



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

*March 15, 2026*  
*8:30 & 11:00 a.m.*



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To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

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## WORDS OF PREPARATION

*Grace must be lived out, or it is not grace.*

—Karl Barth

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY

*Variation on a Theme of Corelli*  
Aaron David Miller

WELCOME

Gage Arnold

INTROIT

*O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips*  
Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. John Musgrave (8:30)  
Rev. Mallory Hammond (11:00)

Leader: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God. Let us consider him who endured such opposition from sinful people, so that we will not grow weary and lose heart.

**All: We worship you, Lord.**

Leader: Come to the Lord, who is rich in grace; approach our God, who is full of mercy.

**All: We will praise God with all our heart and glorify the name of the Most High forever.**

\*OPENING HYMN 15

*All Creatures of Our God and King*  
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Adrian Taylor

FIRST LESSON | Deuteronomy 4:27-31 (page 149)

Wearen Hughes (8:30)  
Denise Bellardo (11:00)

<sup>27</sup> And the LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the LORD will drive you. <sup>28</sup> And there you will serve gods of wood and stone, the work of human hands, that neither see, nor hear, nor eat, nor smell. <sup>29</sup> But from there you will seek the LORD your God and you will find him, if you search after him with all your heart and with all your soul. <sup>30</sup> When you are in tribulation, and all these things come upon you in the latter days, you will return to the LORD your God and obey his voice. <sup>31</sup> For the LORD your God is a merciful God. He will not leave you or destroy you or forget the covenant with your fathers that he swore to them.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

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CALL TO CONFESSION

*If with All Your Hearts* from *Elijah*  
Felix Mendelssohn

Ye people, rend your hearts, and not your garments for your transgressions the prophet Elijah hath sealed the heavens through the word of God. I therefore say to ye, forsake your idols, return to God; for he is slow to anger, and merciful, and kind, and gracious, and repenteth him of the evil. If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, ye shall ever surely find me, thus saith our God. Ye shall ever surely find me, thus saith our God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dr. Darren Kennedy

**Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember; and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements, and when I have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided. Forgive the pain I have caused others and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

*To God Be the Glory*  
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

*Refrain:*

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory: great things he has done!***

**Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Refrain***

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.*

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (8:30)

PRESENTATION OF CHILD

Jaime and Alex Porter are presenting their son, Cooper Harvey Porter, for baptism.

Assisting Elder: Tricia Scott

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE BAPTISM

‡*During the 8:30 and 11:00 services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.*

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

RESIGNATION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Matthew 7:1-6 (page 812)

<sup>1</sup> “Judge not, that you be not judged. <sup>2</sup> For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. <sup>3</sup> Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye. <sup>6</sup> Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**Kingdom Humility**

Dr. Ryan Moore

OFFERTORY

*Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring*

J. S. Bach

*As you reflect on the Lord’s goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, or donating online at [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org).*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Dr. Sandra Randleman

**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.**

\*CLOSING HYMN 353

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

SOLID ROCK

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

Peter Lutkin

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\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Allegro Moderato Maestoso*  
Felix Mendelssohn

*\* Those who are able, please stand.*

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Mallory Hammond, MDiv – *Parish Associate, Director of Ministry to Children and Their Families*  
Darren Kennedy, PhD – *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*  
John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*  
Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*  
Gage Arnold, MDiv – *Director of Youth Programming*  
Adrian Taylor, MDiv – *Director of Missions Ministry*  
Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*  
Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*  
Elizabeth Smith – *Guest Organist*  
Greg Thomas, Tenor  
Ali Hoffman, Violin  
*Acolytes* – Kasen Bede, Elijah Moore

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dr. William H. Edwards by Frances M. Edwards and family.

SUPPORTING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

You can make a gift or fulfill a pledge payment by placing your gift in the offering plate, texting “GIVE” to 707-475-3005, donating online at [fpnashville.org](http://fpnashville.org), or scan the QR code.



## WELCOME

**First Presbyterian Church** extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

### Hearing Assistance App Directions

Join FPC\_guest WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select “First Pres Sanctuary.” Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

To **livestream** worship or to view past services, visit [youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville](https://youtube.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofnashville).

### Sunday Morning for Families

On Sunday mornings, children are welcome in worship alongside their families. **Nursery** care is available for ages 0–3 in the Nursery Wing from 8:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m., with a Mother and Infant Quiet Room nearby.

**Children ages 4–6** are invited, following the Blessing of the Young Disciples, to Young Children & Worship (Pickup in Room CW 110 after the service). **Older children** remain in worship, where activity bags are available at each Sanctuary entrance. At 9:45 a.m., children of all ages are invited to the Education Hour. Nursery through 3rd grade gather in the Children’s Ministry lobby for check-in and pickup. Preteens (4th–5th grade) check in outside Room CC 131, while 6th graders in Confirmation gather outside Room E201 in the Oak Hill C-Wing.



