

First Presbyterian Church

Wooster, Ohio



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 22, 2026

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *Praeludium und Fuge in d-moll and Air, from 'Orchestral Suite No. 3'* *J. S. Bach*
Eric J. Gastier, organ

WELCOME Reverend David Rice

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Election of Pastor Nominating Committee Mimi Lewellen
Slate of Candidates: Luke Armour, Sarah Davis, Trevor Dunlap, Carol Gates, Roy Haynes,
Steve LoGiudice, Julie Miller, Laura Neill, Lisa Rumbaugh

POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

In preparation for worship, we pour baptismal water as a sign of our engrafting into the Body of Christ.

CHORAL INTROIT *Spirit of the Living God* *LIVING GOD*

*CALL TO WORSHIP + Lisa Rumbaugh

One: Come, let us worship our God of Steadfast Love and Hope.

All: God, breathe into us and let us live.

One: Let us turn our lives toward God's Holy Spirit of Life and Peace.

All: We gather here, O God, in hope of your presence and your gift of new life.

*PRAYER +

For a new day that follows each night, we give you thanks, O God.

For the seasons of life, their coming and going, we give you thanks, O God.

For the hope of renewed life, for the gift of your compassion,

and for your presence among us now, we give you thanks, O God. **Amen**

*HYMN 451 *Open My Eyes, That I May See* *OPEN MY EYES*

CONFESSION +

One: Spirit of the Living God, breathe fresh life into us this day.

**All: Forgive us our sins of impatience, anger, gossip, and arrogance.
We confess that these sins steal life from others around us
and create chaos rather than peace.**

One: Forgive us our doubts and fears, the times when we cut you off and lose hope.
Save us from ourselves, for we are often our own worst enemy.

**All: Breathe upon these weary bones of ours and lift us up with the Spirit of Life.
Open us up to your compassion and fill us with your newness.
Give us courage to trust in you and boldness in living your will for us,
as we seek to follow the Way of Jesus.**

Here each worshipper may offer personal, silent prayer.

Gracious God, hear our prayers. **Amen**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS +

The God who calls us to take bold steps outward is the One who journeys closely within.
In God, there is welcome, courage, companionship, constant forgiveness, renewed strength,
and always a love that never lets us go.
Trust this good news and be at peace! **Amen**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you . . . **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy Baxstrom

ANTHEM *De Profundis (Out of the Depths – Psalm 130)* Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

SCRIPTURE Psalm 130 Isaiah 43:1-7 Romans 8:6-11 Pew Bible pages 542, 631, 147

SERMON *Walking with Jesus* Ann Gastier

*HYMN 835 *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* CLOSER WALK

OFFERING OF SUBSTANCE AND LIFE

Through our monetary gifts, we offer something of our work and ourselves to God.

OFFERTORY *Romance* Sergei Rachmaninoff

Claudia Thompson, Karolyn Rice, Eric Gastier, piano

*DOXOLOGY 607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

April Gamble

**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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

*HYMN 837 *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine* SHOWALTER

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Allegro, from 'Concerto in a-moll'* J. S. Bach (after Vivaldi)

* Asterisk indicates places in the service to stand. + Liturgy adapted from *Seasons of the Spirit*

First Presbyterian Church is a Christian community dedicated to showing God's love through worship, study, social justice, outreach, and fellowship.

**More Light Church and Member of Covenant Network
Earth Care Congregation and Matthew 25 Church**

The Mission of More Light Presbyterians: Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry, and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society.

The Mission of the Covenant Network of Presbyterians is to strengthen the church of Jesus Christ, with the help of God's grace. We are called to achieve this goal by furthering the inclusion of LGBTQ persons, and by working for the unity of the PC(USA).

Earth Care Pledge: Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

The Mission of the Matthew 25 Church: Matthew 25:31–46 calls us to actively engage the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We commit ourselves to congregational vitality by acting boldly and compassionately to end systemic poverty and structural racism, serving people who are oppressed, imprisoned, poor.



Through our monetary gifts, we offer something of our work and ourselves to God. QR (Quick Response) Code for Direct Donations and Contributions – the Code can be read by your smartphone and will land you on the giving page of our website where you can “Give Now” or set up a recurring donation.

330-264-9420

www.firstpreswooster.org

Facebook: facebook.com/FPCWooster

WEEKLY CALENDAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Sunday Greeters:	March 22 – Mark Boardner	March 29 – Val Fulton	
Sunday Ushers:	March 22 – Jack & Julie Miller, Steve & Susie Slack		
Sunday Sexton:	March 22 – Aiden Hiner	March 29 – Calin Baxstrom	
Sunday, March 22	8:45 am ARISE	9:15 am Sunday School	10:30 am Worship
	10:30 am Congregational Meeting to elect Pastor Nominating Committee		
Monday, March 23	10:00 am Women's Bible Study	12:00 pm Rotary	1:30 pm Staff
	7:00 pm Boy Scouts		
Tuesday, March 24	9:30 am Bible Study	6:00 pm RDM Meeting	
Wed., March 25	10:00 am Memory Café	11:30 am Safety Council	7:00 pm Session
Thursday, March 26	7:00 pm Choir		
Friday, March 27	11:30 am Mixed Company – Miss Molly's Tea Room in Medina		
Saturday, March 28	9:30 am Al-Anon	11:00 am Wooster Advocacy	12:00 pm Scouts
Sunday, March 29	8:45 am ARISE	9:15 am Sunday School	10:30 am Worship

Donna Bye – Office Administrator

Amy Baxstrom – Director of Family Ministries

Rachel King – Dir. of Children's Music; Media Coordinator

Tim Hall – Building Supervisor



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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HOLY WEEK 2026

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 29

ARISE AT 8:45AM SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:15AM WORSHIP AT 10:30

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 2

SERVICE AT 7:00PM IN THE SANCTUARY

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 3

SERVICE AT 7:00PM IN THE SANCTUARY

EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 5

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:15AM WORSHIP AT 10:30

ALL ARE WELCOME IN PERSON OR STREAM SERVICES ONLINE AT
WWW.FIRSTPRESWOOSTER.ORG/WORSHIP



CAMO BABY BUNDLES

To donate, click below for more information:

<https://www.firstpreswooster.org/blog/2026/03/17/camo-baby-bundles>



TIME CHANGE AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The next Mixed Company will meet Friday, March 27th at 11:30 AM at Miss Molly's Tea Room, 140 West Washington Street, Medina.

Call or email Kathy Turning (330-347-6620 or kathrynnnturning@gmail.com) if you are planning to attend. Let Kathy know if you need a ride. Meet at the church at 10:30 AM to carpool.