

First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God:
we worship, we love, we grow, we serve*



**Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 25, 2026
10 a.m.**

*Let us quiet our hearts, minds, and voices for the beginning of worship.
At this time, please silence all cell phones.*

The Prelude

Toccatina for Flutes

PIETRO YON

THE TIME OF GATHERING

Welcome and Life Together

REV. REX CHILDS

Moment for Mission

LINDA FERRARIO

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship (*from Psalm 27*)

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation.

People: *Whom shall I fear?*

Leader: The LORD is the stronghold of my life.

People: *Of whom shall I be afraid?*

Leader: One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

People: *To live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life and to behold the beauty of the LORD.*

All: *Let us worship God!*

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

*Hymn of Praise #321 (vs. 1,2,4,5) ***The Church's One Foundation***

AURELIA

1. *The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*
2. *Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.*
4. *Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore:
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.*
5. *Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.*

Call to Confession

REV. DR. SCOTT KENEFACE

Prayer of Confession

***Christ, our Messiah, you call us to fish for people, but we are hesitant to leave our boats.
We are afraid to let go of the things we hoard, believing they make us secure. We are
afraid to put our trust in you, afraid to follow, afraid we will fail. Forgive us. Transform our
fear into faithfulness, and enable us to walk with you, that we may be part of your work in
the world.***

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Just as Jesus called the disciples, so Christ calls us. Forgiven of our sin and freed to serve, let us answer Christ's call.

All: *Christ calls us, forgives us, heals us, and teaches us. Thanks be to God!*

**Please stand, if able*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen! Amen!

THE WORD

Children's Time

NANCY VAN FLEET

Prayer for Illumination

CINDY ESLER

Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

PEW BIBLE PAGE 187

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. ² And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors—Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor—lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. ³ Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

¹⁴"Now, therefore, revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. ¹⁵ Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." ¹⁶ Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods, ¹⁷ for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went and among all the peoples through whom we passed, ¹⁸ and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." ¹⁹ But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. ²⁰ If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm and consume you, after having done you good." ²¹ And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" ²² Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." ²³ He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." ²⁴ The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." ²⁵ So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response

May the Words of My Mouth

IN CORDE MEO

Scripture Reading

Matthew 4:12-23

PEW BIBLE PAGE 785

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³ He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴ so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵ "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles — ¹⁶ the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." ¹⁷ From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ¹⁸ As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. ¹⁹ And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." ²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹ As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. ²² Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him. ²³ Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The First to Follow"

REV. REX CHILDS

*Affirmation of Faith (from the Belhar Confession)

We believe that God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people; that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged; that God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry; that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly; that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right; that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream; that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others. We believe that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence. Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

And the Father Will Dance

MARK HAYES

*The Doxology

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Prayer of Blessing

GOING FORTH

*Hymn of Commitment #720

Jesus Calls Us

GALILEE

1. *Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."*
2. *Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."*
3. *In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours or ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."*
4. *Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Festival Toccata

Dr. Brice Gerlach on the Julia Thompson Smith Memorial Pipe Organ

PERCY FLETCHER

Chancel Flowers

The Chancel flowers are given by Margee Minnis in loving memory of Jim Minnis.

Ushers

Tom Ryerson (head usher), Donna Estler, Tedi and Gene Fraley,
Pam and Bob Karll, Joan and Al Lubrano, Mark Owens

Greeters

Cindy Esler, Michele Hunt, Audrey Smith and Doug Gibbens, Janet and Alex Yanushefski

Hospitality Table

Sunshine Circle



WEDNESDAYS at FIRST

CHRISTIAN AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION



January 28: Please join us for Wednesdays at First when we will welcome Avery Davis Lamb, Executive Director of Creation Justice Ministries at Duke Divinity School. In his own words, "I hang out at the nexus of Religion, Christianity, and the Environment, combining theology, science, and policy to enact meaningful change." He has organized faith communities across the country in support of action on environmental justice.

As a certified PCUSA "Green Church", this is a topic of continuing interest to us and one that continues to impact Southwest Florida as we strive for ways to adapt to climate change and make our homes and businesses more resilient to the disastrous effects of hurricanes, strong winds, and surges. Members of our congregation have personally felt the horrific impact of these storms in the past. Come hear why we need to continue to focus our attention on how we as a religious community can help build climate resilience and adaption in combination with other churches and scientific, engineering, and social justice experts. How can we partner with God in the healing and restoration of our world?

