



First
Presbyterian
Church *of Ann Arbor*

FIRST SUNDAY *in* LENT
March 9, 2025
8:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am Worship



When Love Meets Us and Makes Us Anew
by Jan Richardson



8:30 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 9, 2025

First Sunday *in* Lent

March is Women's History Month in the United States, a time to recognize the contributions of women to American history. This month, at the 8:30 a.m. service, we will learn more about the history of specific women in the Bible — specifically the Old Testament. We will learn about Ruth, Rahab, Jael, and Jehosheba. Lay women in our congregation will offer reflections in these services.

** Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol,
and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.*

GATHERING

Welcome and Centering

*Call to Worship

We gather together to worship the God of our fathers and mothers—
the God of Abraham and Sarah, of Miriam and Moses—
**who hears the cries of His people and comes to their aid;
meets us on holy ground and calls us follow;
who invites us to leave our selfish ways behind,
take up our cross,
and discover what it means to truly live.**

This is our God!
Let's worship together.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day,
and offer the truth of our lives:
The fear that stifles us,
The prejudice that blinds us,
The ignorance that hobbles us,
The doubt that plagues us.
Help us, we pray, that we will
Find courage in unlikely place,
See the world with new and gracious eyes,
Move to those places where love is needed,
Have faith that you are with us.
This we pray in Jesus' name....**

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Scripture Reading

Exodus 2:1-10

Meditation

Susan Whitlock

Poem

We Rise by Amanda Gorman

RESPONDING & SEALING

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Unison Prayer

**May we accept this day at your hand, O Lord
as a gift to be treasured,
a life to be enjoyed,
a trust to be kept
and a hope to be fulfilled:
and all for your glory. Amen**

Benediction

✠ ✠ ✠



9:30 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 9, 2025
First Sunday *in* Lent

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GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

A Lenten Medley
Sonia Lee, violin

Charles Callahan

Pouring of the Water

Welcome and Life in the Church

Mark Mares

Faith in Action

***Call to Worship**

Ashley Bowles, Beth Gerwig

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

Who is my neighbor? How can I help?

God, we have looked upon you in this sanctuary,
beholding your glory, love, and justice.

Your steadfast love endures forever, today and all days.

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

So may we listen. May we learn.

Great is your faithfulness, O God most high.

**Your faithfulness and steadfast love endures
from generation to generation.**

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

***Hymn 166**

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

GENEVA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves,
but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is
our neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have
compassion for our enemy? Forgive our human tendency to create
exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that we might
see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass. With hope we
pray....**

Silent Prayer



Stacie Barrett and Jillian Hopper, Liturgical Dancers

Assurance of Forgiveness

*Passing of the Peace

*Congregational Response

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

**Sing, pray, and swerve not from God's ways,
 but do thine own part faithfully.
 Trust the rich promises of grace;
 so shall they be fulfilled in thee.
 God never yet forsook at need
 the soul secured by trust indeed.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A Conversation with Young Disciples

Tommy Langejans

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
 friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

Second Scripture Reading

Genesis 14:17-24

The grass withers, the flower fades;
The word of the Lord endures forever.

Sermon

Nathaniel Fryer

RESPONDING

*Hymn 799

I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry

I LOVE THE LORD

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

David Prentice-Hyers

Offertory

My Song Is Love Unknown
Chancel Choir, Sonia Lee, violin and Brandon Cota, cello

Karen Marroli

My song is love unknown my Savior's love to me;
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
Oh who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
He came from his blest throne salvation to bestow,
But such disdain! So few the longed for Christ would know!
But, oh my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend!
Sometimes they crowd his way, and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day hosannas to their King.
The "Crucify" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.
In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have;
In death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heaven was his home; but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
Here might I stay and sing; no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend!
My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me.

*Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayers of the People and 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

*Hymn 182

I Hear the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Response

God to Enfold You
Chancel Choir

John Bell

God to enfold you, Christ to uphold you,
Spirit to keep you in heaven's sight;
So may God grace you, heal and embrace you,
Lead you through darkness into the light.

Closing Voluntary

"Cathedral" Prelude in e minor, BWV 533

J.S. Bach





11:30 AM WORSHIP | MARCH 9, 2025
First Sunday *in* Lent

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GATHERING

Opening Voluntary

Pouring the Water

Welcome & Centering

***Call to Worship**

Side A: Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

Side B: *Who is my neighbor? How can I help?*

Side A: What do I have to learn? Where is God in it all?

Side B: *Here in this place, we can ask big questions.*

Side A: So may we listen. May we learn.

