

ASKING IN

FAITH

LENTEN CONVERSATIONS WITH

JESUS

Nicodemus leads us to consider,
what will we risk to be close to Jesus?

First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA

Sunday, March 1, 2026 | 10:30 a.m.

The Second Sunday of Lent

Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dan Snyder

The Rev. Claire George-Drumheller

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music

Matt Weaver, Organist

The Chancel Choir

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE *Two Settings of "Wondrous Love"*

I. Ray Weidner

II. Craig Phillips

WELCOME

INTROIT *Worthy Is the Lamb*

Don Wyrzten

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 121)

ONE: Family of God, from where will our help come?

ALL: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

ONE: Who is our keeper?

ALL: The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.

ONE: How long will God protect us?

ALL: God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore. Let us worship God.

*HYMN #45 *I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes*

DUNDEE

*CALL TO CONFESSION (from Romans 4:4-5)

ONE: We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, even when we are unfaithful, we confess our sins.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: Gracious God, we are in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us. Help us to be born again into the life of Christ. Help us to believe and give us the abundant life that comes from following your way.

(silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (from John 3:16-17)

ONE: Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

Traditional Spiritual

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: "I want Je - sus to walk with me; I want Je - sus In my tri - als, Lord walk with me; In my tri - als, to walk with me; All a - long my pil - grim Lord, walk with me; When the shades of life are jour - ney, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. fall - ing, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me."

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ALL: **Faithful God, your church is listening. Send us your Spirit to give us courage to ask honestly, humility to listen deeply, and faith to trust what you reveal, that we may follow Jesus more closely. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: **John 3:1-17** (pg 71 in the pew Bible)

ONE: The word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

ANTHEM *God So Loved the World*

John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world;
But that the world through Him might be saved.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Adapted from the Barmen Declaration (8.11, 14-15)

ALL: **We believe Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins; in the same way and with the same seriousness, Christ is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through Christ we are delivered from the godless fetters of this world for a free and grateful service to God's creatures. We reject the false doctrine that there are areas of our life that do not belong to Jesus Christ, or in which we do not need his grace. Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear, to trust, and to obey. Amen.**

THE EUCHARIST

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Sanctus

Tillis Butler

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might, —
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: 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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

*Come forward to receive communion elements; the server at the center has gluten-free bread.
 Let ushers know if you prefer to remain seated, and communion will be brought to you.
 You may take communion as soon as you have received the elements.*

Music during Communion ***The Prayer of Simeon***

John L. Bell

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN #634 ***To God Be the Glory***

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE ***Amen***

John L. Bell

POSTLUDE ***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling***

arr. K. Lee Scott

Chancel Flower Dedication

*Chancel flowers are given in honor of and with thanks for our four children,
Kristin, Andrea, Gretchen, and Brett, and their children,
Aidan, Bethany, Blaine, Avery, Sidney, Elle, and Addison by Bob and Dotty Larson*

Welcome, Visitors!

We would love to reach out and say hello! Write your contact information on the back of the orange prayer cards or leave your email address at the Visitor's Table. We are grateful you have joined us for worship and hope you will come back again soon and often.

Zoom Connect Group

March 11 & 25 | 7:00 p.m.

Join Tom and Connie Paisley during Lent for a 60-minute Zoom gathering featuring Lenten conversation and reflection.

Use QR codes to register or email Beth in the church office:
beth@fpclancasterpa.org



March 11



March 25



Palm-Passion Sunday, March 29

9:00 a.m. Shirk Hall & 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

LCTV & YouTube

Palm-Passion Sunday is a day of drama and paradox, triumph and tragedy as we hear the crowd's shouts of "Hosanna!" turn to demands for Jesus to be crucified. Even during the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the cross is in sight.

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 2

7:00 p.m., Shirk Hall

On Maundy Thursday, we remember the new commandment that Christ gave us, that we love one another as Christ has loved us. We also celebrate the Lord's Supper, remembering the final meal Christ shared with his disciples before his death.

Good Friday Tenebrae, April 3

7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Good Friday marks the day Jesus was crucified. "Tenebrae" means shadows, and as we hear the story of Jesus' journey towards death, the shadows lengthen and the lights grow dim.

Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Sunday, April 5

9:00 a.m. Shirk Hall &

10:30 a.m. Sanctuary

LCTV & YouTube

On Easter Sunday we celebrate the great mystery of our faith—that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead.

CARE MINISTRY



Tuesday, March 17 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.
in the FPC Chapel

Join us for an evening of food, fellowship, and meaningful conversation.

Mary Schreiber of Willow Valley Communities will help us explore, "What does a church community look like when it effectively supports families who are walking alongside a loved one with dementia?"

Whether you're already part of our Care Ministry or simply interested in learning more, this is a wonderful opportunity to connect, share, and grow together. All are welcome!

Use the QR code to RSVP or contact Beth Horst: beth@fpclancasterpa.org



EASTER LILY FLOWER DEDICATIONS

PLANTS WILL BE DISPLAYED ON EASTER SUNDAY, IN BOTH THE SANCTUARY & SHIRK HALL.