VISIT [LINKTR.EE/FPCNASHVILLE](https://linktr.ee/fpcnashville) TO REGISTER, DONATE, OR LEARN MORE

**MUSIC NOTES:** *Variation on a Theme of Corelli* by Aaron David Miller Augsburg Organ Library © 2014 Augsburg Fortress All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895 | *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* Peter Lutkin © Words - ©1959 Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895

**COVER IMAGE:** Frits Thaulow. *Picquigny*. 1890. Oil on canvas. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Gift of Christen Sveaas, 2021. — In *Picquigny*, Frits Thaulow lingers over the eddying waters of the Somme, where shifting reflections and quiet light invite a Lenten gaze – slowing us enough to notice how grace moves beneath the surface of ordinary days.

**Lenten Vesper Services | Wednesdays through Mar. 25 | 6:30 p.m.** — Join us on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. as we journey through Lent, remembering God's faithfulness and trustworthiness and remembering our great need. Worship in Stanford Chapel with candlelight, beautiful music, meaningful meditations, and the Lord's Supper.

**Next Mahjong Open Play | Wednesday, Mar. 25 | 12:30–2:30 p.m.** — We're excited to offer Mahjong as a fun way to build intergenerational community at our church. This is not a competitive league, but a welcoming space to connect through a game many already enjoy and others are eager to learn. Bring your tiles if you have them and sit with varying play abilities. Daytime open play sessions for all levels will be held 12:30–2:30 p.m. on Mar. 25, Apr. 8 and 22 in the Cheek House. Registration is requested to ensure enough tables and coaches are available. Sign up at [fpcnashville.org/mahjong](http://fpcnashville.org/mahjong).

**Easter Floral Dedications | Due by Mar. 27** — Memorialize or honor loved ones with a contribution to the Flower Fund. Your donation helps purchase the decor beautifying our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday and Easter Day. Names of those being memorialized or honored will be printed in the Easter morning bulletin. Last day to submit a dedication is March 27. To make a dedication and contribution, pick up a form from the Narthex or Hospitality Center or submit your dedication online at [fpcnashville.org/flowers](http://fpcnashville.org/flowers)

**Youth Spring Serve | Saturday, Mar. 28 | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.** — Join us for a Saturday morning of meaningful service as we partner with one of our local mission organizations to make a real impact in our community. We'll head out together, spend the morning serving, then enjoy lunch and take time to reflect on what God is doing in and through us. Come ready to work, connect, and grow—this is a day you won't want to miss!

**Easter Festival | Sunday, Mar. 29 | 3:30 p.m.** — We hope you'll join us for the Easter Festival on Sunday, March 29, at 3:30 p.m. There will be an Easter egg hunt, family games, a cake walk, and a time to sing and hear the story of Palm Sunday. In the event of rain, we have a rain date of Saturday, Apr. 4 reserved.

**Interested in getting more connected?** — Whether you're a guest or a longtime member, fill out the Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up! For information about becoming a church member or attending an Inquirers Class, contact Membership and Connections Coordinator, Julia Wilk ([jwilk@fpcnashville.org](mailto:jwilk@fpcnashville.org)).

### FIRST FRIENDS

*Gatherings for adults, retired and not-so-retired! Register online or contact Sally Ostheimer ([sostheimer@fpcnashville.org](mailto:sostheimer@fpcnashville.org)). For more information, visit [fpcnashville.org/first-friends](http://fpcnashville.org/first-friends).*

**Book Club: *The Jackal's Mistress* | Tuesday, Mar. 17 | 2:30–3:45 p.m.** — This month's book is *The Jackal's Mistress* by Chris Bohjalian. Based loosely on a true story, this is a suspenseful Civil War tale, with a bit of romance, that raises some interesting moral questions about war, violence, loyalty, and friendship. Our selections feature contemporary and historical fiction, as well as an occasional memoir or biography. We welcome all book lovers to join us and participate in these lively and thought-provoking discussions. Book suggestions are always welcome! ZOOM opportunities are available.

**Luncheon & Speaker Series: Elder Law and What To Know | Thursday, Mar. 19 | 12:00–1:30 p.m.** — This month we have the honor of a well-known Elder Law attorney, Barbara Moss, who concentrates her practice on elder law issues. Come and enjoy a meal for just \$10 per person. To ensure proper planning, please register in advance. Online registration and payment are preferred. Please note that credit cards can now be used for payment at the luncheons.

**Day Trip: Chattanooga Medal of Honor Heritage Museum | Thursday, Mar. 26 | 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.** — Join us for a day in Chattanooga learning about Medal of Honor recipients. Lunch will be Dutch Treat at the Maple Street Biscuit Company. We will meet in the church parking lot in front of the administrative offices to load the bus at 7:30 a.m. Tickets are \$15, which includes snacks on the bus. Please pay in advance on the church website, or to Sally in person. For additional information contact Sally Ostheimer at 615-298-9551 or [sostheimer@fpcnashville.org](mailto:sostheimer@fpcnashville.org).

