

WORSHIP



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of
RICHARDSON

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT | MARCH 8, 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.



Hannah Garrity

“Scarce Abundance” by Hannah Garrity

We Gather Around the Word

WELCOME

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Here’s One (Talk About a Child That Do Love Jesus)”

Traditional Spiritual

Evelyn R. Larter

Terry Metzger, Organ

The American Guild of Organists, in partnership with the Royal College of Organists, celebrates it's annual Woman Composer Sunday today, the 5th annual celebration. A year ago, you heard 2 of AGO's 2025 prize winners and now a 3rd! This traditional spiritual uses a minor key pentatonic-based melody typical of the style. (Don't know what that is? Ask me!)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Alice Hernandez, Liturgist

If you need good news,

settle into this space.

We have good news to share.

If you need a word of hope,

then trust us when we say, there is hope enough to go around.

If you need a glimmer of joy,

then you're in luck!

We have resilient joy abounding.

If you need to feel God's presence in your midst,

then know that this is God's house.

This is the good news of the gospel.

God is here. Love is real. Joy is on the move.

Let us worship our with-us God!

*OPENING HYMN | #12 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

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

Holy God, with you the impossible is possible.

5,000 can be fed.

The blind can see.

The hopeless can find hope.

With you the impossible is possible,

but we are quick to forget that.

We look at our hurting world and tell ourselves that nothing can be done.

We forget that you empowered the disciples to feed the crowd.

We forget that you are always with us.

Forgive our small-minded ways.

Forgive us for doubting that change could ever come.

But even more so, forgive us when we refuse to be a part of it.

With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS | *Responsively*

Family of faith,

no matter how many mistakes the disciples made,

Jesus still washed their feet. Jesus still fed them. Jesus still called them beloved.

The same is true for you and me, so hear and believe this good news:

today is a new day, and once again, we belong to God.

We are forgiven. We are called. We are not alone.

What good, good news. Amen!

**Please stand in body or spirit*

*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.*

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

TIME FOR TINY THEOLOGIANS

Pastor Alice

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.

ANTHEM

“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say”

KINGSFOLD

The Ruth Greer Handbell Choir

Traditional English Folk Song

Becky Lormor, Director

harm. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

For reflection, please see Glory to God 182.

arr. Cathy Moglebust (ASCAP)

This handbell setting was commissioned by members of our church in 2018 to recognize Becky Lormor's 30-year milestone as handbell director at FPCR. The hymn text, by Horatius Bonar, presents three invitations from Jesus: “Come unto me and rest” (Matthew 11:28); “whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst” (John 10:14); “Whoever follows me will... have the light of life” (John 8:12). May God be glorified in our response to Christ's call.

We Proclaim the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 3:20-21

NRSV NT Pgs. 193

Mark 6:32-44

NRSV NT Pg. 41

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Sarah Chancellor-Watson

We Respond to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE | #320 “The Church of Christ in Every Age”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | *Unison*

Excerpted from the Confession of 1967

**God’s sovereign love is a mystery
beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom and goodness.
But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ
by showing power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving sinful men and women.
The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator
who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love.**

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

“Chosen to Serve”
by John Carter
 The Sanctuary Choir, Amanda Hollis, Director
 Terry Metzger, Piano

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

Doxology will be sung twice through

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 | #307 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

“Song of Hope”
by Donald Lee
 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 8 - Daylight Savings Time Begins

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

Monday, March 9

Faith Sharing: 1 pm, Library

Tuesday, March 10

Prayer Group: 6:30 am, Phone
Tuesday Morning Bible Study: 10 am, Library
Pastor's Bible Study: 1:30 pm, Google Meet
Ramadan Dinner: 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, March 11

Sometimers: 8-11 am
Handbell Rehearsal: 5:45-7:15 pm
Wednesday Night Live: 6 pm, Fellowship Hall
Choir Rehearsal: 7:30-9 pm

Saturday, March 14

Session Retreat: 9 am
Taiwanese Ministry Bible Study: 2-4 pm, Library

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, In-Person & Online
Book Club: 5 pm, Library

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



Next Week: March 15
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Matthew 19:13-15; Deuteronomy 24:17-22



the good news is..

