

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2026



the good news is..

protection & care for  
the vulnerable

# Fourth Sunday in Lent

## March 15, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Service

### WELCOME TO FPC

We are so glad you are with us on this day where we celebrate the gift of hope for ourselves and for our world. We invite you to follow us on Facebook, sign up for our weekly emails or check the website regularly to see the new things God is doing among us at FPC Findlay!

### CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

**Little Ones:** Infants and toddlers are welcome to join trained caregivers in Room 300 on the third floor during worship.

**Children's Worship Bulletins:** Coloring pages, books, and fidget toys are available in the Narthex. Ask a Greeter if you need help finding them.

**Prayground:** There is a designated space at the front of the sanctuary for children to engage in their wondering and curiosity during worship. There are books, activity sheets, coloring materials, bean bag chairs, fidget toys, and more. Children are welcome in this space before Godly Play and on Communion Sunday.

**Godly Play:** Children in preschool through elementary school-age are invited to attend Godly Play worship in Room 301 following the Blessing of the Children.

### WORSHIP VIA FACEBOOK LIVE

As the prelude begins, we invite you to share your prayer requests in the comments section beneath the Facebook Live video.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

<b>Pastor:</b>	Rev. Jessica Commeret
<b>Director of Music:</b>	Clinton Miller
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Lucy Abbott
<b>Musicians:</b>	Chancel Choir; GatherRing Handbell Choir FPC Choral Scholars:
<b>A/V Technician:</b>	Robbie Riffle

Flowers for worship are given by Amy, Greg, and Nick Kuhmanin loving memory of Allison Ann Kuhlman.

*Please turn off all mobile and electronic devices while in the Sanctuary.*

*\*Indicates to rise in body or spirit.*



We pray this all in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you!  
**And also with you!**

\*Grateful Response

I Will Sing a Song of Mercy

***I will sing a song of mercy, sing a song of justice, sing a song of praise to God.  
I will live a life of mercy, live a life of justice, live a life of praise to God.***

Blessing of the Children

*Children are invited to come to the Chancel steps for a brief blessing.*

*Following the Blessing of the Children, children 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and younger may go to Room 301 for Godly Play. On Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of each month), children will remain in worship to partake in communion with their families. They are welcome to use the Prayground during worship.*

## **BREAKING OPEN THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

Pew Bible Page 158

<sup>17</sup> “You shall not deprive a resident alien or an orphan of justice; you shall not take a widow’s garment in pledge. <sup>18</sup> Remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this.

<sup>19</sup> “When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be left for the alien, the orphan, and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all your undertakings. <sup>20</sup> When you beat your olive trees, do not strip what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.

<sup>21</sup> “When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow. <sup>22</sup> Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt; therefore I am commanding you to do this.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

JLM

Bradley Phillips

*Jesus loves me, of this I know. Jesus loves me for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong,  
They are weak, but his is so strong. Yes, Jesus loves me: the Bible tells me so. Jesus loves me, Alleluia.  
Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.*

<sup>13</sup>Then children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them, <sup>14</sup>but Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” <sup>15</sup>And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Remember

Rev. Jessica Commeret

**RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD**

\*Hymn 377

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

Children of the Heavenly Father

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Commentary on this anthem:

This hymn promises amazing life and hope from a woman who lived in great pain and anguish. Much like Horatio Spafford’s timeless hymn, “When Peace like a River,” Lina Sandell-Berg’s “Children of the Heavenly Father” was written under the influence of incredible grace amidst heart-wrenching pain. The gorgeous tune is just as comforting as the lyrics, lifting the soul and calming the spirit. Christ’s words in Matthew 6:26 perfectly match the hymn when he says, “Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?”

\*Doxology

Praise God Throughout These Forty Days

Praise God through-out these for - ty days. Praise Christ, our Lord, whom  
 God did raise. And praise the Spir - it who im - parts God's  
 love in Christ in - to our hearts. A - men.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Concerns and Celebrations

## Prayers of the People

### 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.**

## SENDING FORTH IN MISSION

\*Closing Hymn 345

In an Age of Twisted Values

\*Benediction

Postlude

Rigaudon

André Campra

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 15, 2026

## TODAY

### Fellowship

We have coffee, snacks, and conversations starting at 9:30 a.m. and again following worship every Sunday in the Parlor.

