

FEBRUARY 26, 2023
11:00AM — SANCTUARY
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



seeking:
honest questions
for deeper faith



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WEST WAYNE STREET

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

We're so glad that you are here! If you would like to learn more about us, please fill out the information on the Get Connected card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. You are also more than welcome to contact any of our pastors over the phone or by email. God's peace to you today.

— Rev. Dr. Anne Epling, Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An, Rev. Carrie Winebrenner,
Rev. Ann Pitman and Resident Pastor Maxwell Michaels

†*Those who are able, please stand*

Congregation responds in bold

GATHERING

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on *O Lamb of God, BWV 618* Johann Sebastian Bach
Chorale Prelude on *O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Sin, BWV 622*

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Listen!

There is hope to be found here.

Listen!

God calls you by name here.

Listen!

There is love that abides here.

This world is full of chatter, so may we do our best to listen.

God is speaking.

Let us worship.

Amen.

†**HYMN No. 166** Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

†INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Friends, if you are seeking grace, this moment is for you.

If you are seeking growth, this moment is for you.

If you are seeking honesty, this moment is for you.

In the prayer of confession, we admit to ourselves and to God that we do not have it all figured out. And in that vulnerability, we are surrounded by God's grace. So let us pray together, using the prayer of confession printed in your bulletin or visible on your screen. Let us pray:

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, too often we treat your Word like a radio station - something we can tune in and out of when it's convenient. Our minds are full of ads, emails, news updates, and notifications.

In the midst of this clutter, we tend to gravitate toward the voices that think like us—easily ignoring the voices being silenced, easily ignoring your voice. Forgive us for failing to listen. Forgive us for getting caught in distractions. Forgive us for forgetting what your voice sounds like. Drain the distractions from our minds and help us turn once again toward you. With earnest hearts we pray, amen.

†ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, even when we tune God out,
even when we prioritize other voices,
even when we do all the talking and fail to listen,
we are *still* held by God.

Our sins are forgiven. Nothing could ever separate us from God's love.
So with joy in our hearts, please repeat after me:

I am loved!

I am loved!

I am held in grace!

I am held in grace!

I belong to God.

I belong to God.

Amen.

†SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

†RESPONSIVE HYMN NO. 578 O Lord, Have Mercy

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

(Children are welcome to come forward for the "Time with Children" as we sing the responsive hymn.)

1. O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy;

O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy;

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

GENESIS 2:15-17, 3:1-7

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM It Is a Thing Most Wonderful

Bob Chilcott

Chancel Choir

It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be, that God's own Son should come from heaven and die to save a child like me. And yet I know that it is true; he chose a poor and humble lot, and wept and toiled and mourned and died, for love of those who loved him not. It is most wonderful to know his love for me so free and sure; but 'tis more wonderful to see my love for him so faint and poor.

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 4:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Seeking: To Whom Will You Listen?”

Rev. Dr. Anne Epling

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Leevi John Schewe, August George Schewe, and Courtney Lynn Sherrick

PRESENTATION

†PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, The Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of God the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

WELCOME

†HYMN No. 482 Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY God So Loved the World

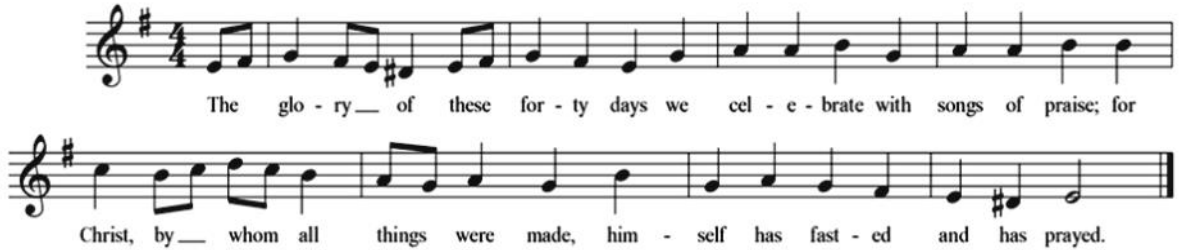
John Stainer

Chancel Choir

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

†DOXOLOGY HYMN NO. 165 The Glory of These Forty Days

ERHALT UNS, HERR



The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e - brate with songs of praise; for
Christ, by whom all things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.

†PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, as we remember Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we acknowledge the temptation that pursues so many of us: to measure our worth, our power, and our security by what we have. As we offer these gifts to you this morning, we pray that you might deliver us from the temptation of building our lives around what belongs to us. Continually lead us to the conviction that what matters is that we belong to you. We pray in the name of our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

SENDING

†HYMN NO. 775 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

WALK WITH ME

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE Chorale Prelude on *I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ, BWV 639* Johann Sebastian Bach

SERVICE NOTES

Hymn 166: Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days - Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in this wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

TEXT: Gregory the Great, 6th cent.; trans. Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

MUSIC: Klug's Geisliche Lieder, 1543; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1725

Hymn 482: Baptized in Water - Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.

TEXT: Michael A. Seward, 1981

MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

Hymn 775: I Want Jesus to Walk With Me - The two equal phrases in each line suggest that this African American spiritual shares some characteristics of work or field songs that were used to coordinate the efforts of slaves involved in tasks (road clearing, ditch digging, etc.) that needed combined rhythmic strokes.

TEXT: African American Spiritual

MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Nolan Williams Jr., 2000

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday, 9:00am — 3:00pm

Fridays, 9:00am — 12:00pm

Phone: 260-426-7421, *press 5 for the Staff Directory*

GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday-Thursday, 12:00pm-5:00pm

All other times by appointment only.

Visit our **website:** www.firstpresfortwayne.org

Watch the livestream of our worship services each Sunday by going to our Webpage or YouTube.

For sermons, go to the **Resources** link, select **Sermons**

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PASTORS

Rev. Dr. Anne Bain Epling (she/her) (ext. 107)
Pastor/Head of Staff
aepling@firstpresfortwayne.org

Rev. Ann Pitman (she/her) (ext. 106)
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
apitman@firstpresfortwayne.org

Maxwell Michaels (he/him) (ext. 135)
Resident Pastor
mmichaels@firstpresfortwayne.org

Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An (he/him) (ext. 105)
Associate Pastor/Korean Language Ministry
ysan@firstpresfortwayne.org

Rev. Carrie Winebrenner (she/her) (ext. 112)
Associate Pastor
cwinebrenner@firstpresfortwayne.org

Prayer List or to Request Pastoral Care: If you or a loved one is hospitalized and would like to be added to the prayer list or are seeking pastoral care, please contact the church office at 260-426-7421. Please let us know if you would like a visit.

Hospital Stays: Hospitals are unable to give us information when a member is admitted. Please be sure to ask someone to contact the church office so that a Pastor may attend to the member in need.

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Greeters: Heidi Schulenberg, Terri Linvall

Ushers: Anita Wolfe, Dave Beer, Eric Evans, Linda Yount

Director of Music Ministries & Organist: Brent Neuenschwander

Assistant Organist: Kathryn Miller

Chancel Choir

Live Stream: Dick Florea

Sound: Jeff Slater

ANNOUNCEMENTS FEBRUARY 26, 2023

Thank you for joining us today! We hope you'll return for Sunday, March 5, 2023, at the 11:00am English service in the Sanctuary (also available to watch via Livestream, on the website or via YouTube); or for the 11:00am Korean service in McMillen Chapel (which is also available to watch via website or YouTube).

FELLOWSHIP - STUDIES

“λόγος (LOGOS): Exploring Our Theology with the FPC Ministers Midweek Study”: Hey Everybody! After speaking with many of you and hearing about your interest, I am pleased to announce that **we are moving the new Logos class to Wednesday night** as a midweek study! This class will run for five weeks exploring the book *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by Dr. James H. Cone and act as a type of Lenten series. We will explore challenging topics and ask questions about ourselves, our faith, and how we feel about our connection to God. This class will now meet starting on March 1, 2023 in the Parlor from at 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. We will begin with a midweek meal, followed by our study at 6:30 pm. You can register for the class by either notifying Pastor Max (mmichaels@firstpresfortwayne.org) or signing up on Realm. Please register ahead of time so that we can get a copy of the book to you! This study is an excellent opportunity for fellowship, reflection, and learning alongside other community members. We look forward to seeing you there!

