

First Presbyterian Church

Tullahoma, Tennessee

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 30, 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: A crown of thorns is hung on the cross, reminding us of the aloneness, injustice, and separation from God which Christ endured for us.

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

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Maker of heaven and earth.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

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

Christine Wright

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

**Hymn No. 35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

**Call to Confession

Liturgist

**Prayer of Confession (unison)

Led by Liturgist

Merciful God, your law is a gift, but we use it to judge one another as unacceptable. You call us to this time and place to worship you, but our minds wander. You shower us with love, yet we long for other things. You create us with talents and skills to share your good news with the world, but we protect what we have in our small corner. You pour out your grace for us, and we pretend we do not need you. Burst through our complacency, transform our narrow perspectives, and forgive how far we have wandered. Set us on the path of discipleship one more time. Amen.

****Assurance of Pardon**

Liturgist

****Choral Response, No. 399 (2 times)**

God Welcomes All

*God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong, and it never ends.*

Time with Young Christians

Special Music

Prayer of Illumination, No. 455

Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken

*Listen to the word that God has spoken; Listen to the One who is close at hand;
Listen to the voice that began creation; listen even if you don't understand.*

First Lesson: Joshua 5:9-12

Found on page 197 in the Old Testament of the pew Bible
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom

Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Found on page 78 in the New Testament of the pew Bible
Holy Word, Holy Wisdom

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Whole Gospel

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

We are not alone. We live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect to Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

****Hymn No. 443**

There Is a Redeemer

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

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. 835**

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

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

Katie Prasser, Minister to Children

Bethany Sterling, Minister to Youth

Robert Wright, Choir Director

Robert Wright, Liturgist

Announcements for March 30, 2025

The daily devotional books *These Days* for April, May, and June are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary and on the Information Center in the narthex.

Sunday, March 30

9:00 Sunday school for adults

10:30 Worship service

11:30 **Great Bread Auction and Fellowship Time** hosted by the Mission Committee in Williams Family Center

Monday, March 31

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

Tuesday, April 1

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

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

Announcements continued on back page

Wednesday, April 2

8:30 Learning Place Preschool

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

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

6:00 p.m. **The Salon** in Fellowship Hall

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

Thursday, April 3

8:30 Learning Place Preschool, including chapel

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

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

Next Sunday, April 6

9:00 Sunday school for children and adults

10:30 Worship service

11:30 Session meeting in Fellowship Hall

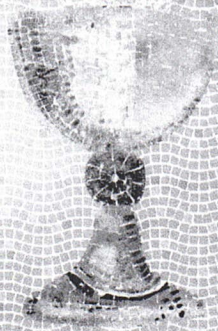
Liturgists needed – There is a list on the lectern in the narthex for signing up to serve as liturgist for the worship services from now to the end of August. If you are willing to serve, please sign the list on dates that suit your schedule. All the information you need to serve will be provided during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

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, 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 FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

THE WAY OF SERVICE

Melody..... Dundee CM

Sing or speak in unison:

You are the way; to you alone
From sin and death we flee;
And he who would the Father seek
Your follower must be.

- L** *Jesus came not to be served but to serve*
- C** *and give his life as a ransom for many.*
- L** *His ultimate act of service was his death on the cross for us.*
- C** *By his wounds we are healed.*

You are the way; you serve those lost
In sin and guilt and greed.
You made a way at your great cost
That we from death are freed.

- L** *Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself.*
- C** *Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him.*
- L** *After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them,*
- C** *"Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am.*
- L** *So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet,*
- C** *you also ought to wash one another's feet.*
- L** *For I have set you an example,*
- C** *that you also should do as I have done to you.*
- L** *Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me."*
- C** *Let us love and serve the Lord by loving and serving one another in his name.*

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 WAY OF SERVICE

Daily readings for the week

Sun	Matthew 25:31-40
Mon	John 20:21-22
Tues.....	Romans 14:7-9
Wed.....	Psalm 30:1-5
Thurs.....	1 Peter 1:23-25
Fri.....	1 Corinthians 1:27-28
Sat.....	Matthew 11:27-30



