

FEBRUARY 22, 2026
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



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) *Love One Another* Owen's
(10:30) *Toccata in d minor* J. S. Bach

The prelude today is the well-known Bach Toccata in d minor. It is a fitting piece for the advent of the Lenten season as it is passionate and moving with a rich depth of harmony and minor tonality.

+ Call to Worship (Psalm 84:1-4)

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

Many: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;

One: my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Many: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts.

One: Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Let us worship God. Amen.

+ Hymn #366 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* HYFRYDOL

Prayer of Confession and Aspiration

God of life and faith, we confess that we can go "underground" to hide. Fearing the demands of life we can deny and refuse. How we long to remember that your underground is for incubation of strength and growth. How we long to embrace the adventure of our behaviors and decisions as a generous harvest for the wide world. We offer our confession and our longing through Christ. 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.

+ Please rise in body or in spirit.

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.

Prayer of Illumination

Epistle Reading: Revelation 18:21-24 (pew Bible NT pg.257)

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

Anthem

Create In Me

Purifoy

Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me, I pray.

Restore to me now the joy of salvation and hold me with Thy free spirit.

+ Gospel Reading: Mark 4:1-11 (pew Bible NT pg.38)

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: Deep Ends Rise

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 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.

Offering (10:30)

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (Hymn #775)

Ferguson

+ 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) *My Jesus I Love Thee*

Forrest

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.

We are grateful for last week's giving of \$4,643.17.

Venmo can facilitate your offering or designated gift.



+ 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 #167

Forty Days and Forty Nights AUS DER TIEFE RUFF ICH

+ 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)

All for Jesus
Yisrael v'oraita

Sprunger
Traditional Hasidic Tune

Sanctuary Flowers

In memory of our mothers:
Dorothy Grayson & Elizabeth
Oatman.

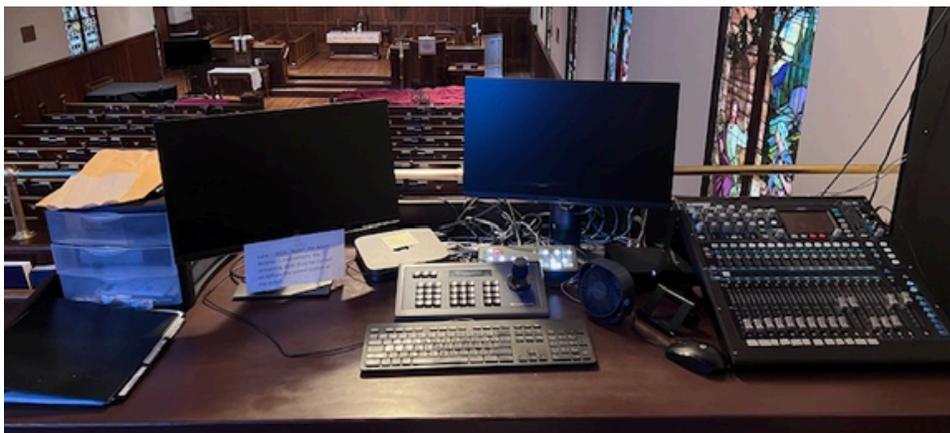


Given by: Bob & Nancy Grayson

Parlor Plants

In loving memory of
Mario Alvarado.

Given by: Marsha Alvarado



Scan and register your attendance.



Thank you to
Charlie &
Kris Olson
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

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

MON

23

7:00 P.M.

Power of the Pen

TUE

24

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.

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

WED

25

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

Facilities Committee Meeting
Youth in the Wings
Bell Choir Practice
Choir Practice

THU

26

8:30 - 11:30 A.M.
9:00 A.M.

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

SAT

28

Together at the Table (Times Vary)

SUN

1

Communion Service
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

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.



WEDNESDAY NIGHTS LINE UP 6-8 P.M.

- February 25 - Caring for our community & neighbors with guest speaker & member Lory Latimer.



REEL SPIRITUALITY

Join us for Reel Spirituality at Pinewood Public House on March 6th at 6:00 P.M.

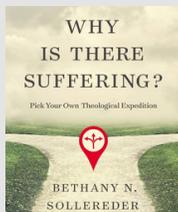
2223 Austin Ave Suite D, Waco, TX 76701



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



FEBRUARY SERVICE PROJECT

For our February outreach service, we will be collecting items for Caritas of Waco. Caritas is a food pantry that began its work in our building. Today, Caritas provides food and emergency services to the community. Scan the QR code to view the full list of needed items.



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

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

