

First Presbyterian Church of Naples

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



**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 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

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele
(Deck, Thyself, My Soul, in Gladness)

J. S. BACH

THE TIME OF GATHERING

Welcome and Life Together

REV. DR. SCOTT KENEFACE

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 146)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord:

People: Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them.

Leader: Who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

People: The Lord sets the prisoner free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

People: The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,

Leader: But the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

All: The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

*Hymn of Praise #35

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

- Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!*
- Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?*
- Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly for aye we adore him.*

Call to Confession

REV. REX CHILDS

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world. We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions. Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace.

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! Jesus restores our souls and leads us in right paths for his name's sake. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord our whole lives long.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri #580

GREATOREX

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

MELISSA McCLAYTON

Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

PEW BIBLE PAGE 435

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. ⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response

Sevenfold Amen

JOHN STAINER

Scripture Reading

John 9:1-41

PEW BIBLE PAGE 871

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." ¹⁰But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹²They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. ¹⁷So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; ²¹but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²²His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."

³⁰The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. ³¹We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³²Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁶He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind."

⁴⁰Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Affirmation of Faith (*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.31*)

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and shares God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's 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

The Lord is My Shepherd

JOHN RUTTER

The Lord is my shepherd: therefore can I lack nothing. He shall feed me in a green pasture: and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort. He shall convert my soul: and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me. Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me: thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*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 Dedication

GOING FORTH

*Hymn of Commitment #634

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

- To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.*

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he hath done!*

- Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. Refrain.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals
Dr. Brice Gerlach on the Julia Thompson Smith Memorial Pipe Organ

SIGFRID KARG-ELERT

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.

Lenten Devotional

The 2026 Lenten devotional, *Discipleship in a Divided Age: A Lenten Journey through Matthew's Gospel*, is available at the exits or on the Resources page on our website.

Flower Dedication

The Chancel flowers are given by Carleen and Brad Hoffman in loving memory of Harvey "Bud" Hoffman.

Ushers

Jack Marsh (head usher), Barbara Beach, Tedi and Gene Fraley, Sally Jackson, Lucy Koll, Sylvia Marsh, Cheryl Myers, Ali Norris, Kristin and John Purtill, Gay Stover

Greeters

Mary and Jay Chesslo, Pam and Bob Karl

Hospitality Table

Lydia Circle

In Sympathy

We express our heartfelt sympathy to the family and friends of Harry "Bud" Crowl, who died on March 9, 2026. A service will be held in Council Bluffs, IA. Please keep his wife, Anne, and his family in your prayers.

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	Lynn Hertel	Marilyn Naiman	Valerie Walters
Saeed Ansari	*Dee Hook	Joseph Newman	*church member
Frank Antonini	Chuck Hoover	*Ted Rojahn	
Ellen Bergendahl	*Nina Howard	*Patty Rutzler	The U.S. Military
Dawn Bussey	Rick Krinitt	Dave Priatko	Stephen Ministers/Care
Caldwell Family	Edison Martinez	*Sandy Ryder	Receivers
Hudson Davidson	Mary Matvias	Stephen Sacaamuzzo	FPCN Caregivers Support
Tom Davidson	*Jerry Miller	Gary Schneider	Group
Jacqueline Davis	Katherine Miller	Austin Schuessler	All serving Missionaries
Suzanne Dozios	Robert Miller	Joan Sink	Central Presbyterian
Lucas Eyler	*Roger Miller	Chris Sluder	Reformed Church, Cuba
Dan Gagliano	Ryan Munchel	*Joanne & Neil VanDyke	
*Fred Hertel	Elizabeth Murray	Don Webber	

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.

Seekers and Joiners Class

If you are interested in learning more about this congregation, its faith and how we worship, love, grow and serve in the heart of Naples with the love of God, please join us for our Seekers and Joiners class this morning following the worship service in the Parlor. We will encourage you on your journey of faith as we talk about what it means to become a member of First Presbyterian Church of Naples. Informational packets will be available at the class or you may pick one up at the exit doors or in Spencer Hall or at the Welcome Table.

Wednesday Morning Men: Faith and Fellowship

All men are invited to join us on Wednesday, March 18 at 8 a.m. in the Youth Room. Coffee, refreshments and fellowship will precede the program. For more information, please contact Bill Kearney at skearney239@comcast.net.

Lenten Organ Concerts

Each Wednesday during Lent Dr. Brice Gerlach will present a 30-minute concert featuring the spectacular Ruffatti Organ. Following the concert, the audience is invited to tour the pipe chambers.

Sacred Habits—through March 18

This Lenten experience is inspired by the book, *In the Presence of Jesus*, by Paul Bane and Matt Litton. We'll focus on letting go of distractions that cloud our awareness of God's presence. Join us on Wednesdays after the Lenten concerts, from 1-2 p.m. in the Youth Room. Each class stands alone. For information contact Nancy Van Fleet.

