



# First Presbyterian Church

Tullahoma, Tennessee

Third Sunday in Lent March 23, 2025

Vision Statement:

Worshipping God, growing together, serving others, and welcoming all

Service for the Worship of God – 10:30 a.m.

## Welcome and Announcements

*If you are visiting with us and would like to leave your contact information, please fill out the “Welcome” card (located in the pew rack) and drop it in the offering plate.*

**Lenten symbol: the sackcloth and the cross** emphasize the importance of our repentance from sin and the significance of Christ’s cross. We are instructed to humble ourselves, seek God, and pray during this season of renewal.

## Prelude

*Still your heart and prepare to worship God.  
Water is poured into the baptismal font calling us to remember our baptism.  
The acolytes symbolically bring the light of Christ into the service.*

## Call to Worship (responsively)

Led by Liturgist

Let us worship God,  
**who reconciled us to himself through Christ.**  
We are new creations,  
**the old has gone, the new has come!**

## Litany for Lent – *The Way, the Truth, and the Life* (see insert)

Greg Sterling

*This week we are extinguishing the light of **three** candles,  
progressing from light to darkness throughout the season of Lent.*

## \*\*Hymn No. 267

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

## \*\*Call to Confession

Liturgist

## \*\*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Led by Liturgist

**God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained and great when we are small. We have often failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive us our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

**\*\*Assurance of Pardon**

Liturgist

**\*\*Choral Response, No. 581**

*Glory Be to the Father*

*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.*

**Time with Young Christians**

**Special Music**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-9**

Found on page 685 in the Old Testament of the pew Bible  
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Lesson: Luke 13:1-9**

Found on page 76 in the New Testament of the pew Bible  
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon: The One Word**

**\*\*Affirmation of Faith** (in unison)

**God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Amen.**

**\*\*Hymn No. 465**

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

**Prayers of the People** (Minister) and **The Lord's Prayer** (unison): **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.**

## **Presentation of Ourselves and of our Gifts**

Call to Offering

Liturgist

*Contributions can be made online at [www.fpctullahoma.org](http://www.fpctullahoma.org)*

Offertory

**\*\*Doxology, No. 606**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*\*Prayer of Dedication**

Liturgist

**\*\*Hymn No. 314**

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (Christ, Be Our Light)*

*Acolytes take the light out of the service, symbolizing that worshippers are to take the light of Christ into the world where our service begins.*

**\*\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*\*Postlude**

**\*\*All who are able are invited to stand.**

Ministers – Our entire congregation

Stephen G. Yates, Pastor

David Hiebert, Organist

Colman Conley, Guest Musician

Katie Prasser, Minister to Children

Bethany Sterling, Minister to Youth

Robert Wright, Choir Director

Martha Bradley, Liturgist

## **Announcements for March 23, 2025**

### **Sunday, March 23**

9:00 Sunday school for adults

10:30 Worship service

11:30 Fellowship Time hosted by the Christian Education Committee in Fellowship Hall

### **Monday, March 24**

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

12:00 p.m. Worship Committee meeting in Fellowship Hall

### **Tuesday, March 25**

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

1:00 p.m. Chair yoga in Williams Family Center

5:30 p.m. Girls Night Out Quilt Guild meeting in Fellowship Hall

*Announcements continued on back page*

### **Wednesday, March 26**

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Kingdom Kids for children 3-years-old – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Presbyterian Youth Connection for middle school students

6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Presbyterian Youth Connection for high school students

### **Thursday, March 27**

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

1:00 p.m. Chair yoga in Williams Family Center

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Thursday Girls meeting in Fellowship Hall

### **Friday, March 28**

1:00 p.m. Williams Family Center in use

### **Saturday, March 29**

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Girls Night Out Quilt Guild meeting in Fellowship Hall

### **Next Sunday, March 30**

9:00 Sunday school for adults

10:30 Worship service

11:30 **Great Bread Auction** in Williams Family Center

**Liturgists needed** – There is a list on the lectern in the narthex for signing up to serve as liturgist for the worship services from now to the end of August. If you are willing to serve, please sign the list on dates that suit your schedule. All the information you need to serve will be provided during the week prior to that date.

**Fellowship Time following worship** – There is a sign-up sheet on the lectern in the narthex indicating the dates available to host and provide light refreshments for Fellowship Time.

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is received throughout Lent** – Around the world millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three program supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need from initial disaster response to ongoing community development; their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Received during the season of Lent (March 5 – April 20) each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with or neighbors in need. **In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.**

There are several ways to give: special envelopes are in the pew racks; use a regular pew envelope and designate the contribution for OGHS; give online at [www.fpctullahoma.org](http://www.fpctullahoma.org), indicating that your contribution is for OGHS; write a check to FPC writing OGHS on the memo line. The needs are great; please give generously.