February 4: Dr. Suzanne McDonald, professor of Systemic and Historical Theology at Western Theology Seminary

February 11: Rev. Dr. Scott Rennie, from St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh, Scotland

Dinner (\$15, cash or check at the door) is held in Spencer Hall at 5:15 p.m.. The programs are free of charge and will be held in the Sanctuary at 6 p.m.

Reservations for dinner must be made by the Monday prior to the event. Registration for the program is appreciated. Please sign up in Spencer Hall or on our website.

News & Events

Guests and Visitors Welcome: We are so glad you joined us in worship this morning. Please visit our Welcome Table in Spencer Hall for a gift and join us for refreshments.

Mission Sunday

Today we welcome several of our mission partners in Spencer Hall following the service. This is be a wonderful opportunity to meet our partners and find out more about their mission.

Women of the Way Winter 2026 study: *Luke in the Land*. Join us as we delve into Luke's accounts of Jesus, through teaching videos that take us to locations in Israel including Jerusalem, Gethsemane, Emmaus and more. The dates are Thursdays through February 26. Coffee 9 a.m. Study 9:30 a.m. Sign up and learn more in Spencer Hall or call Gay Stover at 417.274.6619.

A Season of Music Concert - J. Mark McVey

On Friday, January 30 we are thrilled to present a special concert event, ***Broadway and Beyond***, with Broadway legend and star of *Les Misérables*, J. Mark McVey. The Friday evening concert will include stories and anecdotes of the artist's life woven through a thrilling collection of time honored favorites. Tickets must be purchased in advance and are available on our website (credit card) or at the church office (cash or check). General admission is \$35. VIP tickets are \$50, which includes premium seating and a meet and greet following the concert.

Girl Scouts Cookie Sales During Fellowship Time on February 1

Join us to support our youth in the Girl Scouts on February 1. They will be selling your favorite cookies, and a sampling will be featured during coffee hour in Spencer Hall.

Misión Peniel Work Day

The Mission Committee has scheduled a work day at Misión Peniel in Immokalee on Friday, February 6. We need 8-12 volunteers! We will travel by church bus, leaving at 12:30 p.m., and first visit the Immokalee Fair Housing Authority, so you can get a glimpse at the progress of the housing. Next we will travel to Misión Peniel and prepare food and diaper bags and then distribute the goods to the people of Immokalee. Please wear comfortable shoes. The bus will return at approximately 7:30 p.m. Please sign up in Spencer Hall.

Head Ushers Needed

Looking for a way you can serve your church? Why not consider becoming a head usher in support of our Ushering Program? What is involved you ask? Serve an average of once every four to six Sundays, serve periodically at special activities such as memorial services, concerts and during holiday services. Recruit your ushering team on the Sundays you serve using the listing of members willing to usher. This will be made available to you. You will be provided a printed copy of "Duties of a Head Usher." We really do need your help and are hoping that several members will step forward. Contact any current head usher for further information and, hopefully, your willingness to serve. Pat Bailey 517.563.2142, Caryn and Steve Yarbrough 630.903.3145, Tom Ryerson 630.728.3501, Jack Marsh 239.293.6756, Bill Kearney 239.207.6557.

Stephen Ministry

Are you in need of prayer? Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry we offer at FPCN. Our lay caregivers, called Stephen Ministers, are trained to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are going through a difficult time. To learn more or to pray with a Stephen Minister, visit the Stephen Ministry table in Spencer Hall or contact the church office.

Welcome Back

We welcome back our northern members and friends. Please indicate on the Friendship Pad that you have returned and we will make sure your address is updated in our church records. You may also call or email the church office.

Children, Youth and Young Adult

For information on any of the following gatherings, please contact either Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries or Ashley Hancock, Assistant for Children, Youth and Family Ministries or call 239.262.1311.

Wiggle Room and Nursery

Families with young children are welcome to use the Wiggle Room located outside the Sanctuary. There is also a nursery located upstairs in the Mase Christian Education Building where you can enjoy the church service via live stream while your kids play in our spacious and toy-filled nursery.

Kidz Lab – We invite children from kindergarten to grade 6. Children engage with the same lessons that their parents learn about in church, fostering opportunities for family conversations and reflection after the service.

Youth Group

We meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 4 - 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. This is a fantastic opportunity for youth to connect, grow, and have fun with their peers! Join us for our next gathering on Wednesday, January 28.

