

**The Worship of God**  
Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 22, 2026 – 9:00 Morning Worship  
**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!**

PRELUDE

“Jesus Remember Me”

Anne Krentz Organ

WELCOME

**GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come out of the depths of the wilderness of all that has been lost.  
Push away the stone and wonder what glory could be.

**We believe that there is more than this sorrow.**

Come out into the morning light and find others waiting and hoping  
for love to mend hearts again.

**Our souls come together to watch and wait.**

Come, let us worship.

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, we gather in love of Jesus the Christ  
and open ourselves to your Spirit.

**We open ourselves to your life in the midst of death.**

**We open ourselves to your hope in the midst of despair.**

In the midst of confusion and uncertainty,  
we open ourselves to a new way of seeing things,  
a new way of understanding things in your love.

**Stir us in our depths and call us out beyond every resistance.**

SING

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

#835

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

New life confronts us, O God.

**We notice signs of spring and the profusion of summer growth,  
the abundance of autumn and the tenacity of life in winter.**

**We praise you for a world so full of beauty.**

**Your creative love and energy surround us,  
renewing and regenerating a planet that continues to evolve.**

Yet we are also confronted by death:

accidents and disease separate us from loved ones,  
forest life and farmland are destroyed by industry and development;  
cultures and languages disappear, and people lose their sense of identity.

We wrestle with unanswered questions and feelings of despair,  
and we’re not always sure how to find our way through this wilderness.

Too often, we feel buried by what we will never understand.

*(Silent personal prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God does not abandon us to death and despair.

Whatever has happened, whatever our fears for the future,

God's compassion and steadfast love surround us.

**We are forgiven.**

**We are loved, and God invites us again to live fully.**

**Thanks be to God!**

## SHARING GOD'S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:

You're invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

## LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST SCRIPTURE

Psalm 130

#### SECOND SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:1-14

...The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

#### SING

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

#286

#### REFLECTION

Chaplain Tim Haworth

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### GIVING OUR GIFTS

#### DOXOLOGY

"Ubi Caritas (Live in Charity)"

#205

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of life, you invite us to share life.

**We offer these gifts of heart and hands**

**and pray that they may bring life and hope to those who receive them.**

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

## SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

#### SING

"Let Us Build a House"

#301

#### BENEDICTION

Let us go out into God's world in peace;

have courage; hold on to what is good;

return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;

support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;

love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

SENDING

We cried to God from the depths, and God heard our voice.  
We came with our burdens, bound by our fears.  
We leave this place with hope released to serve a living God.  
Go in the strength of God who shows steadfast love,  
in the courage of Christ who shares our humanity,  
and in the companionship of the Spirit who gives life.

POSTLUDE

Postlude in F Major

Alexandre Guilmant