

MARCH 1, 2026
COMMUNION SUNDAY



St Mary's Church, Alderbury — All-season High Altar frontal designed by Sophie, fabricated by Anna Diamond, and dedicated May 2022. Coordinating stoles by J&M Sewing.

WELCOME HOME, CHILDREN OF GOD



Integrative Method of Worship

There are many styles of worship. At First Presbyterian, our worship style, generally, is a traditional reformed service with liturgy, confession and classic Christian hymnody. Even with our traditional emphasis, we believe that relevant worship in the 21st century provides space for congregants and visitors to do integrative spiritual work. By this, we mean that our daily experiences inform and affect our theology and vice versa. In worship at First Presbyterian, we are striving to integrate experience and theology so that we feel responsive and genuine in our faith as we live our daily lives. Worship planning is anchored and planned around the sermon or the sermon series. Series are planned to address any one of four areas: mission of the church, life of the church family, Biblical literacy and current relevant topics. We strive to be balanced and thoughtful in what is offered for your prayer and reflection. However, because integration and responsiveness are the goal, we will often address sensitive issues. Prayers and confessions are written by our pastor. Our children's Spirit Box time is the opportunity for children to have a choice and voice in worship. We welcome you, as you are, to each worship service at First Presbyterian. Integrative work is not easy. It is not always comfortable, but it is essential to a vital church. Please feel free to reach out to our pastor with your questions.

Statement of Mission

First Presbyterian Church of Waco, Texas, welcomes all as children of God through our worship, outreach, Christian education and congregational life events. By the liberating and compelling grace of God, and in accord with our Reformed theological heritage, we follow Jesus Christ's example by reaching out to seekers and those in need, nurturing disciples, honoring diversity and seeking to reconcile the world to God through ministries of justice and mercy.

If You Are New Here

Stop by our Welcome Center in the Narthex for information. When you are seated, please fill out the Welcome Folder you will find in the pew. After all in the pew have signed, pass it to the center aisle or use the QR code to sign in online.

These May Help During the Service (ask an usher for assistance)

- Large-print hymnal
- Hearing enhancement device
- Worship bags & fidget toys for children in the Narthex "parental discretion with these items, please." Please return the bag after the service.

If You Are in Need of Prayer

You will find prayer cards in the back of the pew. You may place them in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. Your prayers are confidential unless you request otherwise.

Childcare

Childcare is available from 8:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M in room S202.

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude: (8:30) *Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?* Martin
(10:30) *Berceuse* Vierne

+ Please
rise in
body or in
spirit.

+ Call to Worship (Honoring Psalm 71: 17-19)

One: O God, you teach your children from their youth. Your people seek to proclaim your wondrous deeds.

Many: Even to old age and gray hairs, O God, you do not forsake us.

One: God has done great things in the span of generations and in ways that transcend our understanding.

Many: Let us worship our God in Christ. Amen.

+ Hymn #320 *The Church of Christ in Every Age* WAREHAM

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

O God of Wisdom and Grace, we confess our striving to get our understanding of you "right". We confess that in trying to have you "understood", we hold you too rigidly in place. How we long to tune into your dynamic presence revealed in scripture. We long to find our stability in you by recognizing your micro-adjustments for us and your unique responsiveness to us. Ever calling us forward, we praise you for our abiding presence, just as we are. We pray into your mysterious strength. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #341 (10:30) *O God, Show Mercy to Us* THAXTED
O God, show mercy to us, and bless us with your grace;
and cause to shine upon us the brightness of your face.

Declaration of Grace & Sharing of the Peace of Christ

+ Invitation to Our Children (10:30) "*Christ Before Me*" St. Patrick's Breastplate
Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ beside me, Christ within me,
Christ in the face of those who love me.

Spirit Box

God be in my head. God be in my heart. God be on my left. God be on my right.
God be beneath me. God be above me. God be in the faces of all who love me.

