



FEBRUARY 18, 2026
ASH WEDNESDAY



**Sleeping with Ashes - An art installation at the Bert Green Fine
Art 2015. Artist, Raeleen Kao**

Prelude: *Body and Soul*
Just a Closer Walk With Thee

Greetings and Announcements

+ Call to Worship

One: At a triumphal moment we unfurl like a palm.

Many: Palms line the roadways of our lives and fan our momentum.

One: Worn and trampled, the palm gives itself to the ash.

Many: The ash is also part of our triumph. Sign us as his people with these ashes.

One: Let us worship God this first night of a lenten journey. Amen.

+ Opening Hymn

When the Saints Go Marching In

Oh, when the Saints go marching in, Oh, when the Saints go marching in, I want to be in that number, When the Saints go marching in.

And when the sun begins to shine, And when the sun begins to shine, I want to be in that number, When the Saints go marching in.

Oh, when the trumpet sound its call, Oh, when the trumpet sound its call, I want to be in that number, When the Saints go marching in.

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

Creator God, we confess our fear of the singe. The singe that cauterizes a wound, our seals split ends together, we fear the superficial but real sting. How we long to understand the right singe as first aid for faith in community. We face the ashes and welcome their mark. We are singed creatures. Into God's holy mystery we pray. Amen.

Solo

It's You I Like

Costa

Epistle Scripture Reading: Revelation 18:16-19 (pew Bible NT pg.256)

Leader: The Word of the Lord. | **People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Evening Prayer

Egil Houland

Now I lay me down in silence, in this still and quiet hour. Sorrow's hold on me is fading, clam'ring voices lose their power. Take this day which now is ended. Let me rest until tomorrow, for I know that you can finish what I found of joy or sorrow. All my harmful thoughts and actions. heal and make them new and wholesome. Take my days and make them over. Come, transform their dust to diamond. Lift them up and bear them from me, I will leave them in your keeping. Lead me, guide me, walk beside me, let me rest as I am sleeping!

+ Gospel Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (pew Bible NT pg.5)

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord. | **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**+ Please
rise in
body or in
spirit.**

Sign and Seal

+ Hymn #433

Sign Us with Ashes

PHOENIX

Imposition of Ashes & Special Music - *Come On Up to the House*

Waits

You are invited to come forward and speak a personal request for your Lenten journey. That request will become the imposition prayer. If you have no specific request, the ashes will be imposed using the phrase "From ashes we all come and it is to ashes that we all return."

+ Affirmation of Faith

We believe in beginnings that are endings and endings that are beginnings. Whether reading or relating, awareness begins and previous paradigms perish. Jesus' growth model cycles us through beginnings and endings. We arrive as we are but cannot help but be affected. We respond into beginnings and endings and the butterfly effect ripples out to our community. Scripture and sacrament anchor us like roots as our Creator God draws us forward to stretch. Gaining and losing is real. The Spirit comforts us in our beginnings and endings. Amen.

+ Benediction

The congregation is invited to sing verse 1 over as they depart the sanctuary.

Recessional Refrain

+ Hymn #775 *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (verse 1)* WALK WITH ME

We want Je - sus to walk with us;

We want Je - sus to walk with us;

all a - long our pil - grim jour - ney,

Lord, we want Je - sus to walk with us.

**Scan and
register your
attendance.**



Music

Trumpet - Charlie Stern

Guitar - Evan Klaras

Jazz Pianist/Soloist - Andrew Hudson

Choir Director/Soloist - Austin Ingalls

Organ - Becky Ward

Staff

Pastor	Leslie King, D. Min. (lking@firstpreswaco.org)
Director of Congregational Life	Taylor Holleyman, Ph.D (tholleyman@firstpreswaco.org)
Operations Manager	Shane Montoya, MBA (office@firstpreswaco.org)
Communication & Design Specialist	Evan Cole (ecole@firstpreswaco.org)
Chancel Choir Director	Austin Ingalls (chancelchoir@firstpreswaco.org)
Handbell Director	Amy Goodman, Ph. D (amy_goodman@baylor.edu)
Organist	Becky Ward, M.M. (vward@hot.rr.com)
Pianist (8:30 am service)	Trisha Anderson (trishaanderson0926@gmail.com)
Nursery Coordinator	Chelley Breemes (bigcatz2000@yahoo.com)
Parish Associate for Theology & Ethics	Dr. Neil Messer (Neil_Messer@baylor.edu)
Church Historian	Katelyn Jaynes, Ph. D (kljaynes204@gmail.com)
Parish Associate for Gerontology	Jim Ellor, D. Min. Ph. D, H.R. (james_ellor@baylor.edu)
Streaming Team	James Karney, Amanda Lassetter, Thomas Munn, Adam Redmer, Mike Vale
Custodian	Adriana Goytortu

Organizational Officers

Clerk of Session	Ken Kuhns
Church Treasurer, Asst. Treasurer	Mark Harren, Donna Black
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Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

Session Committee Members

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Worship Committee	Esther Lee, Meredith Palm

Diaconate Committee Members

Diaconate Moderator/Vice Moderator	Malorie Montoya, Bricker Bruner
Diaconate Secretary	Christine Dennis
Agape Committee	All Deacons
Our Hybrid House	Jeremy Mercer, Dave Reagan, Jen Ferretter, Avery Kerley, Cynthia Perry, Marilyn Harren, Zdzislaw Wieckowski
Power of the Pen	Katie Valenzuela, Scott Wagner, Melanie Cook, Helen Harris, Peggy Graham
Prayer Committee	Drew Risinger, Toni Percivill, John Jovicich, Kathy Jones
Stork Committee	Mike Mcphee, Jerry Barrett, Kevin Bartley
Ushering Coordinator	Wes Field

FIRST PRESBYTERIA CHURCH - WACO, TEXAS

1100 Austin Ave. - Waco, TX 76701 - 254.752.1665 - www.firstpreswaco.org

Church Office Hours: 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. and 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Sunday Services 8:30 A.M. (Weekly Communion) and 10:30 A.M. (Morning Worship)

Pastor - Leslie King