Table Talk 1: the women's book study will begin a new book on **Wednesday, March 15, 2023**. The group meets via Zoom at 10:00 am. We take turns “reading around the table,” so no homework is assigned. We will be reading *The Testament of Mary: A Novel*, by Colm Toibin (2012). ACPL describes it as: “A provocative imagining of the later years of the mother of Jesus finds her living a solitary existence in Ephesus years after her son's crucifixion and struggling with guilt, anger, and feelings that her son is not the son of God and that His sacrifice was not for a worthy cause.”

You are welcome to check the public library or purchase the book on your own online or at a used book store. If you would like to have us order a paperback copy for you, please contact Marcie Weissner (312.5733 or marcie5073@aol.com) **by March 7, 2023**. The maximum cost will be \$12.83, but there may be a reduced price, so we will let you know for sure when the books arrive. (You can reimburse Marcie in cash or by personal check made out to Marcie Weissner.) If you have any other questions, please contact Marj Sapp at 260.413.2639 or Marcie Weissner as above.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

MISSIONS

Collection of the Fish and the Loaves: The Hunger Relief Committee will again sponsor our annual *FISH and LOAVES* food collection during the six weeks of Lent.

Leave your donations on the Fish and Loaves table located next to the Church office. You can leave your donations *anytime* the church is open. We are requesting the following items:

Canned tuna
Snack crackers

Tuna in pre-packaged cups or packets
Saltine or oyster crackers

Canned salmon
Tuna helper

This collection is in addition to our monthly food collection on Sunday, March 19. We prayerfully hope that you will support both of these efforts during this special church season.

THE ARTS

Theatre: Season Tickets are now on sale for First Pres Theater's 2023/24 Season of Love! The ambitious productions include four Fort Wayne premiers, and a collaboration with Fort Wayne Youtheatre. FPT will present *Bedroom Farve*, *Head Over Heels*, *Almost Maine*, *The Prom* (with Fort Wayne Youtheatre), and *The Father*. Season tickets available through ArtsTix by calling 260-422-4226 or online by visiting www.artstix.com.

Music Series: March 19, 2023 at 4:00pm – Timothy Olsen, Organ
The Music Series will present organist, Timothy Olsen in concert on March 19th at 4pm. Dr. Olsen teaches a joint studio of high school, undergraduate, and graduate organ students at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and Salem College in Winston-Salem, NC. Dr. Olsen also serves as Cantor (organist/music director) at Augsburg Lutheran Church in Winston-Salem. Having won numerous competition and played in some of the most prominent concert venues, Timothy is a world-class organist and will present a fantastic concert. from 2009 to 2014, he was Brent Neuenschwander's teacher as Brent finished two degrees with him. The concert is free and open to the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

Sunday School Today! – During our 11am Worship

Calling all kids between kindergarten and 5th grade! Join us for Sunday School with Miss Rachel and Friends! We'll all start in worship together, and then after the Time with Children, we'll all head to our SS room as a group. We hope you'll join us for fun, fellowship, learning, and...of course...Bible Bucks! Woohoooo!

Nursery Available for Infants thru Pre-School: Jesus loves the little children, and we do, too! Should you decide that today would be a good time to explore the nursery, your child is always invited to drop in. Ask the office volunteer for a key fob and directions, and our skilled child care employees will be excited to welcome your child while you worship

ADDITIONAL NOTES

Ordination Service of Maxwell Michaels: is TODAY! At 4 PM, I will be ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament! This service will be live streamed from my home church, New Hope Presbyterian Church, in Gastonia, North Carolina. To view the service go to the New Hope Presbyterian Facebook Page at the website listed. (<https://www.facebook.com/nhpchurchgastonia/>)

I want to thank everyone here for being a part of this journey thus far and helping shape and mold me into the Minister that I am! You all have been such a big part of this journey for me, welcoming my wife and me and letting us be a part of this community. Hopefully, you are able to watch the service and continue to support in spirit! - Blessings, Max

Hearing Loop: To use the “Hearing Loop” during the service, please switch your hearing aid or cochlear device to the “T,” T-Coil or telephone position. For questions, please call Bill Patterson at 260-609-9696.

