

MARCH 19, 2023
11:00AM — SANCTUARY
FOURTH 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 Rev. Maxwell Michaels

†*Those who are able, please stand*

Congregation responds in bold

GATHERING

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*
Elegy

David Schelat
George Thalben-Ball

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit of God has brought us here.

**The Lord has set us down here,
though our bones may be tired.**

Can these dry bones live?

Yes! The Breath of God will revive us!

The Word of God will awaken us!

Today, we come together to experience new life.

Let us give thanks to the wild, life-giving spirit of God!

†**HYMN No. 53** O God, Who Gives Us Life

Noel

†**INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Friends, there is nothing that we have to keep hidden from God - not our anger, our grief, or the ways in which we have fallen short. In confession, we speak honestly and are met with grace. So let us not hold back. Let us bring our full selves to the prayer, knowing that God is already running to meet us. Let us pray:

†**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Jesus of Nazareth,

I confess: I forget that you know this feeling.

I forget that you, too, have wept.

I forget that you, too, have lost.

I forget that you, too, have gathered at the tomb,

have grieved for a friend, have felt the sting of humanity.

Forgive me for all the times I place blame on you.
 Forgive me for all the times I create distance, imagining that you could never feel what I feel. Forgive me for allowing the valley of dry bones to be a sea of space between us. Pour yourself in the cracks of my heart. Bring these bones back to life. Bring me closer to you. With gratitude I pray, amen.

†ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, you could spend your whole life ignoring God, pushing God away, or trying to solve the world’s problems all on your own, and God would still love you all the same. Even in our shortcomings, we are God’s beloved.

So hear and believe this good news:

We are saved by grace through faith. We belong to God. We are not alone. 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.)

1.0 — Lord, have mer - cy; O Lord, have mer - cy; O
 2.0 — Christ, have mer - cy; O Christ, have mer - cy; O

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.
 Christ, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

HEARING THE WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekial 37:1-14

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM Dry Bones

Becki Slagle Mayo/Lynn Shaw Bailey

Children's Choir and Chancel Choir

Ezekiel cried, "them dry bones!" Now hear the word of the Lord. The foot bone connected to the leg bone. The leg bone connected to the knee bone. The knee bone connected to the thigh bone. The thigh bone connected to the hip bone. The hip bone connected to the back bone. The back bone connected to the neck bone. The neck bone connected to the head bone. Now hear the word of the Lord. Them bones, them bones gonna walk around. Now hear the word of the Lord. Foot, leg, knee, thigh, hip, back, neck, head, them bones, them, dry bones! Now hear the word of the Lord. Them bones them, dry bones!

GOSPEL READING

John 11:1-45

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“Seeking: Can These Bones Live?”

Rev. Dr. Anne Epling

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

†**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe that God loves us-

God loves us enough to weep when we are gone.

We believe that God does not give up on us-

Breathing new life into tired bones.

We believe that God returns to us-

Always seeking us when we are lost.

We believe that God holds hope for us-

So we hold onto hope as well.

We believe, help our unbelief.

In Christ's name we pray, amen.

†**HYMN No. 286** Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

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 There Is a Green Hill Far Away