Lenten Labyrinth Walk and Lunch

Join us on Thursday, March 19 at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room for a labyrinth class where we'll delve into the history and applications of this ancient symbol of spiritual practice. Following the session, we will take the church bus to the Naples Botanical Garden for a walk through the labyrinth and reflect on the walk during lunch. Admission is included, lunch is self pay. RSVP to Nancy Van Fleet.

Join the Snowball Mountain Team!

Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 22 and we need some team members! There are several opportunities available to help before, during or after VBS. You may sign up in Spencer Hall. Contact Ashley Henning for details.

Name Badges

Please remember to wear your name badge to worship and church meetings. There are a lot of new visitors and regular attendees, so please introduce yourself and welcome our new friends! If you have recently requested a name badge, we're pleased to inform you that they are available in Spencer Hall. If you would like to order a name badge, please fill out the form at the table in Spencer Hall with your information. Thank you.

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.

Guatemala Medical Mission Trip

The next medical mission trip to Guatemala will be April 26 through May 3. If you are interested, please contact Mark Speake at 570.490.3681 or markspeake58@gmail.com. As always, thank you for your tremendous support.

Noteworthy News

Publication Submissions

Please submit all articles and information to be included in the bulletin and/or Outreach newsletter via e-mail to publications@fpcnaples.org. The bulletin deadline is Wednesday at noon. The Outreach deadline is the 15th of the month prior. Please note that all submissions are subject to edits.

Children, Youth and Young Adults

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

Childcare and Wiggle Room – For our young children, we have a wiggle room adjacent to the sanctuary where you can enjoy the service with your child. Childcare is available after the Children’s Time in the Mase Christian Education Center.

Kidz Lab – We invite children from kindergarten to grade 6 to join our Sunday School program, Kidz Lab. 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

On Wednesday, March 25 we will have a Youth Retreat for our students. For more information, please contact Nancy Van Fleet.

Family Newsletter Spotlight

Each week, we send out a family newsletter to keep our families informed of the fantastic events and activities happening at FPCN for our children and youth. Do you want to be part of the fun? Simply e-mail Ashley Henning to put your name on the mailing list.

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 meets each Monday at 1 p.m. in the Parlor. We are currently studying the book of Nehemiah. On March 23 we will begin the study of Galatians. 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. We are currently studying the book of Zechariah. If you would prefer to participate via Zoom, please contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Giving Opportunities

Power Pak Program

The Care Bear resides on the cookie/punch table in Spencer Hall ready to receive your dollars and cents to be used to purchase food for our Power Pak program, which provides meals/snacks for Big Cypress Elementary School students who would not otherwise have enough to eat over the weekend. Contributions to the Power Pak program may also be made online at www.fpcnaples.org/give. Please select Mission-Power Pak Fund. Thank you for your generosity.

The Grace of Giving Campaign

Congregational contributions fund the programs and operations of First Presbyterian Church that we all endorse as part of our mission to worship, love, grow, and serve. Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have already pledged for 2026! If you would like to pledge, visit our website, find a pledge card in the pew racks at church, or contact Joan Congine.

Financial Snapshot through Jan 31, 2026	vs 2025		
	2026	2025	Fav/(Unfav)
Income - Year to date	393,161	330,286	62,875
Expenses - Year to date	252,057	318,813	(66,756)
Net Income (shortfall) - Year to date	141,104	11,474	129,631

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			
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Ashley Henning, Assistant for Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2012	ashley.henning@fpcnaples.org
Samantha Sacristan, Nursery Care			
Office			
Debbie Savage, Executive Director		2042	debbies@fpcnaples.org
Sharman Pfaus, Executive Assistant		2036	sharmanp@fpcnaples.org
Joan Congine, Finance Administrator		2041	joanc@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Knight, Office Assistant/Receptionist		2000	sandyk@fpcnaples.org
Susan Pratt, Coordinator of Membership and Caring Ministries		2037	susanp@fpcnaples.org
Facilities			
Jeff Newman, Director of Facilities		2028	jeffn@fpcnaples.org
Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance		2014	eduardom@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
Publications			publications@fpcnaples.org

Easter Lily Order Form

You are invited to purchase a beautiful lily to decorate our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. The cost is \$25 per plant/dedication. Please PRINT your information and submit this form to First Presbyterian Church, 250 Sixth Street S., Naples, FL 34102. Make checks payable to **First Presbyterian Church**, and indicate "Lily" on the memo. **Deadline for dedications is March 22.**

Note: One dedication per form. Additional forms can be located in the church office or online.
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name of donor(s) _____

Phone: _____ # of Lilies _____ (\$25 each)

In **HONOR** or **MEMORY** of: (circle one)

Please note: this will not be a tax deductible contribution.



Scan the QR code
to visit our website.

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

