

ASKING IN

FAITH

LENTEN CONVERSATIONS WITH

JESUS

First Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA

Sunday, March 8, 2026 | 10:30 a.m.

The Third Sunday of Lent

Leading in Worship Today

The Rev. Dan Snyder

The Rev. Claire George-Drumheller

Chris Snyder, Worship Host

MUSIC

Dr. William Wright, Director of Music

Matt Weaver, Organist

Stephan Englehart, Jovanne Cortez, vocal soloists

The Chancel Choir

**The Samaritan woman makes us wonder,
does Jesus know us?**

** Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE *Selections from Eleven Chorale Preludes*

Johannes Brahms

I. Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele

II. O Gott, du frommer Gott

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 95)

ONE: People of God, why do we gather?

ALL: We come to sing to the Lord, the rock of our salvation.

ONE: How shall we approach the Lord?

ALL: With thanksgiving and joyful songs of praise.

ONE: What does God hold in care?

ALL: The depths of the earth and the heights of the mountains; the sea and the dry land belong to God.

ONE: Who are we?

ALL: We are the people of God's pasture, the sheep of God's hand.

ONE: Together we listen for God's voice.

ALL: Together we open our hearts in trust. Let us worship God.

*HYMN #386 *Come, Worship God*

O QUANTA QUALIA

*CALL TO CONFESSION (from Romans 5:5)

ONE: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sin.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: God of love, we need your transforming grace. Too often we use our words to sting rather than encourage. Too often our actions cause harm instead of promoting healing. Too often our indifference lets injustice persist. Our hearts yearn for you, yet we do not imitate you in our lives. We scorn those who are different from us, and we relish our own comfort. Forgive us, God. Give us your living water, that we might tell the world all you have done for us.

(silent confession)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (from Romans 5:8-10)

ONE: This is the good news of God's grace: though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Once we were lost and dead, but now Christ has become our life and our salvation.

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

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.

WORSHIP ARTS BLESSING

Children through 7th grade can meet their Worship Arts teachers at the front of the sanctuary.

God be with you here.

God be with you there.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

And Can It Be?

Dan Forrest

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
 Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?
 Amazing love! How can it be, that Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

He left His Father's throne above so free, so infinite His grace,
 Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race:
 'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for O my God, it found out 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 4:5-42** (pg 72 NT in the pew Bible)

ONE: The word of the Lord.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*HYMN #494

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

QUEBEC

*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.**

ANTHEM

Thou Wilt Keep Him in Perfect Peace

Samuel Sebastian

During this time of music, you are welcome to come forward to present your offerings, to leave a prayer request, or to light a candle as a symbol of your prayer.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee.
The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the night is as clear as the day.
The darkness and the light to Thee are both alike.
God is light and with Him is no darkness at all.
Oh let my soul live and it shall praise Thee.
For Thine is the Kingdom, the power and the glory, for evermore.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

*HYMN #476 ***Crashing Waters at Creation***

CRASHING WATERS

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE ***Jesus, Lamb of God***

Franz Schubert, arr. Richard Proulx

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.

POSTLUDE

King's Lynn

English melody, arr. Dale Wood

Music and lyrics in this bulletin are reprinted by permission from the copyright holders under ONE LICENSE #A-724791 and CCLI #3475992. All rights reserved.

Chancel Flower Dedication

*The flowers today are given by Janet White, in loving memory of her parents,
Rose Marie and Kenneth White.*

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.

LENT

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.

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

Easter Small Groups

Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. This Easter season, engage Scripture and build community by joining one of our 4-week Small Groups. Groups will meet during the weeks of April 5, April 12, April 19, and April 26, and discussions will focus on Scripture passages for the upcoming Sunday and the impact of Easter on our lives of discipleship.

Men's Group @ the Richards'

The Richard Family Home (address will be sent to registrants)

Mondays, 6:00 p.m. (4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 4/27)

Josh Richard and Dan Snyder, co-leaders

Women's Small Group

Thornhill Winery Tasting Room (1945 Fruitville Pk.)

Tuesdays, gather at 6:30 p.m.; study at 7:00 p.m. (4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28)

Carol Aastad, Linda Cushman-Baugh, Carol Lytch, & Jan Masland, co-leaders

Thursday Morning Men's Group

FPC Library

Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 a.m. (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)

Dan Snyder, Leader

Women's Bible Study

FPC Community Arts Annex (Room 1)

Thursdays (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)

9:30-10:00 a.m., gathering; 10:00-11:00 a.m., study

Alison Mekeel & Donna Wilcox, co-leaders

Willow Valley

North Activity Room & North Auditorium

Thursdays, 1:00-2:00 p.m. (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)

Claire George-Drumheller and Beth Horst, co-leaders

*Open to all! Group communications will include location details

Thursdays on Zoom

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. (4/9, 4/16, 4/23, 4/30)

Millard & Carolyn Fisher, co-leaders



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

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.

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 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,

12:30-4:00 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.

Guest WIFI Password:
Welcome2FPC

Online prayer request here:



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