

First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

March 23, 2025

10:00 A.M.

3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your Kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.*

*Give us today
our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.*

THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

** Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “Balm in Gilead”

Hughes/Spong

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: Listen, siblings of faith. Today, you will receive the good news of Jesus.

All: *The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.*

One: Today, God will speak to us, filling our hearts and healing our souls.

All: *The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.*

One: Today, there will be enough bread for all, enough to mend every broken place.

All: *The bread of life has come to sustain us. Believing this promise, let us worship together!*

*HYMN #332 “Live Into Hope” (blue pew hymnal)

OPENING PRAYER (Please join in unison)

God our daily provider, you call us into community, banish our emptiness, and meet us in ordinary things like our daily bread. As we gather in worship, open our hearts to your voice and our hands to your provision. Teach us to trust in your abundance, to share what we have, and to pray boldly: "Give us this day our daily bread." May this time of worship nourish us with your truth and prepare us to share your love in the world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by liturgist)

Often, we overlook the daily provision we've received and choose instead to focus on things we do not yet have. Let us confess our sins of ingratitude and greed together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

God of abundance, we confess we overlook your daily provision. We take your gifts for granted, longing for what we do not have instead of treasuring what we do. Our hearts are often filled with envy, and our desires pull us away from gratitude. Forgive us, O God. Open our eyes to your faithfulness and teach us to live with contentment and thanksgiving. We trust that you provide all we truly need. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Siblings in faith, hear this good news:

All: *Our compassionate God is faithful to pardon our sins and will set us on the paths of gratitude and generosity.*

Pastor: Receive forgiveness and be at peace.

All: *Amen.*

*SINGING GOD'S GLORY: Gloria Patri “Glory to the Father” #567 (Please join in unison)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen Amen Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF GOD (Please join in unison)

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us all forgive one another, and pass the peace of Christ to each other. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: *And also with you!*

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor: Beneath the mantle of peace, Jesus, the bread of life, provides a bounty of fellowship, care, and connection. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Pastor: Take a moment to greet others with the peace of Christ, which inspires us to care for the needs of our community.

(Worshippers are invited to turn to others and safely show signs of peace by giving a nod, a smile, or a hand gesture of peace).

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Children's Sermon – NOISY OFFERING

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Please join in unison)

God, may the scriptures we read today become living bread. May your Spirit empower them to shape us in Jesus' likeness. Give us wisdom as we interpret these words of scripture; may they nourish our minds and souls. Amen

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 55:1-9

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Bread of Life" (See insert)

SECOND READING:

Matthew 6:9-13

SERMON: "Daily Bread"

Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne

Children are excused for Sunday school

Please join Ms. Judy and Ms. Sue in the lobby to walk up together as a group.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: (Join in unison)

We believe God created a world to provide for our needs with abundant nourishment.

We believe God wants everyone to have the food they need to thrive.

We believe God calls us to share our bread with those who hunger.

We believe that in God's kingdom, there is enough for everyone.

We believe the bread of life is not just for the body but also for the soul.

We believe the Spirit of God inspires us to work for justice so all people have what they need.

We believe that when we break bread together we experience a glimpse of God's feast of love, which is available to everyone. Amen.

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Supplication"

H. Kihken

Many ways to give and give back  paypal.com **click on link**

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/112574644767835624/charity/3545525>

OR Scan here:



First time visitors-we would love to connect with you.

Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

*Doxology Song #592

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH (Announcements)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, ending with Our Lord’s Prayer (together, using “debts”)

WE GO OUT IN GRATITUDE TO SERVE IN GOD’S NAME

*Hymn #333 “Seek Ye First” (blue pew hymnal)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: “Postlude in G. Minor”

G. Blake

SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

For each of us to share the Gospel with someone this week:

- Don Bowman, Dave Dougherty, Sandy Dougherty, Levon McEwan, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Mary Steider and Donna Wiseman for health needs.
- Pray for our Military and their families.
- AmeriCorps and Peace Corps workers and their families.

GUESTS AND VISITORS

We are delighted to welcome you and worship with you today!

First time visitors we would love to connect with you. Please text "welcome" to 219-300-9867 and share your contact information with us.

The CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God from Leonard Griswold in memory of wife, Jane Griswold; Grandson, Ben; son-in-law, Bobby and Grandson, Alex.

SERVING TODAY

Ministers
 Preacher
 Organist
 Liturgist
 Greeters
 Usher
 Video and Sound Team

All Members of the Congregation
 Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne
 Carol Garrett
 Kash Williams
 Brian & Judy Spiece
 Alice Yacullo
 Stan Holdcraft, Rylie Thornton
 and Antoinette Jackson



MEMORIALS/DONATION

No donations were received this week.
We are always thankful for your kindness.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Wishing you Very Happy Day!