### Sunday Morning Faith Formation

**Adults - 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall**

#### Children & Youth – 11:00 a.m., Room 312 & Sanctuary

During 2nd hour on Sundays, we will once again provide special Lenten classes for all ages. We will split between elementary and middle/high school for a brief lesson and handbell rehearsals. We will lead musically in worship on Palm Sunday, March 29th. You can reach out to Lena with questions or for more information.

### Third Sunday Faith Formation

**5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

Families! Join us for an evening of community and faith! Dinner will start at 5:00 pm with faith formation activities following until 7:00 p.m. RSVP to Lena or the Church Office.

### Taizé Service

**6:00 p.m., Chapel**

Join us for a contemplative worship service in the Taizé style of worship. Taizé prayer is a meditative, ecumenical Christian prayer style developed by the Taizé Community in France, known for simple, repetitive chants, Scripture, silence, and candlelight, fostering reconciliation and peace by drawing people from diverse traditions into a deep, contemplative experience of God through mantra-like songs that move prayer from the head to the heart.

Contact: Clint Miller

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## THIS WEEK

### Sarah Circle

**Friday, March 20, Noon, Room 214**

A “circle” is a women’s group that meets for prayer, study, community building, giving and fellowship. Special projects raise funds for our church and mission work. Sarah Circle meets from September through May for fellowship and Bible study. They support local charities and mission and welcome new members.

Contact: Mary Alice Patrickson

### One Great Houring of Sharing:

#### A Church-Wide offering

**Sunday, March 29, 10:00 a.m.**

OGHS is an offering we receive each Lent/Easter season to support the worldwide efforts of our denomination, in the areas of disaster assistance, hunger, poverty, etc. Fish banks are available if you’d like to accumulate a collection over the course of Lent. Donations may also be made by using the envelopes in the pews or made on-line by going to <https://www.findlayfpc.org/give> and clicking the “Give Now” button. We will officially receive the offering on March 29, Palm Sunday, in worship. We are grateful for your generosity!

### Lenten Dinners and Book Study

**Wednesday, March 18**

**4:00-5:30 p.m., Book Study, Room 214**

**5:30-6:30 p.m., Dinner, Fellowship Hall**

**6:30-8:00 p.m., Book Study, Room 214**

Join us for a time of fellowship and connection. Dinner is provided by the deacons with your help. Sign-up outside the Church Office for soup, salad and bread.

All are welcome to join us for either book study time, but not required if you simply want to join us for a meal. Book is \$10.

### Easter Flower Donations

Envelopes for Easter Flower donations may be found in the pews and on the table in the Narthex, or donations may be made online by going to <https://www.findlayfpc.org/give> and clicking the “Give Now” button. Donations may be made in any amount and designations will be printed in the Easter worship bulletin.

### Red Cross Blood Mobile

**Friday, March 20, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Great Room**

“The Need is Constant. The gratification is instant. Give Blood.” The Red Cross Blood Mobile will be here for those willing to give. The need is great at this time. To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and use sponsor code: 1STPRESFINDLAY.

### Mom Co Monthly Meet-Up

**Wednesday, March 18, 9:00-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall; Child Care begins at 8:45 a.m. in the playroom under the sanctuary.**

We continue our monthly meetup of moms of all-age children. Childcare is provided with RSVP by Monday, March 16. Refreshments, fellowship, and community. Join us! Contact: Pastor Jessie

## Lunch Bunch

**Thursday, March 26, Noon, Fellowship Hall**

The Lunch Bunch meets on the fourth Thursday of each month from Noon-1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your lunch and join for fellowship with one another.

Contact: Patricia McVetty

## Childcare Project Update

We've received confirmation of a grant from the community foundation for \$175,000, towards our project! The working group and session are thrilled, and we hope you are too! Construction plans are being sent to Wood County Building Inspection in the next few weeks for approval. Once that is completed, the work can begin over the course of the next few months, with most work completed mid-summer.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions! Your Childcare Working Group: Matt Croy, Beverly Dowling, Patricia McVetty and Elizabeth Wright, with staff support from Pastor Jessie and Kelly Sherrieb, facility manager.

## Kitchen Use

Yippee! Our Fellowship Hall kitchen is getting used much more now. In order to make sure everyone's items are safeguarded, please label all food brought into the kitchen. There are labels located on the refrigerator. At the end of each week, food not labeled will be tossed out. If you leave food for others to use after your event, please mark that as well. The staff love leftovers, but you need to let us know what's up for grabs. Please, no open containers (place crackers, cookies, etc. in sealable containers). Let's not give an invitation to our tiny critters! Thank you for helping to keep our kitchen a clean usable space for everyone!

