

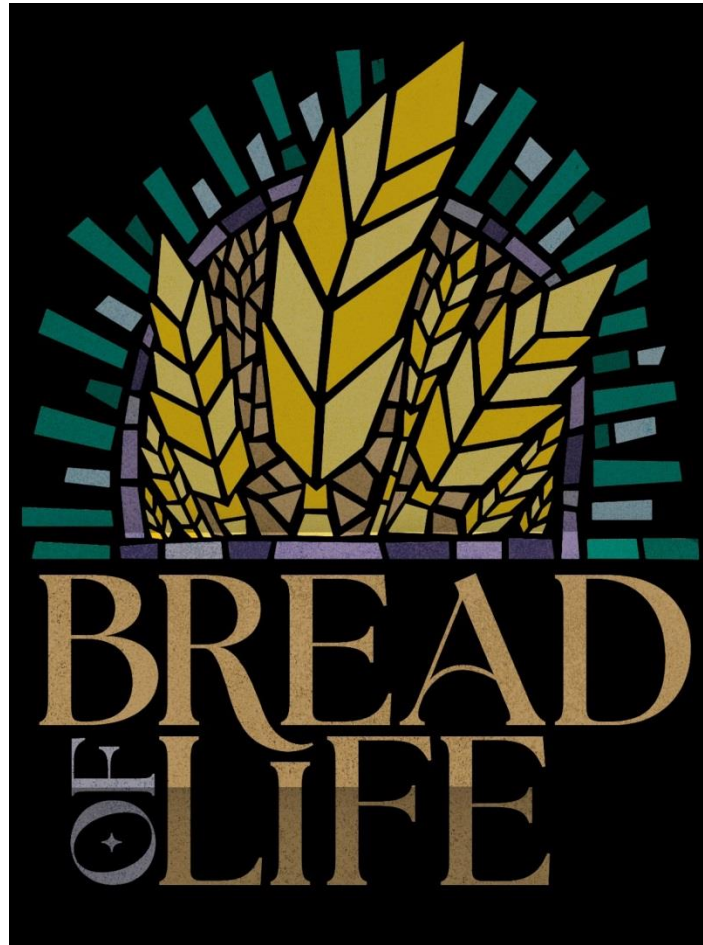
# First Presbyterian Church

Ninth at Washington, Michigan City, Indiana

March 9, 2025

10:00 A.M.

1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT



## THE WORSHIP OF OUR LORD

† † †

*\* Indicates those who are able, please stand*

† † †

## WE GATHER BEFORE GOD

† WELCOME – WORSHIP – CELEBRATE – SERVE †

PRELUDE: “What Wondrous Love Is This”

T. Chesterton

### WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Please join in unison)

One: Let us gather together, hungry and thirsty. Come, all who long to be filled with good things.

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

One: Let us open our hands to receive from God’s son, our brother and friend.

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

One: Let us quiet our minds and awaken our hearts to be transformed by God’s Spirit, who redeems us.

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

OPENING PRAYER (Please join in unison)

***Holy God, throughout history you have fed people in body, mind, and spirit. As we gather in worship today, we rest in the knowledge that you continue to care for us. We come into this space with complicated lives, different needs, and unique situations. You know all of our longings, and you look at us with compassion and love. Because we know the bread of life, Jesus, is the sustaining source of hope, we lean into this hour of worship with expectancy and faith. You have provided for our needs from the beginning, so we pray with confidence that you will meet us once again today. Amen.***

\*HYMN #383 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” (pew Presbyterian hymnal)

## WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD’S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION (Spoken by liturgist)

Because we live in a world with both hunger and unnecessary waste, let us confess our sins and seek a new path of righteousness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Please join in unison)

***Holy God, even though we choose to follow Jesus, live his way, and share in the bread of life, we confess we have overlooked the hungry in our midst. We confess it is easier to avoid people and places that demand our attention and resources, and we go about our days turning our eyes from those in need. Forgive us for the times we have looked away from those who are hungry and their needs for food, clothing, friendship, or anything else. Forgive us for neglecting our neighbors and our community. Help us be faithful to this calling. Amen.***

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Paul writes, “There is no one who is righteous, not even one.” Yet in Christ, we are forgiven, justified, and transformed to carry on in the way of love and justice. Savor the good news of this pardon 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

(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

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:

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Bread and Life"

SECOND READING:

John 6:25-40

SERMON: "Bread of Life"

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 Jesus Christ is the bread of life. Born to live among us, suffering every human frailty, even unto death. Empowered not to rule with force but by invitation; not with a sword, but by sacrifice. Filled with compassion, always caring about the physical needs of the people. Rejecting earthly fortune, meeting daily needs, turning no one away. Jesus turned bread lines into feasts, welcoming everyone to the table. Jesus gave freely to all in need, even when they gave nothing in return. We believe Jesus Christ is the bread of life. Amen.***

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE IN OUR OFFERING

OFFERTORY: "Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"

*J. Mansfield*

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 #280 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" (pew Presbyterian hymnal)

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE: "Blessed Be the Name"

*H. Balcomb*

### SHARE OUR PRAYERS WITH:

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

- Dave Dougherty, Levon McEwan, Johanna Miller, Barb Reichert, Margo Shank, 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 in gratitude for all who have supported our Elevator Fund Raiser with donations and by purchasing a brick for the garden.

