



Third Sunday in Lent March 8, 2026



Prayer of Preparation

Let us prepare our hearts before God.

Holy One, you meet us in our thirst and speak words of life.

As we come to this moment, quiet every distraction,
soften every place that has grown dry,
and open us to the movement of your Spirit.

Let your living water flow through our minds and hearts,
so that what we hear today may take root, renew us, and bear fruit in our lives.
Through Christ, our Source and our Savior. Amen.

We Enter into God's Presence

**Please stand in body or spirit*

Prelude

Wayfaring Stranger

arr. Brent Edstrom

Welcome / Greetings

Mary Carson

Signing of the Friendship Pad & Prayer Cards

***Call to Worship**

Mary Carson

Leader: In the dry places of our lives, God meets us.

People: Our thirst is real, and God does not turn away.

Leader: From the rock in the wilderness to the well in Samaria,
God pours out water for the weary.

People: God is our fountain—faithful, abundant, overflowing.

Leader: Come, all who are thirsty for grace, for hope, for new life.

People: We come to the One who gives living water.

Leader: Let us worship God,

People: the Source who makes springs rise within us.

***Opening Hymn #353**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer

Leader: Fountain of Living Water, you invite us to come and drink, yet we confess that we have tried to live from our own small supplies.

People: Lord, have mercy. Refresh us with your grace.

Leader: We have guarded our buckets, afraid of running dry.

People: Christ, have mercy. Free us from our fear.

Leader: We have trusted in broken cisterns—our own strength, our own plans, our own control.

People: Lord, have mercy. Turn our hearts back to you.

Leader: You offer us a spring within, yet we cling to scarcity.

People: Christ, have mercy. Open us to your abundant life.

Leader: Forgive us, O God.

People: Renew us by your Spirit, that living water may flow through us again.

All: Amen.

(A time of silent, personal prayer).

Words of Assurance

Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer

Leader: Hear the good news:

The God who met Israel in the wilderness,
the God who spoke through the prophets,
the God who sat beside a well at noon—
this God meets us in our thirst and offers living water.
In Christ, grace flows freely, mercy is renewed,
and a spring of life rises within you.

People: Thanks be to God, who makes us whole and makes us new.

We Hear God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Mary Carson

Spirit of the Living God, pour out your water of life upon us as we hear your Word.

Where our hearts are cracked or dry, let your truth seep in and soften us.

Where we are thirsty for direction, let your wisdom rise like a spring within.

Make us ready to receive what you speak and willing to be changed by your grace. Amen.

Old Testament Reading	Exodus 17:1-17 (Old Testament pg. 64)	Mary Carson
Anthem	<i>Just as I Am</i> Chancel Choir	arr. Gilbert Martin
Gospel Lesson	John 4:5-14 (New Testament pg. 94-95)	Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer
Sermon	More Than a Bucket	Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer

We Respond to God's Word

Offertory & Collection of Prayer Cards Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer

***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.**

Prayers of the People, Prayers of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer Mary Carson

Leader: Gracious God, you meet us in our thirst and give us more than we ask for—
mercy that renews us, grace that restores us, and living water that flows without end.
For every sign of your presence, for every place where your Spirit brings life,
and for every gift that sustains us on the journey, we give you thanks and praise.

People: Thanks be to God, the Source of every good gift.

Receive these prayers, O God — spoken aloud and held in silence — and gather them into
your mercy and love, as we join our voices in the prayer Jesus taught us, 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 #656** *We've Come This Far by Faith*

***Benediction** Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer

Postlude *Jesus Loves Me* arr. Jason Payne

Please Welcome Back, Rev. Rochelle Beckemeyer, Today's Guest Preacher.

Reverend Rochelle Beckemeyer is an ordained minister with the Assemblies of God and has served as pastor of Echo Christian Fellowship in Lake Orion for 18 years. The ministry emphasis at Echo for the past 13 years has been toward special needs adults, including those living with various disabilities of body and mind. Pastor Rochelle has one adopted daughter, Sabrina (age 26), with whom she founded Safe & Sound Ministries, a nonprofit helping vulnerable adults. Pastor Rochelle has served as guardian for several adults, and, after retiring from Stellantis (aka Chrysler) in 2024, now works as a driver for North Oakland Transportation Authority (NOTA), transporting seniors and adults with various disabilities.

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. – 11:30 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)

Church Office Hours

To prepare the docket for our Session meetings, Jennifer will be working Monday and Wednesday through Friday, **the second week of the month**. Therefore, she will **not** be in the **office on the second Tuesday of the month moving forward**.

Hospitality Training

Sign up for our Hospitality Training on Saturday, March 21 at 9:30am -12:30pm 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 with 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 include 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 15: Last names beginning S-Z

March 22: Last names beginning A-D

March 29: Last names beginning E-K

April 5: Last names beginning L-R

Church Calendar March 8 to March 15, 2026

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

Monday, March 9

10:00am – 11:30am Lenten Study: Unanswered Prayer

5:30pm – 7:30pm Comm/Tech Meeting

6:00pm - 7:00pm Soul Stretch Yoga

6:30pm - 7:30pm Boy Scouts

6:30pm – 8:30pm Worship Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 10

9:30am – 12:00pm ACTS Circle Meeting

3:30pm- 5:30pm Operations Meeting

4:00pm - 6:00pm PNC Meeting -Library

7:00pm - 9:00pm Scouts Troop Meeting

7:15pm - 8:30pm JOY Book Study

Wednesday, March 11

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

7:00pm – 8:30pm Deacon Meeting

Thursday, March 12

10:00am- 12:00pm Deborah Circle

6:00pm - 7:00pm Choral Bells Practice

7:20pm - 8:50pm Chancel Choir Practice

Friday, March 13

6:30pm – 8:00pm Page Turners

Saturday, March 14

10:00am-11:00am Visitation for Bud Williams

11:00 am – 12:00pm Memorial Service for Bud Williams

12:00pm – 2:00pm Luncheon for Bud Williams

Sunday, March 15

9:00am - 10:00am The Wired Word

10:00am - 11:00am Worship In-Person & Livestream Service

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Ministers of the Church

Members of the Congregation

Parish Associate/Temp Acting Head of Staff

Rev. Craig S. Aue

Minister of Music

Peter Cartwright

Office Administrative Assistant

Jennifer Taub

Sexton

Richard Spurgeon

AV Tech Intern

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 10:00am 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.