March 03 Brenda Branch
 March 06 Stan Holdcraft
 March 07 Amy McDaniel
 March 10 Mary Jo McDonald
 March 13 Jennifer Blank
 March 15 Rick Blank
 March 19 Joleen Jackson



March 20 Walt Barbknecht
 March 24 Thea Mosher
 March 25 Sean Towle
 March 26 Nicholas Simpson
 March 28 Andrea Gasaway
 March 29 Linda Jackson

CHURCH CHAT

(Any or all information is subject to change without notification)

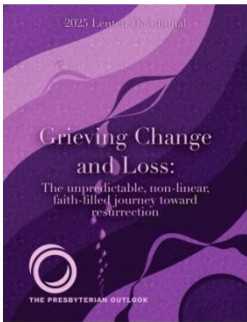
CHOIR PRACTICE

All in the sanctuary on March 23rd and 30th at 11:30 a.m. and on April 13th and 20th at 9:25 a.m.

EASTER EGG HUNT

We will be having an Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday after the service. We need lots of individually wrapped candy to fill the eggs. You can bring it any time before April 7th. There will be a box by the garden door entrance to put the candy in. Thank you! Jennifer Casper

GRIEF GROUP



“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven: A time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance,” (Ecclesiastes 3:1-4)

This spring, Pastor Ericka is hosting a Grief Group, which will meet twice a month on Sundays, after worship. Whether your grief is new or has been for many years, whether you are grieving a loved one or a situation, our God offers compassion through scripture, prayer, and through conversation with others. Copies of the “Grieving Change Loss” Lenten devotional are available in the Narthex for your personal use or for use in a group. If you would like to join and attend, please speak with Janice Casper, Brock Vinson, or Pastor Ericka.

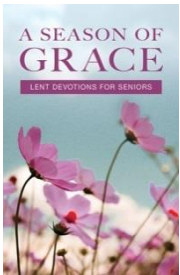
Presbyterian Coffee Project Relaunch!



The Mission Committee is excited to relaunch the *Presbyterian Coffee Project* through the Equal Exchange program! This **Fair Trade** initiative ensures that small-scale farmers receive fair prices, work in safe conditions, and sustain their communities. By choosing Fair Trade coffee, you're supporting ethical practices that align with our faith values. (Scan the QR code below!)



“Speak out, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the poor and needy.” —Proverbs 31:9



LENTEN DEVOTIONALS

The Outreach committee has a few extra Lenten Devotionals remaining from the bags we prepare for our senior at-home members. If you would like to purchase this little booklet for your own season of Lent, please see Michele Bartels or Peggy McAnally at church with \$2.00 in hand. First come, first served. Also, copies of Grieving Loss and Change Lenten Devotional and The Bread of Life Lenten Devotional (which corresponds with our Faith Formation classes and Sunday worship services) are also available in the Narthex.

Coffee Hour Sign-Up

Our 2025 Coffee Hour sign-up chart is posted on the Edith Boyd Lounge door, ready for you along with your family, friends, or committee to pick a date to sponsor coffee hour. Remember, it doesn't have to be extravagant. Coffee, a drink for the kids, and a treat is all that's needed. Most of the year is covered by the Women's Circles, Deacons, and the Mission Committee but every other third Sunday and the fifth Sundays need volunteers. It would be really great if one group would volunteer for all the 5th Sundays, there are 4. If you are willing to do this, see Jeanette Tyrrell. In the meantime please consider serving your fellow congregants by signing up for a coffee hour Sunday.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

If you are interested, as of now, we have open dates on March 30th, June 1, June 8, June 15 June 29, July 6, July 20, July 27, August 3, August 17, August 24, August 31, October 5, October 19, October 26, November 9 and November 30. If you are interested in any of these dates, please contact the office. The cost is \$35.00.

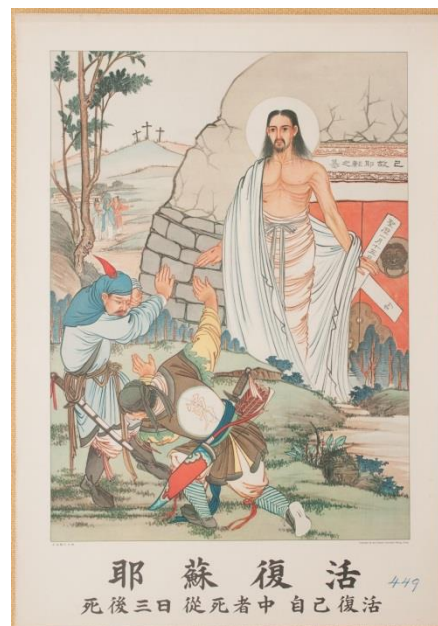
Thank you.