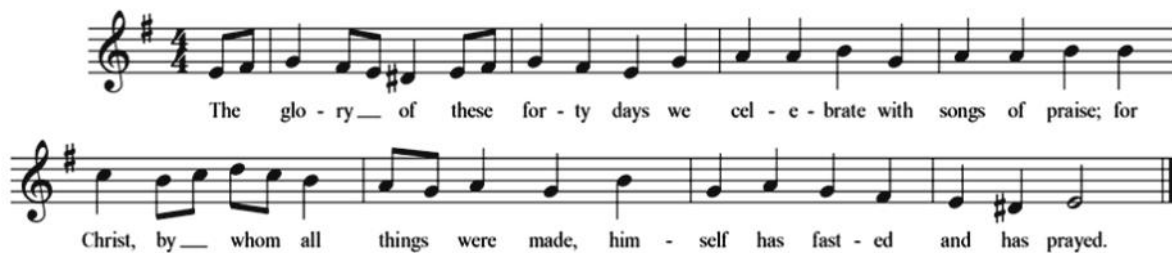
Bob Chilcott

Chancel Choir

There is a green hill far away, without a city wall, where the dear Lord was crucified, who died to save us all. We may not know, we cannot tell, what pains he had to bear, but we believe it was for us he hung and suffered there. He died that we might be forgiv'n, he died to make us good, that we might go at last to heav'n, saved by his precious blood. Oh, dearly, dearly has he loved, and we must love him too, and trust in his redeeming blood, and try his works to do.

†DOXOLOGY HYMN 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

O God, accept and bless these gifts which we offer in response to the gracious gift of your life-giving Spirit to us. May these gifts and our lives be used to flesh out your love and justice, mercy and peace as they are revealed in and through Jesus, your Son and our Savior. Amen.

SENDING

†HYMN NO. 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

†BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE Finale on *Glory to the Lamb*

Margaret Sandresky

Timothy Olsen, Organ

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Andrew Gumbert by his parents, Ron & Diane and brother, David.

SERVICE NOTES

Hymn 53: O God, Who Gives Us Life – Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

TEXT: Carl P. Saw Jr. 1990

MUSIC: English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874

Hymn 286: Breathe on Me, Breath of God – In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for “spirit” can equally well be translated as “breath” or “wind,” so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the “Breath of God.” This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

TEXT: Edwin Hatch, 1878

MUSIC: Robert Jackson, 1888

Hymn 39: Great is Thy Faithfulness – Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 120 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisolm, 1923

MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923

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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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, Vernell Fettig

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

Director of Music Ministries & Organist: Brent Neuenschwander

Assistant Organist: Kathryn Miller

Guest Organist: Dr. Timothy Olsen

Chancel Choir

Children's Choir

Live Stream: Dick Florea

Sound: Jeff Slater

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The Chancel Flowers for March 5, 2023 were lovingly donated in memory of Spike Timmons by his boys Randy and Jimi.

ANNOUNCEMENTS MARCH 19, 2023

Thank you for joining us today! We hope you'll return for Sunday, March 26, 2023, at the 11:00am English service in the Sanctuary (also available to watch via Livestream, website or YouTube); or for the 11:00am Korean service in McMillen Chapel (which is also available to watch via website or YouTube).

ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting Called: The Session has called the annual meeting of the congregation for today following the 11:00 worship service for the purpose of electing Deacons and Elders, and the 2023-2024 Nominating Committee, approving pastors' terms of call, receiving a report from the Foundation, and conducting such other business as may be required by the Constitution or may otherwise be properly brought before the meeting.

EASTER MUSIC & FLOWER DONATIONS

Easter Music — Deadline is Sunday, March 26, 2023: On Easter Sunday, the 11:00am Festival Service with choir and organ will be enhanced by five brass players and timpani as we celebrate the Resurrection. The cost for the brass and percussion players is funded solely by donations; we depend on your generosity to make this happen each year. Please consider giving any amount not only in memory of friends and loved ones but also in honor of those who mean the most to you. This is a wonderful tribute to those who continuously carry out the work of our great God and gives appreciation for their efforts, time, and talents during this important church season. Thank you for your generosity to make the Easter music beautiful, grand, and festive.

Easter Flowers — Deadline is Sunday, March 26, 2023: The flowers for Easter are made possible through monetary gifts given in loving memory of family and friends. Memorialized names, with the names of the donors, will appear in the Easter worship bulletin.

To donate to either the music, flowers or both, please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church (memo line: Chancel Guild – Easter Music or Easter Flowers) and mail to First Presbyterian Church, 300 West Wayne Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802 or online at: www.firstpresfortwayne.org. Please have your contribution in by March 26, 2023, to be listed in the Easter bulletin. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Palm Sunday, April 2, 11:00: Join us for this festive service that will include the children's choir and palm procession beginning outside in the Courtyard, weather permitting.

