

WORSHIP



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 15, 2026

Responding to God's love and grace, we WORSHIP with joy, NURTURE with faith, and SERVE others with love.

At First Presbyterian Church of Richardson, we believe that God's love is for everyone—without exception. We welcome all people to worship, serve, and grow with us, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental ability, marital status, or economic circumstance. We affirm the worth and dignity of every person as a beloved child of God, created in God's image. As a church rooted in God's grace, we seek to live with open hearts and open minds. We commit to being a safe and affirming space for all, especially those who have been hurt or excluded by the church in the past. In our worship, our leadership, our fellowship, and our service—we welcome you. We see you. We honor your full humanity. You are welcome here. You are not alone. You are loved.



“Fuera ICE” by Nicolette Faison

We Gather Around the Word

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

OPENING VOLUNTARY

“I’m Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger”

Robert J. Hughes
Terry Metzger, Organ

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Alice Hernandez, Liturgist

God loves the field mouse.

God loves the crows that take flight when church bells ring.

God loves the baby, cooing in the back pew.

God loves the child who rocks and claps.

God loves the one with wrinkled hands and soft eyes.

God loves the bumblebees and the tabby cats.

God loves those who walk, crawl, and roll.

**God loves the giant oaks and the evergreens,
standing strong over all of us.**

God loves the young, the impressionable, and the earnest.

There is no bit of creation that God does not love.

So let us worship this good-news God!

Amen.

*OPENING HYMN | #409 “God is Here!”

CALL TO CONFESSION *and* PRAYER OF CONFESSION | *Unison*

*from Leviticus 19:33, Matt. 5:9, Deut. 24:21,
Matt. 19:14, and Isaiah 43:1*

God said, “When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them.”

Holy God, we confess, we have mistreated the immigrants in our land.

Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

We confess, we have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace.

**God said, “When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left;
it shall be for the alien, the orphan, and the widow.”**

We confess, we have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors.

Jesus said, “Let the children come to me, and do not stop them.”

We confess, we have gatekept the good news in unfair ways.

Fortunately for all of us, God also said,

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.”

**Give us courage and strength to embrace our identity and calling
as your beloved children.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

By God’s grace, despite our sin and shortcomings,
we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.

May this good news change our lives!

Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI | #581 “Glory Be to the Father”

*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.*

**Please stand in body or spirit*

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANS

Debbie Rowley

Children of all ages are welcome to join us up front for a brief children's lesson. Children between the ages of 0-kindergarten are then welcome to go to the nursery following the lesson, or return to their seats.

We Proclaim the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 24:17-22

NRSV OT Pgs. 179-180

Matthew 19:13-15

NRSV NT Pg. 21

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

We Respond to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE | #188 "Jesus Loves Me"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

excerpts from The Confession of Belhar

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.

This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,

the communion of saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church

as a community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that God has entrusted the church

with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ.

We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world,

that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker,

that the church is witness both by word and by deed

to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

We believe that God has revealed God's self

as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people.

We believe that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity,

is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged.

We believe that God calls the church to follow God in this;

for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;

God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger,

helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly.

We believe that the church must therefore stand by people

in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things,

that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice,

so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *and* THE LORD'S PRAYER | *Unison*

**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.**

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“God Help the Outcasts”
by Alan Menken
The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director
Terry Metzger, Piano

*DOXOLOGY | #750 “Goodness Is Stronger than Evil”



Good-ness is stron-ger than e - vil; love is stron-ger than hate;
light is stron-ger than dark - ness; life is stron-ger than death.
Vic-tory is ours; vic-tory is ours through God who loves us. us.