# The WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE



THE THIRD WEEK OF LENT

## THE LIFE OF GRACE

Melody..... Dundee CM

*Sing or speak in unison:*

You are the life; the rending tomb  
Proclaims your conqu'ring arm;  
And those who put their trust in you  
Not death nor hell shall harm.

- ℒ *Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."*
- ℄ We now live our lives abundantly by his grace.
- ℒ *Having been justified by Christ's grace, made manifest on the cross,*
- ℄ we have become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

You are the life; the life of grace  
Abides forevermore;  
Unto the cross you set your face;  
Our bond to God restore.

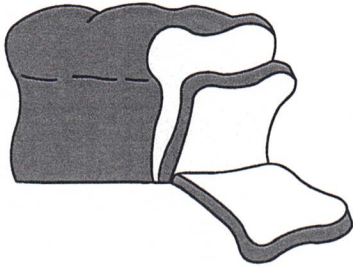
- ℒ *God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ.*
- ℄ By grace you have been saved.
- ℒ *He died for all,*
- ℄ so that those who live might live no longer for themselves
- ℒ *but for the one who for their sake died and was raised.*
- ℄ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
- ℒ *Everything old has passed away;*
- ℄ look, new things have come into being!
- ℒ *St. Paul said, "We know that the one who raised Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and will present us with you in his presence."*
- ℄ Indeed, everything is for our sake, so that grace, when it has extended to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving to the glory of God.

You are the way, the truth, the life;  
Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win,  
Whose joys eternal flow.

## THE LIFE OF GRACE

*Daily readings for the week*

Sun .....	1 Corinthians 1:4-5
Mon .....	Philippians 2:5-7
Tues.....	Galatians 2:19-20a
Wed.....	Galatians 2:20b-21
Thurs.....	2 Timothy 1:3-10
Fri.....	John 6:5-14
Sat.....	Philippians 3:13-14



## **Great Bread Auction**

**Sunday, March 30, in Williams Family Center**  
**You may enter bids before and after the worship service.**  
**Bidding will close at 11:50 a.m.**

The annual Great Bread Auction is a silent auction of your best breads, cakes, muffins, cookies, pastries, etc. that supports the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special offering. This offering is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world. All funds raised via the auction are distributed in approximately equal amounts to the following three OGHS Programs:

- (4) Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. 32% of the funds go towards helping people recover from the devastation of natural and human-caused disasters, including support for refugees.
- (5) Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36% of the funds collected. This program acts to alleviate hunger as well as address the systemic causes of poverty so that all may be fed.
- (6) Self-Development of People receives the remaining 32% of the total collected. This program invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty, and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues.

### **How to Participate in the Auction**

- Bring your home baked goods to the Williams Family Center on Sunday, March 30. Fill in a bid form with your name and a description of the item. Please prepare a bid form for each item.
- Items will be on display before and after the Worship service in the Williams Family Center.
- Make your bid on the “silent auction form” located beside each item.
- The highest bidder at the close of the auction (11:50 am) settles up and takes the item home.

***You can participate by bringing items for the auction and  
by bidding generously!***



We will celebrate the Resurrection on Easter Sunday, April 20. The Worship Committee invites you to participate in this joyous celebration by furnishing a lily to decorate the church.

The lilies can be designated in honor of a special person or as a memorial. An insert in the Easter bulletin will list the honorees and memorials along with the name of the person contributing the gift. Cost of the lilies will be \$18 each. If you would like to place an order, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate. Make your check to First Presbyterian Church and designate it "lily."

**Deadline for ordering is Sunday, April 6, 2025**

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**Easter Lilies – 2025**

I want to order an Easter lily or lilies. List number \_\_\_\_\_

Your name (as you want it in the church bulletin)

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of person(s) being honored or memorialized

Circle one:

- |          |       |          |
|----------|-------|----------|
| 1. _____ | Honor | Memorial |
| 2. _____ | Honor | Memorial |
| 3. _____ | Honor | Memorial |
| 4. _____ | Honor | Memorial |

# **Easter Celebration**

**Children in fifth grade and under are invited to join us for games, snacks, fellowship, and an Egg Hunt**

**April 12, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. at First Presbyterian Church**

**Candy donations can be brought in through Sunday, April 6, 2025, and given to Katie Prasser or left in the kids' gathering room. Any donations are appreciated.**