### SERVING TODAY

Ministers	All Members of the Congregation
Preacher	Reverend Dr. Ericka Parkinson Kilbourne
Organist	Carol Garrett
Liturgist	Melanie Ledgerwood and Lauren White
Youth Liturgist	Annabelle Kilbourne
Greeters	Kirk Rogers
Usher	Debbie Langley
Video and Sound Team	Stan Holdcraft, Rylie Thornton and Antoinette Jackson



### MEMORIALS/DONATION

**THE ELEVATOR FUND** received a donation from Doug Wiseman in honor of Susie for her dedication to our mom, Donna Wiseman. 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)

## THE UPPER ROOM

The March/April Upper Room is available for pick up. They are located in front of the coat room.

## FOUND IN THE SANTUARY DURING RENOVATION



The above pictures are the front and back of a coin found in the sanctuary during renovation. It is a St. Michaels Patron Saint of Law Enforcement coin. If it belongs to you or you know who it belongs to, please contact the office. Thank you.

## EASTER LILY

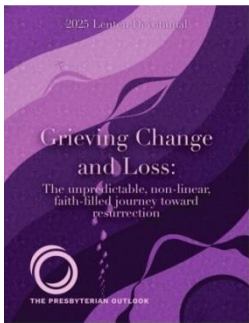
The order form to purchase a lily is by the usher's table. The cost this year is \$13.00 each. Unfortunately, the florist needs our order by March 18<sup>th</sup> so the **deadline** for you to turn your money and completed form into the office is **March 17<sup>th</sup>**. They will be in the sanctuary beginning April 19<sup>th</sup> and you take yours with you after service beginning April 20<sup>th</sup>.

If you have question, please contact the office.

## 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!)

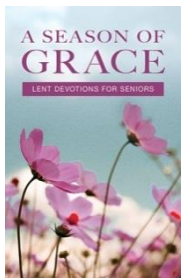


*"Speak out, judge righteously, and defend the rights of the poor and needy."* —Proverbs 31:9



## 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.



## The CHANCEL FLOWERS

If you are interested, as of now, we have an open date, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

It is possible there will be more dates in later months and those will be posted later. If you normally have an annual date those are automatically reserved for you and will be the same as past years unless you contact me to make a change. If you did not pay last year, we will assume you are not interested and your date will be opened to others. The cost is \$35.00.

If you have any questions, please contact the office. Thank you.



upcoming  
EVENTS



- ❖ March 9 Sunday 12:01 a.m. TIME CHANGES Spring ahead
- ❖ March 9 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 9 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent
- ❖ March 9 Sunday Teens meet after worship
- ❖ March 10 Monday PASTOR OFF
- ❖ March 11 Tuesday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 12 Wednesday 10 a.m. Outreach meeting
- ❖ March 12 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ March 13 Thursday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 13 Thursday 4:30 p.m. Mission meeting (Hybrid)
- ❖ March 14 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ March 15 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ March 16 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 16 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent
- ❖ **March 17 Monday St. Patrick's Day**
- ❖ March 17 Monday PASTOR OFF
- ❖ March 17 Monday DEADLINE TO ORDER LILY(S)
- ❖ March 18 Tuesday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 18 Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Elizabeth Circle meeting
- ❖ March 19 Wednesday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study
- ❖ March 19 Wednesday 4 p.m. Deacon's meeting
- ❖ March 19 Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Session meeting
- ❖ March 20 Thursday 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. 3B ( through March 27)
- ❖ March 20 Thursday 5:30 p.m. Girl Scouts meeting
- ❖ March 21 Friday Office Closed **Pastor in by appointment**
- ❖ March 22 Saturday 9 a.m. visitation for Barbara Vinson, 11 a.m. service with a luncheon to follow
- ❖ March 22 Saturday 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen
- ❖ March 23 Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Ed
- ❖ March 23 Sunday 10 a.m. Worship service 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent
- ❖ March 23 Sunday-NOISY OFFERING
- ❖ March 23 Sunday Tweens meet after worship
- ❖ March 24 Monday PASTOR OFF

### BUILDING/ROOM USE FORMS

If your organization, committee, etc. use the church for your meetings or functions, please submit your completed form for 2025 to the office by February 28<sup>th</sup>. If your updated form is not received, we will assume you no longer need to use the building and will make your date, time and room available to others. Also, if your Certificate of Liability Insurance has expired, we will need a current copy. If you have any questions, please contact the office. Thank you.

### 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)

### 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.



# ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

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](https://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*



### ELEVATOR FUND CAMPAIGN

As of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 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 \$132,889 (includes a \$50K grant).

In order to avoid dipping into our savings, we are still looking to raise an additional \$25,000.

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)879-4501 | [dyettaw@fpcmicity.org](mailto:dyettaw@fpcmicity.org)

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For prayer requests  
Contact Brian Spiece at  
[jspiece@hotmail.com](mailto:jspiece@hotmail.com)

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WiFi password: 1holyGod!

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