We are grateful for last week's giving of \$34,762.45.

On Communion or Baptism Sundays the response to the sacrament is our Affirmation of Faith.

Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.



Prayer of Illumination

Epistle Reading: Revelation 21:1-5 (pew Bible NT pg.259)

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

Anthem

Carol of the Hill

Paulus

On my ground with a crown of thorn, He died for us who for us was born. The tree that flowered was cold and bare; no songs, no singing anywhere; O Bethlehem, ah Jerusalem. Second Adam, son of Man, into my earth your life's blood ran, now from this earth new trees will grow, with fruits, with flowers, I swear it so. For you I shall wear a crown of trees, and birds will sing from among their leaves; O Jerusalem!

+ Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17 (pew Bible NT pg.93)

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

+ Gloria Patri #581 (10:30)

Glory Be to the Father

Gloria Patri

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.

Sermon: Alpha and Omega: Emergence in Death

Leslie King, D. Min.

Offering (10:30)

Meditation on "Resignation" (Psalm 126)

Wall

+ Doxology #606 (10:30)

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

Sacrament of Holy Communion (8:30) *Fracture*

Moccio

(10:30) *Largo*

Dvorak

From "the New World Symphony"

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+ Prayers of Great Thanksgiving

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.

+ Hymn #292

As the Wind Song

WAIKUA TAPU

+ Charge & Benediction

+ Closing Response: (10:30) #753 v.1 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Postlude: (8:30)
(10:30)

Adagio
Trumpet Tune

Grieg
Vivaldi

Sanctuary Flowers

In loving memory of our fathers,
Earl & Charles, and our
brothers, Earl, Chris, and James.

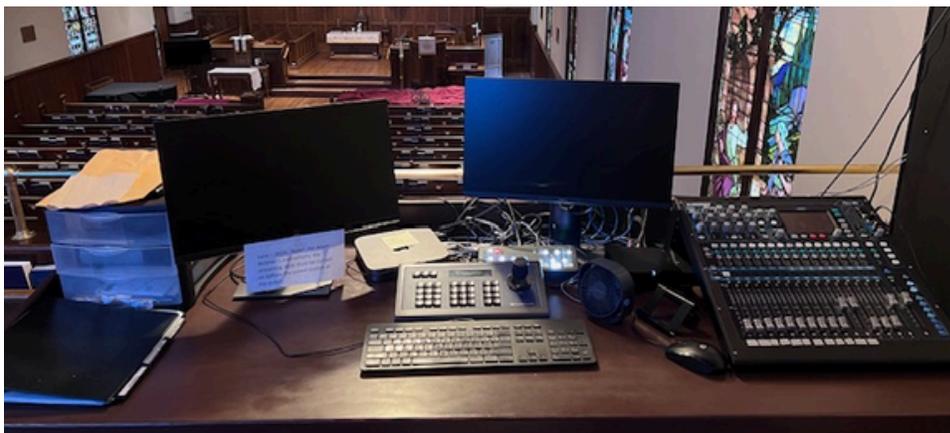
Given by: Mike Farr & Patsy
Norman



Parlor Plants

In celebration of our family
& friends.

Given by: Jim & Janet Ellor



Scan and register your attendance.



Thank you to
Charlie &
Sharon Stern
for hosting
Coffee
Fellowship!

First Pres Waco is looking to expand our streaming operator team for Sunday morning worship. This paid position typically serves twice per month, with additional opportunities for special services. Our current team includes Adam Redmer, James Karney, and Mike Vale. If you're interested, please email office@firstpreswaco.org or call (254) 752-1665. Training will be provided!

UPCOMING THIS WEEK



SUN

1

8:30 A.M.
9:15 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
11:30 A.M.

Worship Service - Hybrid
Christian Formation Classes for all ages
Worship Service - Hybrid
Coffee Fellowship

TUE

3

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

Meals on Wheels - For more information
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305

WED

4

5:30P.M.
6:00P.M.
6:00P.M.
7:00P.M.