## Flowers for Worship

If you would like to donate flowers for Worship, there is a sign-up sheet outside the Church Office. You can dedicate them in honor or memory of someone or an event.

## GET CONNECTED

Sign-up to read our weekly E-News Connections. You will receive an email on Fridays with lots of great information about what's going on in the life of our congregation. You will also receive FPC Today, our Sunday email that includes all the Sunday activities along with the worship bulletin attached. To sign-up, email your request to [info@findlayfpc.org](mailto:info@findlayfpc.org).

## Spice Up Darrel The Barrel in March

Donate the following essential items during the month of February and help City Mission feed the hungry in our community. Darrel is located in the Narthex.

- Chili powder
- Garlic powder
- Onion powder
- Salt & Pepper
- Corn starch

## Monthly Opportunities to Serve at City Mission

All are welcome at the table! Help us "share the bread" with our neighbors by joining members of the Mission Committee twice a month to serve meals at City Mission.

Upcoming dates:

- March 26, 4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- April 14, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- April 23, 4:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Sign-up outside the Church Office. Contact Lark McCormick about Tuesday lunches and Liz Wickard about Thursday dinners.

## ONLINE GIVING

You can open the camera on your smartphone and scan the QR code to be connected to our Giving page via a link pop up. We encourage you to use this method to give as we pass the offering plate. Thank you!



## First Presbyterian Church Staff

Jessica Commeret, Pastor	jcommeret@findlayfpc.org
Clinton Miller, Director of Music	cmiller@findlayfpc.org
Stephanie Bryan, Church/Financial Secretary	sbryan@findlayfpc.org
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Marna Weaver, Church Accountant	
Allison Badertscher, Communications Support Specialist	abadertscher@findlayfpc.org
Lena Kennedy, Family Ministry Coordinator	lkennedy@findlayfpc.org
Robbie Riffle, AV Technician	

## Copyright Information

### Music Copyrights:

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## LITURGICAL ART

First Presbyterian Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together as Christians. Traditionally various colors are used for each season. LENT is a period of 40 days (omitting Sundays) before EASTER. The color is VIOLET, symbolizing pain, suffering and penitence, recalling the passion of Jesus and our life of repentance and renewal as his followers. The pulpit and lectern paraments, with needlepoint overlay, depict the crown of thorns and nails used in the crucifixion of Jesus. The banners above the doors, created in 2017 by Don Beck, portray the cross and crown of thorns, symbols of the season. Don Beck's artistic vision continues to shape worship at First Presbyterian Church during all seasons of the liturgical year.



Tell me  
something  
good

Grounding ourselves in  
the good news this Lent

This Lent we will be grounding ourselves in the Good News!

February 18 - Ash Wednesday

*The Good News is...All are Invited!*

February 22 - First Sunday of Lent

*The Good News is...So Good it Catches Us by surprise!*

March 1 - Second Sunday of Lent

*The Good News is...Great Love for God & Neighbor!*

March 8 - Third Sunday of Lent

*The Good News Is...Together, the Impossible is Possible!*

March 15 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

*The Good News is...Protection & Care for the Vulnerable!*

March 22 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

*The Good News is...Rooted in Justice, Mercy, & Faithfulness!*

March 29 - Palm Sunday

*The Good News is...Inspiring Us to Act!*

April 2 - Maundy Thursday

*The Good News is...Even Judas Gets His Feet Washed!*

April 5 - Easter Sunday

*The Good News is...Alive in the World!*

***Honoring our heritage, we are a dynamic body  
welcoming all to Christ's spacious table, illumined  
to serve God with imagination and love.***

**Belong. Be Challenged. Be Love.**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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[Facebook.com/findlayfpc](https://www.facebook.com/findlayfpc)



# 331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al-might - y  
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the  
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -  
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil - some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star - ry band  
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.  
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de - fense.  
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er - end - ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,  
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:  
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.  
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.  
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.  
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.  
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

TEXT: Daniel Crane Roberts, 1876, alt.  
 MUSIC: George William Warren, 1892

NATIONAL HYMN  
 10.10.10.10

# 377 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to fol - low  
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God. I want to look at  
 3 I'm look-ing for the com - ing of Christ. I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The  
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and  
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

*Refrain*

star of my life is Je - sus.  
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at  
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.


all. The night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

The author-composer of this unrhymed hymn regards it as a meditation and prayer deeply rooted in many scriptures, most connected with the theme of light: Genesis 1:17; Psalm 139:12; Isaiah 60:19; Malachi 4:2; John 14:8; Ephesians 5:8; Hebrews 12:1-2; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 21:23.