### GENERAL FUND GIVING SUMMARY

YTD AT FEB 28, 2026

**Actual \$1,055,499**

We are grateful for your faithful giving and your commitment to the life of our congregation. Your generosity sustains the ministries we share and strengthens our work in the community. Above is this month's financial summary.

PALM SUNDAY | *Sunday, March 29*

**8:30\* and 11:00 a.m.**

This year we will observe Palm Sunday within our traditional worship service, celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem with the familiar rhythms of worship and the waving of palms in the procession. A guest donkey will be present before both services and during the Education Hour near the front portico.

MAUNDY THURSDAY | *Thursday, April 2*

**5:30 p.m. Dinner** | Courtenay Hall

**6:30 p.m. Service\*** | Sanctuary

On Maundy Thursday, we will gather for dinner and worship to remember Jesus' final meal with his disciples. Worship recounts Christ's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, and we will partake in the Lord's Supper. Childcare will be provided during the service. Register for dinner and childcare at [fpcnashville.org/easter](http://fpcnashville.org/easter).

GOOD FRIDAY | *Friday, April 3*

**5:30 p.m. Dinner** | Courtenay Hall

**6:30-8:00 p.m. Service\*** | Sanctuary

This service will feature selected movements from Johann Sebastian Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, a profound and rarely performed masterpiece that has shaped Christian worship for centuries. Through Scripture and extraordinary music, we are invited into a solemn and beautiful encounter with the depth of God's redeeming love as we prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter. Childcare will be provided during the service. Register for dinner and childcare at [fpcnashville.org/easter](http://fpcnashville.org/easter).

EASTER DAY | *Sunday, April 5*

**6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service** | Sullivan Gardens

**8:00, 9:30\*, 11:00 a.m.** | Sanctuary

**7:00-10:45 a.m. Easter Breakfast** | Courtenay Hall

A joyful morning of worship proclaiming the heart of the Gospel: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. The tomb is empty, and he promises new life for all creation. Once an instrument of suffering, the cross is transformed into a symbol of victory. Bring flowers from home to help "flower the cross" as you enter worship—a beautiful symbol of resurrection. Nursery care for ages 0-3 opens at 7:45 a.m. No Sunday School.

*\*Service will be livestreamed.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar. 18, 25 | 6:30 p.m. | Lenten Vesper Services  
Mar. 25, Apr. 8, 22 | 12:30-2:30 p.m. | Winter Mahjong Play  
Apr. 6 | Church Office Closed for Easter Monday  
Apr. 8, 15, 22 | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Spring Mahjong Lessons  
Apr. 29 | 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. | Spring Mahjong Play

## CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Apr. 12 | 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | Bible Milestone (4 yrs. & 3rd Grade)  
Apr. 12 | 9:45 a.m. | Confirmation Exam  
Apr. 12 | 5:00 p.m. | Mock Youth Group for Confirmands  
Apr. 19 | 9:45 a.m. | Missions Milestone (4th-5th Grade)  
Apr. 19 | 9:45 a.m. | Confirmation Make-up Exam  
Apr. 26 | 11:00 a.m. | Confirmation Sunday

## FIRST FRIENDS

Mar. 17 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: *The Jackal's Mistress*  
Mar. 19, Apr. 16 | 12:00 p.m. | First Friends Luncheon  
Mar. 26 | Day Trip: Chattanooga Medal of Honor Heritage Museum  
Apr. 9 | Nashville Ballet Viewing of Attitude Rehearsal  
Apr. 21 | 2:30 p.m. | Book Club: *Connie: A Memoir*  
Apr. 28 | Day Trip: Home of Helen Keller

## MISSIONS

Apr. 14 | 4:30-7:30 p.m. | Nueva Vida Service Project  
Apr. 15 | 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. | Blood Drive  
Apr. 19 | 4:30-6:30 p.m. | Matthew 25 Meal

## RECREATION

Mar. 28 | 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. | First Soccer Game Day  
Apr. 11, 18, 25 | 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. | Soccer Game Day

## YOUTH

Mar. 28 | 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. | Serve Saturday  
Apr. 19 | 2:00-3:30 p.m. | Youth Senior Blessing  
Apr. 26 | 11:00 a.m. | Youth Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast

## STAY CONNECTED

*Stay informed about FPC by:  
reading our weekly email, Parish News,  
or seasonal print newsletter, First News.*

*To sign up, email [communications@fpcnashville.org](mailto:communications@fpcnashville.org)  
or update your subscriptions at:  
[fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions](http://fpcnashville.org/my-subscriptions).*