protection & care for the vulnerable

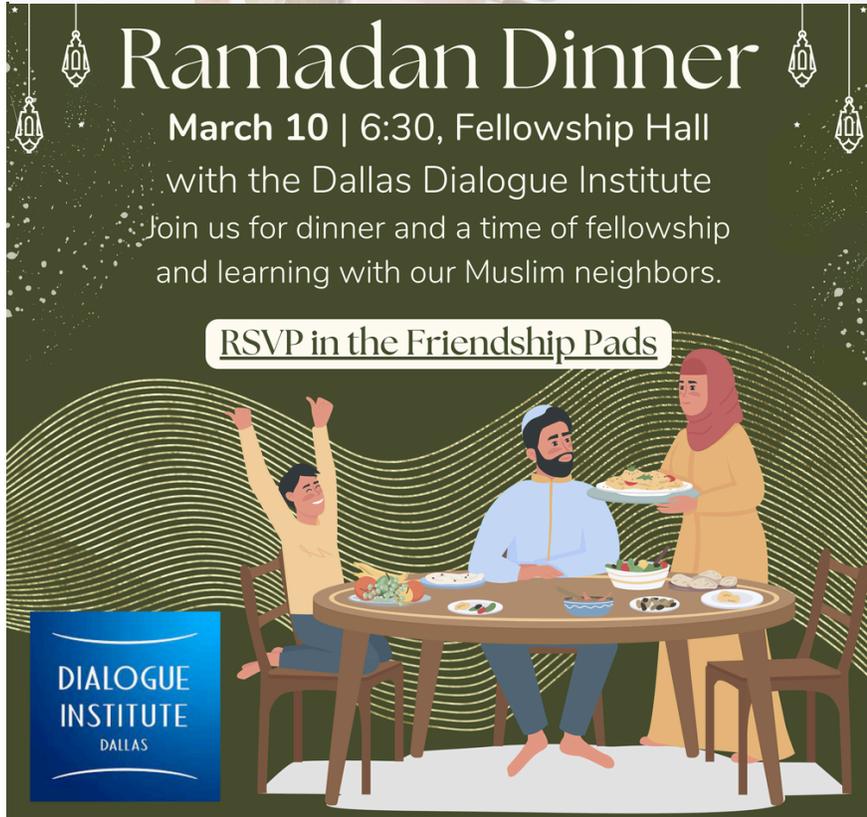
Cents-Ability Sunday

WE WILL BE COLLECTING YOUR LOOSE CHANGE DURING WORSHIP!

Ramadan Dinner

March 10 | 6:30, Fellowship Hall
with the Dallas Dialogue Institute
Join us for dinner and a time of fellowship and learning with our Muslim neighbors.

RSVP in the Friendship Pads



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE

Monthly Dinner & Fellowship

Black Bean and Turkey Chili will be served from 6-7 PM.
Reservations are required!



RSVP in the Friendship Pads. Suggested Donation: \$5/Adult.



Third Sunday in Lent

the good news is... together, the impossible is possible



Scarce Abundance

by Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Mark 6:32-44

18"x18" Paper lace with watercolor

In this account from Mark, Jesus had compassion.¹¹ This word, *splagchnizomai* in Greek, comes from the root *splagchnon* (meaning "bowels") which has a sense of a visceral, gut-level form of compassion. It intrigues me that this deep, embodied compassion prompted Jesus to teach.

Leading up to this moment, Jesus is trying to get away, to rest. His disciples row him toward the people; however, he is compelled by compassion to teach. As he is teaching, I imagine the crowd turning to one another—*What did he say?*—

repeating his words, passing them along.

In this artwork, the elements of the story are framed in a stained glass window design. Centered, the people gather in circles, passing the scarcely abundant food to one another. Waves encircle the crowd, representing the twelve disciples. The outer architectural elements portray the twelve baskets full of pieces of bread and fish—a representation of abundance from scarcity, powered by collective belief.

Jesus did not have a microphone. It was the people in the front who passed the still, small voice of God back to those behind them. It was the people in the front who passed more than enough food back to those who were hungry. In our propaganda-filled global information system, we must remember: God is not holding the mic. God is present in the still, small voice and in the smallest offerings, multiplying one by one. The message, the compassion, the corners of bread, and the pieces of fish all return in abundance. —Hannah Garrity

Look

In the artwork, waves represent the twelve disciples.

Why do you think the artist rendered the disciples this way?