Young Adult Group

All young adults are invited to join us today in the Youth Room or via Zoom at noon. Contact Nancy for the Zoom link.

Weekly Bible Studies

Preparing the Way, Adult Sunday School - Join Rev. Rex Childs on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Chapel for sessions based on the New Testament reading on which that day's sermon is based. You can obtain the readings from our Thursday e-blast or by contacting the office.

Women's Ministry Bible Study - **We will not meet tomorrow, January 19.** We will resume on January 26 at 1 p.m. in the Parlor with the current study of the book of Nehemiah. For more information, please contact Janeen McClure at jrmc@airmcclure.com.

HUDDLE - A Men's Bible Discussion Group - All men are invited and encouraged to bring their lunch and gather Thursday at noon in Spencer Hall. This Thursday we will begin studying the book *Luke in the Land*, by Kristi McLelland. In this study we will read ahead for each session. The book is available on Amazon. If you would prefer to participate via Zoom, please contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Giving Opportunities

"The Grace of Giving" is our 2026 Generosity Campaign theme, based on 2 Corinthians 8:7. Thank you so much to all of you who have already submitted your 2026 pledge! We have received 201 pledges totaling \$1.335M, about 77% of our goal. If you have not yet submitted a pledge, you may take a card from the pew or complete one online at www.fpcnaples.org/give.

Financial Snapshot through Dec 31, 2025	vs 2024		
	2025	2024	Fav/(Unfav)
Income - Year to date	3,110,699	2,895,461	215,238
Expenses - Year to date	3,110,610	2,877,151	233,459
Net Income (shortfall) - Year to date	89	18,310	(18,221)

Staff Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone: 239.262.1311</u>	<u>Ext.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ministers			
Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, Interim Senior Pastor		2035	scottk@fpcnaples.org
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor		2027	rexc@fpcnaples.org
Worship & Music			
Dr. Brice Gerlach, Director of Music Ministries		2039	briceg@fpcnaples.org
Taylor Irvan, Sound and Video Operator			
Christian Education			
Jack Fogelman, Kidz Lab Teacher			
Ashley Henning, Assistant for Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2012	ashley.henning@fpcnaples.org
Samantha Sacristan, Nursery Care			
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Office			
Joan Congine, Finance Coordinator		2041	joanc@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Knight, Office Assistant/Receptionist		2000	sandyk@fpcnaples.org
Kathleen Law, Director of Publications and Social Media		2013	kathleenl@fpcnaples.org
Sharman Pfaus, Executive Assistant		2036	sharmanp@fpcnaples.org
Susan Pratt, Coordinator of Membership and Caring Ministries		2037	susanp@fpcnaples.org
Debbie Savage, Executive Director		2042	debbies@fpcnaples.org
Facilities			
Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance		2014	eduardom@fpcnaples.org
Jeff Newman, Director of Facilities		2028	jeffn@fpcnaples.org
Nick Zamagni, Custodian		2016	nickz@fpcnaples.org
Preschool			
Amy Agnew, Preschool Director		2009	amya@fpcnaples.org
Paige Buck, Assistant Preschool Director		2038	paigeb@fpcnaples.org

Prayer List

In an effort to keep the prayer list current, names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks, unless we are notified otherwise. If you wish for a name to be included, please contact the church office.

Marina Anglim	Rick Krinitt	Charles Rice	
Jacob Begelman	Edison Martinez	*Patty Rutzler	The U.S. Military
Ellen Bergendahl	Mary Matvias	Gary Schneider	Stephen Ministers/Care
*Sue Dotson	*Jerry Miller	Austin Schuessler	Receivers
Lucas Eyler	Katherine Miller	Chris Sluder	All serving Missionaries
Dan Gagliano	Roberta Miller	Varsames Family	Central Presbyterian
*Fred Hertel	*Roger Miller	Valerie Walters	Reformed Church, Cuba
*Dee Hook	Ryan Munchel	Carol Ward	
Chuck Hoover	Marilyn Naiman	Nancy Westlund	
Kyler James	Joseph Newman		
Jane Jones	Linda Nickerson	*church member	

Hospital Ministry - If you will be hospitalized or know of someone in the congregation who is, please contact Coordinator for Membership and Caring Ministries, Susan Pratt, or the church office.



Scan the QR code
to visit our website.

250 Sixth Street South Naples, FL 34102
239.262.1311 www.fpcnaples.org

