

MARCH 15, 2026
SUDDERTH 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)
(10:30)

Even Home
Prelude in B minor

Mark Miller
Franck

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

+ Call to Worship (Psalm 146: 8-10)

One: We gather to worship the One who sets the prisoners free.

Many: We gather to worship the One who lifts those who are bowed down.

One: We gather to worship the One who loves those who strive toward appropriate righteousness.

Many: We gather to worship the One who watches over the strangers, the orphan, and the widow.

One: Let us worship God who reigns so uniquely. Amen.

+ Hymn #374

O Holy City, Seen of John

MORNING SONG

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

God of the details, we confess that it feels intense to build each stage of our lives. We are concerned about safety and hopeful for courage. We are concerned about scarcity even as we want to believe in abundance. We are in search of the right people, not always feeling adequate ourselves. How we long to honor your truth, that building requires an adaptive vision. Creator God, inform our cavalier attitudes and help our unbelief. May doubt, and bravado be but the beginning of our perception. We offer this prayer into the strength of your Spirit. 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

Elli Burgess

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 \$12,124.56.

Our 2026 Sudderth Sunday fund has raised \$985.60. Help us reach our 2026 goal of \$2,500.

Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.



Prayer of Illumination

Epistle Reading: Revelation 21:15-21 (pew Bible NT pg.255)

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

Anthem

Still, Small Voice

O turn my ear, that I might hear the still, small voice of heav'n. Burst forth in me, that I might be the grace that God has giv'n. Reveal in me the Spirit of God that once you breathed in peace. Disrupt my soul, that I might seek the outcast and the least. Release my heart from comforts that the world, beguiling, gives. Be born in me, that I might help your people grow and live. Creator God! I'll follow 'til the seas of time have run to show the Light of Love to all, from dusk to rising sun. I'll go with you, that I might hear the still small voice of heav'n.

+ Gospel Reading: John 9:1-14 (pew Bible NT pg.102)

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: Measuring Value

Leslie King, D. Min.

+ 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, yet cannot help being 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 are real. The Spirit comforts us in our beginnings and endings. Amen.

Offering (10:30)

The Lone, Wild Bird

Powell

+ 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) *Sanctifying Light*

Southbridge

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 the People

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 #807

When We Must Bear Persistent Pain

PROSPECT

+ Charge & Benediction

+ Closing Response: (10:30) #175

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

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

Notturmo
O Sing to the Lord

Roubos
Childs

Sanctuary Flowers

In memory of our daughter
Emily, for her birthday on March
14th.

Given by: John & Brenda
Stephens



Parlor Plants

In celebration of our family
& friends.

Given by: Jim & Janet Ellor

Scan and
register your
attendance.



**Thank you to
Kevin &
Ashley
Bartley
for hosting
Coffee
Fellowship!**

Palm Sunday

Donate eggs for our Palm Sunday egg hunt at
Whitehall Park. Drop off filled eggs or take eggs from
the bins at the Narthex and Franklin entrances, fill
them, and return.

**Egg Hunt
Sign Up**

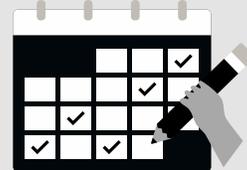


Easter offering

Our goal is to raise \$5,500 for the Heart of Texas
Network for Immigrant Rights (HOTNIR) with our
Easter Offering. HOTNIR organizes volunteers who
provide advocacy, archival, transportation, food, and
legal services for immigrants. Funds given to HOTNIR
help cover legal fees for individuals without a criminal
record that HOTNIR has agreed to support.



UPCOMING THIS WEEK



SUN

15

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

MON

16

5:30 P.M.

Session Meeting - Hybrid

TUE

17

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

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

WED

18

12:00 P.M.
6:00 P.M.
6:00 P.M.
7:00P.M.

Why Is There Suffering? - C201 & Hybrid
In The Wings Youth Programming
Bell Choir Practice
Choir Practice

THU

19

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

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

SUN

22

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

The Children's Choir will perform on Palm Sunday. Please consider bringing your children to practice their music each Sunday (9:25-9:45) in the children's music room C309 during the formation hour.

FIRST PRES NEWS



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 **April 13. Our question will be "Who is a caregiver you remember & what did they teach you?"**.



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

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

- March 18 - Life is Like A River - Damon Boniface.
- March 25 - Riffing with Brian: Instrumentation, Improvisation & Music.
- April 1 - No foolin', no gathering. Gathering instead for Maundy Thursday service on April 2.

HOLY WEEK

- Palm Sunday: March 29, @ 8:30a.m. & 10:30a.m. Easter Egg Hunt @Whitehall Park.
- Maundy Thursday: April 2, @ 6:00p.m. Hand Washing & Communion.
- Good Friday: April 3, @ 6:00p.m. A dramatic service featuring multiple participants.
- Easter Sunday: April 5, @ 8:30a.m. & 10:30a.m. Tacos will be served during the formation hour in Fellowship Hall.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us for Men's Breakfast on Friday, March 20th at 7:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall.



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@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

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 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

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 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

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 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