YOU CAN TAKE YOUR PLANT(S) FOLLOWING THE SERVICES THAT DAY.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

YOU CAN ALSO EMAIL YOUR DEDICATION TO INFO@FPCLANCASTERPA.ORG



GIVEN BY: _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

OR

IN HONOR OF _____

\$20 PER PLANT DEADLINE: MARCH 20

PAYMENT:

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ("EASTER LILY" IN THE MEMO LINE)

ONLINE PAYMENTS MAY BE MADE THROUGH REALM: UNDER THE "GIVING" TAB SELECT

"FLOWER FUND" IN THE FUND DROP-DOWN LIST AND "EASTER LILY" IN THE MEMO LINE.

Mission Opportunities

Power Packs Project

Tuesday, March 10

9:00-11:00 a.m.

Greenfield Park, 1915 Olde Homestead Lane, Suite 102, Lancaster

We need 15-20 volunteers to help pack bags. Join us and bring a friend!

Contact Patti Overly to volunteer: patti@fpclancasterpa.org

Crispus Attucks Food Pantry

Wednesday, March 11 and 25

12:45-3:45 p.m.

Carpool from the church at 12:30 p.m.

Contact Patti Overly to volunteer: patti@fpclancasterpa.org

Rise Against Hunger Food Packing Event

Sunday, March 22 in Shirk Hall at 11:35 a.m.

Set up help needed at 10:00 a.m.

All ages welcome! We will combine rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and a packet of 20 vitamins and minerals into 10,000 life-changing meal packages that will be transported to schools in Honduras.

Ways to Give: Mission Giving



Our Mission Partners in the first quarter are nonprofits that support those of our community experiencing food insecurity.

Power Packs, based in Lancaster, provides free ingredients and recipes for weekend meals, as well as pantry staples such as peanut butter and cereal, to low-income students and their families.
www.powerpacksproject.org

Anchor Lancaster, based in First United Methodist Church in downtown Lancaster, provides free, hot breakfasts, showers, laundry services, a day shelter and other services to low-income people.
www.anchorlancaster.org

Rise Against Hunger, based in Raleigh, NC, provides free meals to the needy in 41 foreign countries, including Honduras, where it works with the Lancaster-based Central American Relief Effort (CARE), which has close ties to FPC.
www.riseagainsthunger.org

Loose Offering Plate Collection

On communion Sundays, the loose offering plate collections go to the Deacons' Emergency Relief Fund, which is used to support at-risk individuals in our church and community.

SUMMER CHORAL CAMP

For rising 3rd-12th grade students
(2026/2027 school year)

JUNE 22-26 / 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

at First Presbyterian Church / 140 E Orange St / Lancaster



A day camp for students who love music and want to explore and develop their musicality in a fun choir setting



Family Ministry



Katie Kindig
Director of Family Ministry

Sunday Mornings

The Nursery

Suggested for 6wks up to 4yrs

Second Floor, open 9:00-11:30 a.m. / Professional Staff

Nursery students engage in free-play, a short Scripture lesson and organized activity time.

We ask that you assist with your student's hand-washing upon arrival. We have hand sanitizer stations as well.

A nut-free snack is provided. Please bring a labeled water bottle and alternative snacks if needed. A changing table, with quiet room are also available.

Note: No Worship Arts this week. Students are encouraged to worship with their families on Communion Sundays.

Worship Arts Faith Formation

Suggested for 4yrs through grade 7

Worship Arts begins with a combined lesson and then splits to separate age-appropriate groups to study. A peanut free snack is offered.

Taught by FPC volunteer teachers, we study Scripture through reading, dramatic play, storytelling, and song.

Students begin worship in Shirk Hall (9:00 a.m.) OR the sanctuary (10:30 a.m.) with their families.

Teachers will escort students who wish to participate in Worship Arts to the upper level following the "Worship Arts Blessing."

Parents attending the 9:00 a.m. service - Students will be escorted back to you before the end of the service.

Parents attending the 10:30 a.m. service - Students will return to the sanctuary at the end of worship or can be picked up in the lobby.

Youth Ministry

Designed for grades 7-12 and led by Family Ministry staff and volunteers.

March 1—Selah (pause and rest), no youth group

March 8—Service project: assemble shower packs for the Anchor program, followed by study, prayer, games, and snacks, at FPC, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

March 15—Study and day retreat to Gretna Glen retreat center, 2:30-4:00 p.m. Pick-up & drop-off at FPC. Dress for both indoor and outdoor activities.

March 22—Service Sunday: *Rise Against Hunger*, in Shirk Hall, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Pizza provided

March 29—Event at Urban Air, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Pick-up & drop-off at venue, 2040 Bennet Ave., Lancaster. Suggested cost: \$40/pizza and drink provided. RSVP to katie@fpclancasterpa.org

Celebrating Children at FPC

Dear parents of young children,

Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house! All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for little ones to see and hear what's going on. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, ushers, musicians, etc.

Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember, the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know they are at home in this house of worship.

Dear church members,

The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing.

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

Online prayer request here:



Guest WIFI Password:
Welcome2FPC

Large-print hymnals are available. Please alert an usher or greeter if you would like one for today's service.