HERE IS WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES THIS WEEK!

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00am — 3:00pm and Friday, 9:00am — 12:00pm

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 26, 2023

- 9:30am Nominating Committee, SR
- 9:30am Childcare, NR
- 10:00am Wired Word, PR
- 10:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, MR
- 11:00am Worship Service, SC
- 11:00am Korean Worship Service, CH
- 11:15am Sunday School, 210
- 12:00pm Youtheatre Rehearsal “Baghdad Zoo,” TH
- 12:15pm Hospitality Time, MH
- 12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH
- 4:00pm Ordination of Maxwell Michaels, OS
- 5:30pm “Clybourne Park” Auditions, MH
- 7:00pm “Godspell” Rehearsal, FH

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023

- 1:30pm 3B Walking and Exercise Class, MH
- 3:00pm Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship, 302
- 4:30pm Youtheatre “Baghdad Zoo” Rehearsal, TH
- 7:00pm “Clybourne Park” Auditions, MH
- 7:00pm “Godspell” Rehearsal, FH

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023

- 10:00am Staff Meeting
- 10:30am Soccer Shots, FH
- 2:00pm Worship Committee Meeting, SR
- 4:30pm Youtheatre Rehearsal “Baghdad Zoo,” TH
- 7:00pm “Godspell” Rehearsal, FH

WEDNESDAY MARCH 1, 2023

- 10:00am Table Talk, ZM
- 10:30am Day School Chapel, CH
- 1:30pm 3B Walking and Exercise Class, MH
- 4:30pm Youtheatre Rehearsal “Baghdad Zoo,” TH
- 6:00pm (Music Together), MR
- 6:00pm KLM Prayer Meeting, CH
- 6:00pm LOGOS, PR
- 7:00pm “Godspell” Rehearsal, FH

THURSDAY MARCH 2, 2023

- 10:00am (Music Together), MR
- 3:00pm Ambassadors Committee Meeting, SR
- 4:30pm Youtheatre Rehearsal “Baghdad Zoo,” TH
- 5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal, 201
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, MR
- 7:00pm “Godspell” Rehearsal, FH

FRIDAY MARCH 3, 2023

- 9:20am Day School Music Class, MR
- 10:00am Men’s Bible Study, ZM
- 1:00pm Women’s Bible Study, ZM
- 7:00pm Youtheatre Performance “Baghdad Zoo,” TH

SATURDAY MARCH 4, 2023

- 2:00pm Youtheatre Performance “Baghdad Zoo,” TH
- 4:30pm Youtheatre Sensory Performance, “Baghdad Zoo,” TH

SUNDAY MARCH 5, 2023

- 9:30am Children’s Choir, MR
- 9:30am Childcare, NR
- 9:30am HeBrews Book Study, 300
- 10:00am Wired Word, PR
- 10:00am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, MR
- 11:00am Worship Service and Communion, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship Service and Communion, CH
- 12:15pm Hospitality Time, MH
- 12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH
- 2:00pm Youtheatre Performance, “Baghdad Zoo,” TH
- 7:00pm “Godspell” Rehearsal, FH

ROOM ABBREVIATIONS

| | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------------|
| CH | Chapel | KT | Kitchen | NR | Nursery |
| CL | Chapel Lounge | MH/E | McKay Hall East | OS | Offsite |
| CN | Chapel Narthex | MH/W | McKay Hall West | PR | Parlor |
| CY | Courtyard | MF | McKay Foyer | SB | Sanctuary Balcony |
| DS | Day School | MH | McKay Hall | SC | Sanctuary |
| FH | Fellowship Hall | MR | Music Room | SDR | Small Dining Room |
| FO | Front Office | NP | North Parking Lot | SM/O | Stephen Ministry Office |
| GL | Gallery | NX | Narthex | SR | Session Room |