We Are Sent Out to Bear the Word in the World

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN | #765 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Gigue”
George Fridiric Handel
Terry Metzger, Organ

*Today's liturgy was adapted from liturgy written by
Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

WEEK AT A GLANCE:

Sunday, March 15

Coffee Class: 9 am, A111
Present Word: 9 am, A109
Children's Sunday School: 9-10:15 am, CE Building
Nursery: 9-11:30 am, CE Building
Worship: 10:30 am, Fellowship Hall
Book Club: 5 pm, Library

Tuesday, March 17

Prayer Group: 6:30 am, Phone
Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 10 am, Library
Staff Meeting & Lunch: 12 pm, Conference Room; Library
Pastor's Bible Study: 4 pm, Google Meet

Wednesday, March 18

Sometimers: 8-11 am
Handbell Rehearsal: 5:45-7:15 pm
Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9 pm

Thursday, March 19

Art Therapy: 10 am, Room A109

Friday, March 20

Friday Faith Sharing & Lunch Bunch: 10:30 am, Library

Saturday, March 21

Taiwanese Ministry Bible Study: 2-4 pm, Library

Sunday, March 22

Coffee Class: 9 am, A111
Present Word: 9 am, A109
Children's Sunday School: 9-10:15 am, CE Building
Nursery: 9-11:30 am, CE Building
Worship: 10:30 am, In-Person & Online

For the full events calendar that includes our Community Partners, please scan the QR code.



Next Week: March 22
Fifth Sunday in Lent
John 8:2-11; Matthew 23:23



the good news is..

rooted in justice, mercy, & faithfulness

Easter Flower Dedications

If you would like to dedicate flowers to a loved one for Easter, please fill out a card and drop it in the offering plate. Dedications due by **Wednesday, April 1.**



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Dinners for 8

APRIL 2 | 6:30 PM



Break bread, pray, and fellowship with other FPCR friends. Hosts will provide a main dish, and others are invited to bring a side or dessert to share.

SCAN HERE TO SIGN UP TO ATTEND OR HOST!



Do You Know Where Your Name Tag Is?

Let's help out Pastor Sarah and wear our name tags every week!

If you need a new name tag, please scan the QR code to let Marilyn know!





Fuera ICE¹⁵

by Nicolette Faison

Inspired by Deuteronomy 24:17-22

16"x20" Acrylic, marker, paper on canvas

They keep taking my neighbors. Chicago and other cities associated with the Democratic party are going through a humanitarian crisis under a fascist regime. Cars are being left vacant on random blocks and parking lots. People are being disappeared while their children are being zip-tied at 3 a.m. We clergy and religious leaders have been shot with pepper spray and rubber bullets while demanding the freedom of our neighbors. No one deserves to live like this. This piece does not truly capture the pain I hold every day, between keeping track of what is happening in Gaza, resisting fascism, and dealing with yet another economic collapse under capitalism.

But let me tell you something good. . . I still believe in humanity. When I watched people in Gaza prepare basic meals to break their fast during Ramadan during a genocide, I saw something good. When local neighbors saw our public vigil for disappeared people and chose to join us for a time of lament, I saw something good. When Colin Kaepernick paid for the independent autopsy of one of the Black men recently lynched,¹⁶ I saw something good. The good is people still choosing to be empathetic and compassionate in times of crisis. That is what Christ calls us to be.

The stranger who enters foreign land is often forced to flee their own home. It is rare for people to risk their entire livelihood and their family for anything other than necessity. For that reason, each portrait has a halo deeming them holy, sacred, and divine. I used sparkling gold paper to break up each distinct image. Look deeply at these portraits. The top left is inspired by the Maasai people, a nomadic group that dwells across borders. The top right image is an indigenous woman and her child, a nod to Mary and Jesus. She has a red palm across her mouth which is a tribute to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and "Two-Spirit" people. The bottom left is a slightly aging man from Mesoamerica. The bottom right is a woman in hijab, which is commonly targeted in Islamophobic spaces. Look at the people some consider to be a threat. Look at our neighbors. Migrants are sacred. Fuera ICE.¹⁷ —Rev. Nicolette Faison

Look

Look deeply at each portrait. What do you feel as you study each face?

¹⁵ The artist originally titled this piece, "F**k ICE," conveying the pain and emotions behind this work of art.

¹⁶ [usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/2025/09/19/colin-kaepernick-independent-autopsy-trey-reed/86244594007](https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/nfl/2025/09/19/colin-kaepernick-independent-autopsy-trey-reed/86244594007)

¹⁷ "Fuera" can be translated to "out" or "away." ICE is an acronym for the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency, which began enacting raids in US cities at the time these resources were created (2025).