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 7:00pm in the Chapel: Includes communion.

Good Friday, April 7, 12:00pm in the Chapel

Easter Sunday, April 9, 11:00:

* 11:00am in the Sanctuary with brass ensemble and Chancel Choir.

- Egg hunt for children follows the 11:00 service.

MISSIONS

The Hunger Relief Committee would like to remind everyone that we will be sponsoring our annual ***FISH and LOAVES*** food collection during the six weeks of Lent.

Leave your donations on the Fish and Loaves table, 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 fish (in cups or packets)
Saltine or oyster crackers

Canned salmon
Tuna helper

This collection is in addition to our monthly food collection which is the third Sunday of each month. We prayerfully hope that you will find it in your hearts to support both of these efforts during this special time of the year.

FELLOWSHIP - STUDIES

Table Talk: Wednesdays @ 10:00 am via Zoom. We are reading The Testament of Mary: A Novel by Colm Toibin. Meeting ID: 241 730 827. Passcode: 2604267421. Call-in Number 312-626-6799. Contact: Marj Sapp 413-2639 or Marcie Weissner 312-5733.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

THE ARTS

Music Series: TODAY! at 4:00pm – Timothy Olsen, Organ The Music Series will present organist, Timothy Olsen in concert today 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.

Parish Biennial Art Exhibit 2023: Art work for the Parish Biennial Art Exhibit 2023 is now being accepted by Tiffany in the church office. Be sure to have your entry forms firmly attached! The deadline for delivering your work is Monday, March 20. The opening reception, Friday, March 24, 5:30-7:00PM, will celebrate our First Presbyterian Church creativity! Please contact Sarah Savage with any questions: savage2426@gmail.com; 260-482-5112.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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 MARCH 19, 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, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship Service, CH
- 11:15am Sunday School, 210
- 12:15pm Annual Meeting, SC
- 12:15pm Hospitality Time, MH
- 12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH
- 1:30pm "Godspell" Tech Rehearsal, TH
- 4:00pm Timothy Olsen, Organ Concert, SC
- 5:00pm Music Series Reception, NX

MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023

- 1:30pm 3B Walking and Exercise Class, MH
- 3:00pm Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship, 302
- 5:00pm Finance Committee Meeting, SR
- 6:30pm "Godspell" Rehearsal, TH

TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2023

- 6:30pm Session Team Meeting, SR
- 6:30pm "Godspell" Rehearsal, TH

WEDNESDAY MARCH 22, 2023

- 10:00am Table Talk, ZM
- 10:30am Day School Chapel, CH
- 1:30pm 3B Walking and Exercise Class, MH
- 6:00pm KLM Prayer Meeting, CH
- 6:30pm "Godspell" Rehearsal, TH
- 6:30pm "LOGOS," Meal, PR
- 7:00pm "LOGOS," PR

THURSDAY MARCH 23, 2023

- 5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal, 201
- 7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, MR
- 7:30pm "Godspell" Preview Performance, TH

FRIDAY MARCH 24, 2023

- 9:20am Day School Music Class, MR
- 10:00am Men's Bible Study, ZM
- 11:30am (Toastmasters), 304
- 1:00pm Women's Bible Study, ZM
- 5:30pm Gallery Reception, GL
- 7:30pm "Godspell," Theater Performance, TH

SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2023

- 7:30pm "Godspell" Theater Performance, TH

SUNDAY MARCH 26, 2023

- 9:30am Children's Choir
- 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, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship Service, CH
- 11:15am Sunday School, 210
- 12:15pm Congregational Gallery Reception, MH
- 12:15pm KLM Fellowship, FH
- 2:00pm "Godspell" Theater Performance, TH

ROOM ABBREVIATIONS

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