- ❖ March 23 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 23 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 3rd Sunday in Lent-NOISY OFFERING
- ❖ March 23 Sunday Tweens meet after worship
- ❖ March 23 Sunday 11:30 a.m. choir practice in the sanctuary
- ❖ March 24 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ March 25 Tuesday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B (through March 27)
- ❖ March 26 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ March 27 Thursday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B **(LAST FOR THIS SESSION)**
- ❖ March 28 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ March 29 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Faith Formation bible study
- ❖ March 29 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ March 30 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 30 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 4th Sunday in Lent
- ❖ March 30 Sunday 11:30 a.m. choir practice in the sanctuary
- ❖ March 31 Monday **PASTOR OFF**
- ❖ April 1 Tuesday 2 p.m. Personnel meeting
- ❖ April 1 Tuesday 6 p.m. Finance meeting
- ❖ April 2 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ April 3 Thursday 12:00 p.m. PEO Chapter BA meeting
- ❖ April 3 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
- ❖ April 2 Wednesday 4:30 p.m. B&G meeting
- ❖ April 4 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ April 5 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ April 6 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ April 6 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service Communion Sunday (5th Sunday in Lent)
- ❖ April 6 Sunday 11:30 a.m. choir practice in the sanctuary
- ❖ April 7 Monday **PASTOR OFF**

Diverse Representations of Holy Week

On March 30, join The Rev Doreen Sterba Dezur in the Edith Boyd Lounge after worship for an enlightening presentation of diverse artistic presentations of Holy Week.



For over 70 years, Presbyterians have joined together through OGHS, responding to Christ’s call to serve “the least of these.” This offering supports the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self-Development of People ministry—bringing hope and tangible assistance to communities in need.

Through your generous gifts, we help rebuild lives after natural disasters, combat hunger and poverty, and empower communities to create lasting change. When we give, we proclaim that “God’s love is overflowing”—reaching those in need and transforming lives.

Ways to Give:

- During Worship: Use the OGHS blue-colored envelope.
- Online: Give securely at pcusa.org/oghs.
- By Mail: Send a check to the church with “OGHS” in the memo line.
- Text-to-Give: Text OGHS to 91999 to make a donation.

A Special Invitation for Kids!

Children are also invited to participate in this offering through the “Gracie” fish banks! These colorful fish-shaped banks help teach children about giving and compassion. Kids can collect coins throughout Lent and bring their filled fish banks on as an offering of love and generosity.

Join us in making a difference! When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians 9:8

SOUP KITCHEN ITEM OF THE MONTH



Our item for March to keep up with our Soup Kitchen inventory—is—**dish soap**. Thank you all for donating canned fruit throughout February. Please drop off your in-kind donations at the table near the coat racks in the Narthex. Monetary donations are welcome by designating them to the Soup Kitchen Fund.

“My dear friends, since we have these promises, let’s cleanse ourselves from anything that contaminates our body or spirit so that we make our holiness complete in the fear of God.” –2 Corinthians 7:1 (CEB)



ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

As of March 17th, the numbers are:

✚ We anticipate the final cost of the project is going to come in around \$142,000 (about 8K under the original budget).

✚ We have raised \$133,229 (includes a \$50K grant).

In order to avoid dipping into our savings, we are still looking to raise an additional \$8,771.

Please continue to donate to the elevator fund, and/or buy a brick or two for our heritage garden. Bricks are \$100.00 each and can be purchased via this link. You can also pick up a paper form at the display by the garden door or contact Diane for one. Thank you for your generosity!

<https://form.jotform.com/241926284623157>



The First Presbyterian Church
of Michigan City is raising funds to pay for the update and repair of our elevator. Not only is the elevator essential to our church but also essential for many community programs. By purchasing a \$100 brick on the Gratitude Pathway in the Heritage Garden you will not only have a permanent memory of a loved one or event you will be helping fund a necessary element to our church.

Some ideas for your commemorative brick inscription are:

- Your family name.
- An inspirational message.
- Honoring a special family member or fellow church member.
- Honoring a relative that is with God.
- Your favorite Bible passage.
- A special event in your life.

Be one of the first to show your commitment and create a lasting memory by filling out the form below or contacting us at (219)879-4301 | dysellaw@fpcmichigan.org

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For prayer requests
Contact Brian Spiece at
jspiece@hotmail.com

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