Why Is There Suffering?
In The Wings Youth Programming
Bell Choir Practice
Choir Practice

THU

5

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

Meals on Wheels - For more information
contact Charlotte Henderson - (254) 744-3305

FRI

6

6:00 P.M.

Reel Spirituality - Pinewood
2223 Austin Ave B, Waco, TX 76701

SUN

8

8:30 A.M.
9:15 A.M.
10:30 A.M.
11:30 A.M.
5:00 P.M.

Worship Service - Hybrid
Christian Formation Classes for all ages
Worship Service - Hybrid
Coffee Fellowship
Our Hybrid House - Zoom

FIRST PRES NEWS

OUR HYBRID HOUSE



Our Hybrid House is the newest committee of the Diaconate, focusing on enriching our environment for hybrid worship and meetings held on Zoom. We are particularly interested in your opinions and experiences if you are a non-local participant of First Presbyterian. Look for our Hybrid House meeting on March 8th at 5:00 P.M. **Our question will be: What is your favorite blooming plant & what does it reveal to you about life?**



WEDNESDAY IN THE WINGS LINE UP 6-8 P.M.

Join Malorie, Brian & other volunteers Wednesday for our March evening programming.

- Spring Break Hike in Cameron Park
- March 18 - Life is Like A River - Lory Latimer
- Riffing with Brian: Instrumentation, Improvisation & Music



REEL SPIRITUALITY

Join us for Reel Spirituality at Pinewood Public House on March 6th at 6:00 P.M. This month's movie will be Dr. Strangelove.

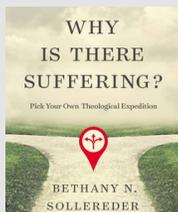
2223 Austin Ave Suite D, Waco, TX 76701



WHY IS THERE SUFFERING BOOK STUDY

Join us for a three-week hybrid study of Why Is There Suffering? by Bethany N. Sollereeder, a conversation-based exploration of theological perspectives on suffering and personal reflection. An evening session meets Wednesdays, Feb. 25, March 4 & 11 from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Chapel Parlor, and a midday session meets Wednesdays, March 11, 18 & 25 from 12:00-1:15 p.m. in Room C201. Led by Leslie King. The book is available on Amazon.

Evening Class
Sign Up



Midday Class
Sign Up



THE COVE - SERVICE SATURDAY

Our next Service Saturday is scheduled for March 28. We will be at the Cove from 9:00 a.m. to noon, helping clean their facilities. The Cove provides support and resources for teens experiencing homelessness. We hope you can join us for this meaningful morning of service!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.FIRSTPRESWACO.ORG
OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @FIRSTPRESWACO



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@hotmail.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
First Presbyterian Church Foundation	President - Chuck Weaver, Carr DuPuy, Carol Miller, Malorie Montoya, Charles Stern
Forman Fund	David Smith, Phil Hering, Cathy McPhee, Patsy Norman, Bob Grayson
Presbyterian Women	Susan Somerville, Sherry Cragen, Mary Lynn Klingman and Sue Young
Sanctuary Guild	Sharon Stern, Michael Muehlenbein
Sanctuary Flowers	Brenda Stephens, Susan Somerville, Kathy Jones
Celebration Way	Cary DuPuy

Session Committee Members

Administration Committee	Lyndon Olson, Roane Lacy, Mike Morrison
Christian Formation Committee	Shannon Field, Anita Karney
Congregational Life Committee	Ryan Joyner, Marsha Alvarado, Kathryn Delk
Facilities Committee	Hunter Harren, Mark Anderson, Christine Miller, James Hill, Bob Cragen
Finance Committee	Donna Black, Phil Hering, Chip Somerville
Outreach Committee	Lenore Wright, Sam Parler, Brenda Stephens
Personnel Committee	Chuck Weaver, Todd Ehlers
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 PRESBYTERIAN 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