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

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:

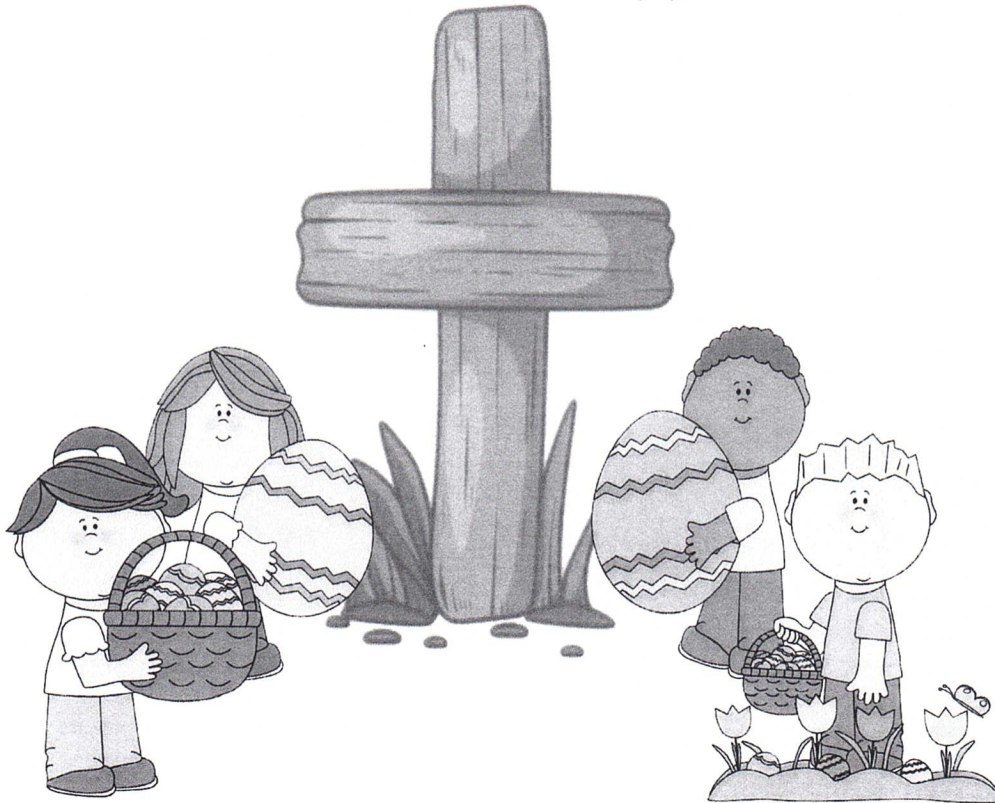
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| 1. _____ | Honor | Memorial |
| 2. _____ | Honor | Memorial |
| 3. _____ | Honor | Memorial |
| 4. _____ | Honor | Memorial |

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.



**Vacation Bible School
Welcome to the Marketplace**

Join us as we travel to the first-century marketplace and get first-hand experience hearing Jesus' stories and miracles.

Children will learn stories about Jesus that are placed in the marketplace. They will hear about the miracles, the testimonies, the friends and enemies he had. Each child will receive a biblical time costume and have the opportunity to visit different marketplace stalls such as pottery, weaving, dying cloth, making jewelry, and woodwork. Each marketplace stall will be run by a volunteer (also in biblical attire) and will have an activity that ties into the biblical lesson.

**JUNE 4, 2025 - JUNE 6, 2025
5:30 P.M- 7:30 P.M**

If you are interested in assisting with VBS this year, please see Katie Prasser.

Some of the areas we will need assistance in are

- **Set up/tear down**
- **Running a marketplace stall (this would mean you help with the activity they are working on in your stall)**
 - **Storyteller**
 - **Class Leader**
 - **assistant**

We also need donations of old sheets or fabric, and large sticks that are 5 to 7 feet long and 2 to 3 inches thick (roundabout, they will be poles for our marketplace tents). Ms. Katie can pick them up from your home or you can drop them at her house.

