



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
Church of Nashville

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

*March 22, 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

*The most important thing in prayer is that we present ourselves as we are before God as He is.*

—Thomas Merton

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

## VOLUNTARY

*Folk Tune*  
Percy Whitlock

## WELCOME

## 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

Adrian Taylor

Leader: Do not fear, for God says, "I am with you."

**All: Though we walk through deep waters, God is with us.**

Leader: God is the Shepherd who leads us beside quiet waters and guides our steps.

**All: In our weariness, God is our strength and our companion.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who journeys with us, whose faithfulness extends to all generations.

**All: Praise the Lord, for he is always present!**

## \*OPENING HYMN 263

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*  
CORONATION

## \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Sandra Randleman

## FIRST LESSON | 1 Samuel 1:12-16 (page 225)

John Atkins (8:30)  
Nancy Brock (11:00)

<sup>12</sup> As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. <sup>13</sup> Hannah was speaking in her heart; only her lips moved, and her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli took her to be a drunken woman. <sup>14</sup> And Eli said to her, "How long will you go on being drunk? Put your wine away from you." <sup>15</sup> But Hannah answered, "No, my lord, I am a woman troubled in spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. <sup>16</sup> Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for all along I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation."

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Gage Arnold

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, whose chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for your presence and humbly seeks your love, we come to you to acknowledge and confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, or for the good we have left undone. Because you, O Lord, are full of compassion, gracious, slow to anger, and plentiful in mercy, there is forgiveness with you. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us the word that we need, and let your word abide with us until it has wrought in us your holy will.**

*A moment for silent confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE 581

*Glory Be to the Father*  
GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, amen.**

\*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

Dr. Ryan Moore

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION OF CHILD (8:30)

Ben and Olivia Crownover are presenting their daughter, Collins Marie Crownover, for baptism.  
Assisting Elder: Overton Colton

PRESENTATION OF CHILD (11:00)

William and Sarah Teague are presenting their daughter, Mary Alice Teague, for baptism.  
Assisting Elder: Benjamin Carswell

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 451

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*  
OPEN MY EYES

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING | Matthew 7:7-11 (page 812)

<sup>7</sup> “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. <sup>8</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. <sup>9</sup> Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? <sup>11</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**Kingdom Belonging**

Dr. Darren Kennedy

*“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”* —Matthew 7:7

OFFERTORY

*O Love*

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, that will not let me go, O Love, I rest my weary soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, O Joy, I cannot close my heart to thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be.

*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

Rev Sara Hill (8:30)

**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 39

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
FAITHFULNESS

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
Peter Lutkin

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Finale Jubilante*  
Healey Willan

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

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## PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*  
Darren Kennedy, PhD – *Associate Pastor for Discipleship*  
Sara Hill, MDiv – *Parish Associate for Congregational Care*  
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*  
Gayle Sullivan, Guest Organist  
*Acolytes* – Corinne Kaufman, Thomas Kaufman, Jonah Moore, Gabe Shapiro

## SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of John P. and Kay Y. Barker by Lance, Rebecca, John, Allie and Ben Vest.

## 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 [fpcnashville.org](http://fpcnashville.org), or scan the QR code.



**MUSIC NOTES:** *Folk Tune* by Percy Whitlock (c) 1992 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! Descant* by Michael E Young Tune: © 1979, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *O Love* by Elaine Hagenberg ©2016 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin (c) 1959 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-714895. | *Five Pieces Opus 177 V. Finale Jubilante* by Healey Willan (BMI) SoCAN Berandol Music LTD. All rights reserved. CCS License #9151.

**COVER IMAGE:** Francisco de Goya. *The Afternoon Meal (La Merienda)*. 1772. Oil on canvas. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. — A Table is laid out, ready for those who come.

## 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.

## 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.

**Lenten Vesper Service | Wednesday, Mar. 25 | 6:30 p.m.** — Join us on Wednesday night 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.

**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 Mar. 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 | 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.** — All ages are invited to join us for the Easter Festival on Sunday, Mar. 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.

**Office Closed for Easter Monday | Apr. 6** — The church office will be closed in observance of Easter Monday on Apr. 6.

**The Space Between: Holding both Hope and Heartache | Tuesday, Apr. 7 | 4:30 p.m. | Vance Hall** — Elder and Licensed Professional Counselor Lauren Ross will present on how, in a world of conflicting emotions, holding both hope and heartache is deeply uncomfortable. She will explore how, as Christians, we can turn to God for the strength to navigate this discomfort. Hosted by the Stephen Ministry.

**Openings Available at First Presbyterian Church Early Preschool** — Our Early Preschool is excited to pilot a new two-day class serving children from 14-24 months old! This new age group will be offered for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year on Mondays and Wednesdays. Children should be 14 months old by Aug. 15, 2026, to be eligible. Currently there are six Monday/Wednesday spots available. Our hours of care are 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. with an hour of early and/or late care available. Apply at [fpcnashville.org/ep-apply](http://fpcnashville.org/ep-apply). Questions? Contact Candyee Goode ([cgoode@fpcnashville.org](mailto:cgoode@fpcnashville.org)) or Jessica LaNier ([jlaniem@fpcnashville.org](mailto:jlaniem@fpcnashville.org)).

### MISSIONS

**Blood Drive | Wednesday, Apr. 15 | 11:00 a.m. | Courtenay Hall** — Someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds due to an accident, disaster, or illness. Roll up your sleeves to help save lives in your community by giving the gift of life by donating blood at our next blood drive. Sign up on our website or in person in Courtenay Hall in between services. Register at [fpcnashville.org/blooddrive](http://fpcnashville.org/blooddrive).

**Matthew 25 Meal Service Project | Sunday, Apr. 19 | 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.** — Serve alongside your church family to serve a meal at Matthew 25, a Christ-centered residential facility for men recovering from poverty, addiction, and homelessness. Come spend this Sunday evening in service and fellowship — older children welcome if accompanied by a parent! Sign up at [fpcnashville.org/matthew-25](http://fpcnashville.org/matthew-25).

### 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).*

**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).

**Luncheon and Speaker Series: Dr. Darren Kennedy | Apr. 16 | 12:00–1:30 p.m.** — New Associate Pastor of Discipleship, Dr. Darren Kennedy, will join us for our April luncheon. Darren brings nearly three decades of ministry experience, including 26 years as a PC(USA) missionary in Cairo. We can look forward to learning more about his life in Egypt. Enjoy a delicious meal prepared by our own Chef Kim Rogers 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.

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. 25, Apr. 8, 22 | 12:30-2:30 p.m. | Winter Mahjong Play

Mar. 25 | 6:30 p.m. | Lenten Vesper Service

Apr. 6 | Church Office Closed for Easter Monday

Apr. 7 | 4:30 p.m. | The Space Between: Holding both Hope and Heartache Talk

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. 26 | Day Trip: Chattanooga Medal of Honor Heritage Museum

Apr. 16 | 12:00 p.m. | First Friends Luncheon

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 Days

YOUTH

Mar. 28 | 9:00 a.m.-12:00 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.*

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