated if you are also able to help with set-up or clean-up. Please note healthy options are welcome as well such as fruit, eggs, cheese & crackers, veggies etc. Here is the upcoming schedule:

March 8: Last names beginning L-R
March 15: Last names beginning S-Z
March 22: Last names beginning A-D
March 29: Last names beginning E-K

Church Calendar March 1 to March 8, 2026

Sunday, March 1

9:00am - 10:00am The Wired Word
10:00am - 11:00am Worship In-Person & Livestream Service
12:00pm-1:00pm Nurture Ministry Meeting

Monday, March 2

10:00am – 11:00am Lenten Study: Unanswered Prayer
4:00pm - 6:00pm Mission Meeting
6:00pm - 7:00pm Soul Stretch Yoga

Tuesday, March 3

4:00pm - 6:00pm PNC Meeting -Library
7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts Troop Meeting
7:15pm - 8:30pm JOY Book Study

Wednesday, March 4

2:00pm - 3:00pm Future Church Prayer Group

Thursday, March 5

6:00pm - 7:00pm Choral Bells Practice
7:20pm - 8:50pm Chancel Choir Practice

Friday, March 6

2:00pm – 4:00pm Euchre

Sunday, March 8

Daylight Saving Time Starts

9:00am - 10:00am The Wired Word
10:00am - 11:00am Worship In-Person & Livestream Service
11:15am -12:15pm Worship Committee

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Ministers of the Church

Parish Associate/Temp Acting Head of Staff

Minister of Music

Office Administrative Assistant

Sexton

AV Tech Intern

Members of the Congregation

Rev. Craig S. Aue

Peter Cartwright

Jennifer Taub

Richard Spurgeon

Lidia Neathamer



2026 Easter Flowers Order Form

All orders are due by Monday, March 30!



Please place your order for Easter lilies, tulips, and/or azaleas (all in 6-inch pots with foil cover) by completing this form and returning it along with your payment. Plants may be taken after the 10:00 a.m. Easter worship service on April 5 or left for delivery to a homebound member.

___ I / We wish to donate the following plant(s) for decorating the church on Easter Sunday and/or to support a community member in need. Please use the following recognition in the Easter bulletin:

In honor of _____
name of person(s)

In memory of _____
name of person(s)

Ordered by: _____ Phone: (_____) _____

___ I / We would like to order the following number of plants:

___ Red Tulip plant - \$13 each

___ Fresh Produce for CARES - \$15 each

___ Easter Lily plant - \$16 each

Total due \$ _____ ___ Payment included with order

___ Please deliver my plant(s) to a homebound member.