Side B: *May we stay curious, and may we look for God.*

**All: This is our invitation to lean in.
Let us worship our holy God.**

***Opening Hymn 630**

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADERS' HYMN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

One: God of Grace,

All: We long to do the “right” thing.

One: We long to make the “right” choice.

All: We long to stand on the “right” side of the dividing line.

One: In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.

**All: For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be
close to you. Show us the way. Amen.**

Silence is kept.

Assurance of Grace

Passing of the Peace

As you pass the peace, you are invited to reflect with your neighbors on your favorite story about Jesus.

Hymn 399

God Welcomes All

THEMBA AMEN

PROCLAMATION

Prayer for Illumination 288 *Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

Scripture Readings

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Luke 4:1-13

Homily

These 40 Days Part I

RESPONDING

Response Activity

There are four different prayer areas across Monteith Hall. Feel free to choose a station(s) that suits your prayer needs.

SENDING

*Hymn 727

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

THE SERVANT SONG

*Benediction

...we go out in peace,
to love, to serve, to imagine.

Closing Voluntary



CARRYING WORSHIP WITH US

1. Instead of "taking something on" for Lent, perhaps try to do something in Lent that brings you joy, comfort, and peace every day.
2. Consider how you might approach a new person to church during the Lenten Season. What might you tell them about First Pres and what Lent means to you?

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive and diverse faith community, led by the Holy Spirit, who welcomes people of all ages and backgrounds to come together to explore, nurture, and deepen their faith. Through worship, shared discussion, participation, and service, we aim to make God's love visible in our congregation, community, and world.

NEW TO FIRST PRES?

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. Please sign the Friendship Pad. Sign it then pass it down to others. Interested in membership? Contact Rev. Rogers, mrogers@fpca2.org.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by the Prayer and Compassion Room after the 9:30 am service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP & CHILDCARE

We love to have children in worship! Age-appropriate worship activities and books are available as you enter the sanctuary or Monteith Hall. We also offer childcare from 9:15 am to 12:15 pm for children ages 5 and younger on the First Level. Ask an usher for directions.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

March is Women's History Month in the United States, a time to recognize the contributions of women to American history. This month, at the 8:30 a.m. service, we will learn more about the history of specific women in the Bible — specifically the Old Testament. We will learn about Ruth, Rahab, Jael, and Jehosheba. Lay women in our congregation will offer reflections in these services.

Leading in Worship

LEADING IN WORSHIP

8:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers

9:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Nathaniel Fyer

Rev. Tommy Langejans

Rev. Mark Mares

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers

Ashley Bowles, lay reader

Beth Gerwig, lay reader

11:30 AM WORSHIP

Rev. Nathaniel Fryer

MUSICIANS

9:30 WORSHIP

Chancel Choir

David Hufford, *Organist*

David VanderMeer, *Minister of Music & Fine Arts*

11:30 AM WORSHIP

Joshua Marzan, *Pianist*

FLOWERS

During Lent, the Sanctuary remains free of flowers, symbolizing the transition from celebration to repentance. Instead, the arrangement is displayed in the Social Hall. The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Richard S. Prentice and Erma J. Hyers from Mary Elizabeth and David Prentice-Hyers, Finlay and Angus.

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First Presbyterian worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online. If you do not want to appear in any videos or photos, please speak with an usher.

Calendar

TODAY

- 8:30 am **Worship with Communion** | Monteith Hall
- 9:30 am **Social Hour** | Welcome Center
- 9:30 am **Worship** | Sanctuary
- 10:30 am **Social Hour** | Social Hall
- 10:45 am **Faith Formation for All Ages** | Classrooms
- 11:30 am **Worship** | Monteith Hall
- 3:00 pm **Lenten Program: Healing from Hurt** | Lewis Room
- 7:00 pm **Small Group Bible Study** | Wahl home

THIS WEEK

- Mon Mar 10 **Care and Compassion Series** | 7:00 pm | Monteith Hall & Livestream
- Tues Mar 11 **Lenten Home Worship** | 6:00 pm | Home of Beth Gerwig
- Wed Mar 12 **Barclay Bible Study** | 10:30 am | Vance Room