# In an Age of Twisted Values 345

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm) (Em) (D) (G) (D)  
 Fm Cm Fm E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>




1 In an age of twist - ed val - ues we have lost the  
 2 We have built dis - crim - i - na - tion on our prej - u -  
 3 When our fam - i - lies are bro - ken, when our homes are  
 4 We who hear your word so of - ten choose so rare - ly

(Em) (A) (B7) (Em) (Bm) (Em) (D) (G)  
 Fm B<sup>b</sup> C7 Fm Cm Fm E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>




truth we need. In so - phis - ti - cat - ed lan - guage we have  
 dice and fear. Ha - tred swift - ly turns to cruel - ty if we  
 full of strife, when our chil - dren are be - wil - dered, when they  
 to o - bey. Turn us from our will - ful wan - dering; give us

(Am) (Em) (Bm) (Em) (C) (G)  
 B<sup>b</sup>m Fm Cm Fm D<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup>



jus - ti - fied our greed. By our strug - gle for pos - ses - sions  
 hold re - sent - ments dear. For com - mu - ni - ties di - vid - ed  
 lose their way in life, when we fail to give the a - ged  
 truth to light our way. In the pow - er of your Spir - it

(D) (Am) (Em) (B7) (Em) (Bm)  
 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m Fm C7 Fm Cm



we have robbed the poor and weak. Hear our cry and  
 by the walls of class and race, hear our cry and  
 all the care we know they need, hear our cry and  
 come to cleanse us, make us new; hear our cry and

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (Bm) (Em)  
 Fm E<sup>b</sup> A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>m Fm Cm Fm



heal our na - tion; your for - give - ness, Lord, we seek.  
 heal our na - tion; show us, Lord, your love and grace.  
 heal our na - tion; help us show more love, we plead.  
 heal our na - tion till our na - tion hon - ors you.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

One of the ways Christians can show firm allegiance to the country where they live and express care for its well-being is to ensure that they are mindful of the broad range of human needs within that society. This hymn is a strong reminder of the values that need such attention.

TEXT: Martin E. Leckebusch, 1995  
 MUSIC: Alfred V. Fedak, 1988  
 Text © 1995 Kevin Mayhew Ltd.  
 Music © 1989 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

CHURCH UNITED  
 8.7.8.7.D

**1 God of the ages, whose almighty hand  
 leads forth in beauty all the starry band  
 of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,**

**our grateful songs before thy throne arise.**

**2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past.  
In this free land by thee our lot is cast.  
Be thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay:  
thy word our law, thy paths our chosen way.**

**3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,  
be thy strong arm our ever sure defense.  
Thy true religion in our hearts increase.  
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.**

**4 Refresh thy people on their toilsome way.  
Lead us from night to never-ending day.  
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,  
and glory, laud, and praise be ever thine.**

**1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.**

**Refrain:**

**In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus. (Refrain)**

**2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)**

**3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)**

**1 In an age of twisted values  
we have lost the truth we need.  
In sophisticated language  
we have justified our greed.  
By our struggle for possessions  
we have robbed the poor and weak.  
Hear our cry and heal our nation;  
your forgiveness, Lord, we seek.**

**2 We have built discrimination  
on our prejudice and fear.**

**Hatred swiftly turns to cruelty  
if we hold resentments dear.  
For communities divided  
by the walls of class and race,  
hear our cry and heal our nation;  
show us, Lord, your love and grace.**

**3 When our families are broken,  
when our homes are full of strife,  
when our children are bewildered,  
when they lose their way in life,  
when we fail to give the aged  
all the care we know they need,  
hear our cry and heal our nation;  
help us show more love, we plead.**

**4 We who hear your word so often  
choose so rarely to obey.  
Turn us from our willful wandering;  
give us truth to light our way.  
In the power of your Spirit  
come to cleanse us, make us new;  
hear our cry and heal our nation  
till our nation honors you.**