Today in Faith Formation

ADULTS _____

10:45 AM

EXPLORING THE FAITH

My Amazing Journey with Autism and Faith

Speaker: Ron Sandison

Host: Margie Reynolds

Lewis Room

EXPLORING THE BIBLE

The Parables of Jesus

Host: Ed Koster

French Room

FIRST FRIENDS

Escape Artist: The Italian Priest Who Helps Women Flee the Mafia

Host: Carole Pawloski

Curtis Room

FOLLOW ME

March Mission Madness

Room 102

CHILDCARE & NURSERY _____

AGES 5 AND YOUNGER

9:15 AM to 12:15 PM | Room 101

CHILDREN & YOUTH _____

10:45 AM

K - 5TH GRADE

March Mission Madness

K/1 Grade: Room 302

2/3 Grade: Room 303

4/5 Grade: Room 304

MIDDLE SCHOOL

March Mission Madness

LL4

HIGH SCHOOL

March Mission Madness

Youth Room

Announcements

THE SEASON OF LENT _____

Lenten Weekly Walks

MARCH 6 - APRIL 13

As part of our communal Lenten journey we will take weekly walks along the scenic trails in our community. All ages and stages of life welcome. A pastoral liaison will guide the group. Day, location, and time are posted on our website. Register: fpca2.org

Lenten Home Worship

TUESDAYS, MARCH 11 - APRIL 8
6:00 PM

Please join us for a time of fellowship, a simple meal and brief worship service in members' homes. Limited to 25 people per gathering. Register: fpca2.org

CARE _____

CARE & COMPASSION SERIES

UM's Alcohol Management Program

MONDAY, MARCH 10
7:00 PM, MONTEITH HALL & LIVESTREAM

Come learn about UM Health's Alcohol Management Program (AMP) that offers brief, confidential health education and one-on-one counseling to anyone with mild to moderate alcohol problems.

Caring Hands

Do you like to cook? If you're willing to help, you can join our email list for meal requests and sign up as needs arise. Please email Mel Rogers at mrogers@fpca2.org to be added to the list.

CHILDREN & YOUTH _____

Summer Music & Fine Arts Camp

JULY 28–AUGUST 1

Rising 2nd - 9th graders are invited to join us for an exciting week at our Summer Music & Fine Arts Camp, featuring the musical Elijah. Camp runs daily from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, culminating in a special Musical Proclamation during worship on Sunday, August 3. Register online at fpca2.org

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN _____

Presbyterian Women's Spring Retreat: Consider the Lilies

SATURDAY, APRIL 5
9 AM - 2 PM, SOCIAL HALL

Come relax and rejuvenate at our spring retreat, Consider the Lilies, on Saturday, April 5. An optional "Gentle Yoga" session will begin at 8 am, followed by a continental breakfast, an inspiring speaker, fun breakout sessions, and a boxed lunch. Childcare will be available. The registration fee is \$20 per person to cover the cost of food. All women are invited. Bring a friend! Please register by March 21, at fpca2.org.

WORSHIP _____

Participate in the Creation of New Paraments

Beth Taylor is creating new Ordinary Time paraments and invites you to contribute! Share a small fabric piece or token (button, tie, broken earring, etc.) that reflects your life, faith, or connection to the church. These will be quilted into meaningful paraments. You may include a brief note about your item. Drop off contributions in the Welcome Center.



Color in the story of the Good Samaritan. | Illustration by Rev. Anna Strickland

JOIN THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURE OF

MARCH MISSION MADNESS



ALPHA HOUSE

March 17-23

Volunteer to provide meals and childcare for families. Alpha House offers temporary housing, meals, and support services to help families regain stability.

ROTATING SHELTER

March 17-24

We're extending our commitment to sheltering those in need by hosting an extra week of the Rotating Shelter. Volunteer to host overnight or provide meals.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The House of Faith Build is back, and First Pres is looking for volunteers! Build days (9 AM – 4 PM): Mar 28, April 4, 5, 12; May 10, Aug. 9
Lunch Providers (for 12 people, delivered by 11:45 AM): March 28, April 12, May 10



Explore our mission partnerships, discover new ways to get involved, and witness the transformative power of faith in action.

MISSION FAIR

Sunday, March 30

Join us following the 9:30 am worship. Snack on appetizers and discover how you can get involved and make an impact through our various mission opportunities. Meet ministry leaders, learn about upcoming projects, and find ways to serve.

MARCH MISSION MANIA GAME

Get ready to explore, solve puzzles, attend events, and earn points in our exciting new Mission Mania game! Inspired by the Ann Arbor Public Library's Summer Game, this interactive experience is designed for all ages!

PLAY TO WIN

MISSION ESCAPE ROOM

March 9 | 4 pm

Bring your friends and put your problem-solving skills to the test at March Mission Madness: Escape Room Challenge! Work together, crack the codes, and uncover the mission—can you escape in time?

FOOD DONATIONS

We invite you to help those facing food insecurity in our community by donating non-perishable food to benefit Food Gatherers. Donations may be dropped off throughout the month at the Welcome Center.





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