

*Service for the Lord's Day*

*March 8, 2026*

*Third Sunday in Lent*

*Preparation*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE "In Green Pastures" Harold Darke

WELCOME, JOYS, AND CONCERNS Kent Earle

LENTEN INTROIT "God So Loved the World" R. Steven Branyon

God so loved the World that He gave His only Son, that whoso'er believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

LENTEN LITURGY

I gave you a royal scepter, and bestowed the keys to the kingdom, but you have given me a crown of thorns. I raised you on high with great power, but you have prepared a cross for your Savior.

**Lord, have mercy.**

NAILING OF THE CROSS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

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!**

† HYMN 12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" (v.1-4) St. Denio

† CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends, we are like the disciples. The day that Jesus fed 5,000, his disciples could not imagine a solution to the crowd's hunger. They told Jesus to send the crowds away. We often do the same. Like the disciples, we try to follow Jesus around, but when we run into issues, we often cannot imagine how we could play a part. That is why we need the Prayer of Confession. For in this prayer, we remember that we can make a difference. So friends, join me in this moment of truth telling. Join me in prayer:

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**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.**

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Family of faith, hear the good news: 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!**

† RESPONSE 577 "Lord Have Mercy"

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also, with you.**

As God's forgiven people, let us pass the peace of Christ to one another.

*Proclamation*

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Alice Smith

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Holy God, we could press our ear to the page, hoping to hear you more clearly. We could silence all the alarms and notifications, hoping to catch a murmur of your voice. We could still our beating hearts, and still we might miss your voice. So today we pray, open up space in our hearts, in our spirits, in our minds, to feel your presence among us. With you, anything is possible. We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Ephesians 3:20-21

ANTHEM "To Thee, O Jesu" Joseph W. Clokey  
(Solist, Caroline Richardson)

To Thee o Jesu, I direct my eye, To Thee my hands, To Thee my humble knees; To Thee my heart shall offer sacrifice; To Thee my thoughts, who my thoughts only sees; To Thee myself and all I give; To Thee I die; To Thee I only live.

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 6:32-44

MESSAGE "Together, the Impossible is Possible" Rev. Nick Setzer

† HYMN 317 "In Christ There Is No East or West" (v. 1-4) McKee

*Dedication*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "Prelude in G" Henry Coleman

During this time you are invited to come forward with your "Good News Leaf" and place it on the tree.

† DOXOLOGY 606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

† OFFERTORY PRAYER

You have shown us, O God, the sacrifice that you desire. Now use these gifts—and use our lives—to liberate the oppressed, to break the bonds of injustice, to feed the hungry, welcome the poor, and unite the human family; all in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION *Come forward through the inner aisle to be served at the table.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

† HYMN 761 "Called As Partners In Christ's Service" (v.1-4) Beecher

† BENEDICTION

† CHORAL BENEDICTION "Jesus, We Just Want to Praise You"  
(Sung by all) William J. Gaither

Jesus we just want to praise You. Jesus, we just want to praise You. Jesus, we just want to praise You. Praise You for bringing us love.

† POSTLUDE "Improvisation on "McKee" R. Steven Branyon

We welcome Caroline Richardson, a Sophomore Music Major minoring in Creative Writing and Outdoor Leadership at Winthrop University. She is happy to be here singing in such a lovely venue.

Pastor Nick will be attending the Luminosity Conference in Orlando, FL this week. The Luminosity Conference is presented by the Presbyterian Foundation for pastoral leadership to innovate, inspire & illuminate church leaders for the challenges of today's world. We will welcome Rev. James Platt to the pulpit next week. Rev. Platt is a York native and child of Bethesda Presbyterian Church. He is currently retired, but most recently served Ramah and Beersheba Presbyterian.

SPRING FAMILY RETREAT AT MONTREAT! Next Weekend! March 13, 14 & 15 "We Are God's Hands & Feet" is our theme this year.

This is a great opportunity for our church family to enjoy the outdoors, fellowship, spiritual renewal and sharing together. It's not too late to join us! We will have a brief pre-retreat meeting in the parlor following worship today.

SUMMER OF 2026 DATES FOR MONTREAT CONFERENCES ARE SET!

Youth Conference at Montreat July 11-18 (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

Middle School Conference at Maryville College July 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)

Please put these dates on your calendars for next summer now! We have lots of youth who are eligible to go!

Join us for FEAST this Wednesday, March 11. We will have spaghetti for the meal provided by Mission Committee. Then following dinner, we will have a representative from Frontero de Cristo speak. (See the March newsletter for complete information about the remaining FEAST gatherings.)

SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE IS OUR THEME FOR 2026

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JUNE 22-25. FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD. "I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH HIM WHO STRENGTHENS ME"

(PHILIPPIANS 4:13) We will have a planning meeting March 22 3-4:30pm

Presbyterian Women are now accepting applications for the 2026-2027 Iva Bryson Barnwell and Kitty Sandifer Scholarship. This opportunity is for all rising and current college and graduate students. Please contact the church or Liz Ann Hill ([lizannahill15@gmail.com](mailto:lizannahill15@gmail.com)) for an application and to ask any questions. The applications are **due by APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>!**

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS** Thank you for joining us today. We're glad you're here and hope that you'll experience God's love as we worship together. If you would like to know more about us, please call our church office (684-2356) and ask to speak with our pastor. May God's peace be with you.

**OUR PRAYER CONCERNS:**

All caregivers, Justin Snipes (son of Melissa & Patrick Young & grandson of Micky & Joe Howe), Matt Bozarth (Friend of Leigh Dayton) that is suffering from a rare cancer), Wayne McCormick, Jr., Mark Good (Friend of Jody Templeton has cancer), Gloria Ludwig (Stacey Walden's grandmother), Leigh Dayton, Shane Vickery (friend of Jake Walden) Joe & Mickey Howe, Archie Buchanan, Jim Ballard (Brother in law of Ann Lee), Robert Clewis (Shelia Herron's son), Danny Allman (19 yr. old nephew of Mike Allman), Jackson (friend of the Waldens), Bill Herron(Leukemia), Donna Jo McKinney Ferrell and Jane McKinney Bolin (have cancer, they are nieces of Brenda Brandon), Lauren Bolin (niece of Terri Bratton) had twins, the twins are home & doing well, Chip Lee (father of Bethany James), Patti Whiteside (Joanna Setzler's step mom) recovering from broken hip, Randy Street (son in law of Jane Ratliff heart transplant), Jim Bolduc (Surgery), Lorraine Stewart, Mike Allman, Sr. (brain cancer), Linda Lee (sister in law of Eddie & Ann Lee injured in auto accident), Bruce Richardson (friend of Jake Walden) & Jody Templeton (Surgery)

**RETIREMENT/NURSING HOMES-HOMEBOUND**

Barbara & Bob Falls, Jane Spratt & Lorraine Stewart

**FLOWERS:** The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the Hill Family in memory of Judy Moore. Judy was a wonderful neighbor, friend & valued church member. She will be greatly missed by all!

<b>LITTLE DISCIPLES</b> 8 Jamie Caveny 15 No Little Disciples	<b>NURSERY</b> Angie Pratt Anna Templeton	<b>BOB DRAGNER BLANKET DRIVE</b> We will be collecting blankets thru March. Leave donations in the PATH boxes.
<b>ACOLYTES</b> 8 Aubrey Walden/James Caveny 15 Kemp Hall/Oscar Setzer	<b>CROSS BEARER</b> Ryleigh Walden Elizabeth Hiott	

The 2026 flower calendar is open. Anyone who would like to (sponsor) the flowers during the coming year please contact Ree Dillon at 803-526-1098. Open months are July, September and November.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** This is one of three annual Churchwide Special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) received during the season of Lent, each gift to OGHS helps to improve the lives of people in challenging situations such as disaster, hunger, poverty, climate change, and immigration/migration and refugees The offering can be put in the envelopes provided. Please put OGHS on memo line of your check. We will collect for this offering until Easter (April 5)

**SET UP FOR HEARING AIDS TO CONNECT TO SANCTUARY AUDIO**  
**Scan:** the QR code above to download the ListenWiFi app  
**Connect:** your phone to the Wi-Fi Network  
 FPCOY\_AL\_Audio-5G Password: fpc\$2356  
**Open:** the ListenWiFi app  
**Click:** "Venue Scan" on the app and the audio will connect to your device  
**Listen:** Make sure your phone is paired to your bluetooth headphones or hearing aid.



**CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK**

- Sun. 3-8 8:30am PWCT**  
9:00am Finance Committee  
9:30am Family Life Committee  
10:00am Adult Sunday School  
11:00am Worship/Communion  
12:00pm Pre-Retreat Meeting following Worship in the Parlor
- Mon. 3-9 6:00pm Ladies Bible Study**  
8:00pm AA
- Tues. 3-10 7:45am Sr. Highs at Southern Touch**  
10:30am Shellem Cline Concert  
6:00pm Grief Share
- Wed. 3-11 2:30pm KFC @ Trinity**  
5:30pm Congregational Care  
6:00pm FEAST  
6:00pm Choir Rehearsal  
8:00pm AA
- Fri. 3-13 Family Retreat at Montreat**
- Sat. 3-14 Family Retreat at Montreat**
- Sun. 3-15 Family Retreat at Montreat**
- Sun. 3-15 9:00pm Mission Committee**  
10:00am Adult Sunday School  
11:00am Worship

The Shellem Cline concert is this Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. We are the host church. Bring a covered dish and invite your friends! Be a supportive church member!

<b>BOOK CLUB</b> APRIL 21 <sup>ST</sup> AT 6:30PM The book that we will be reading is "The Correspondent" By Virginia Evans. Please join us! All are welcome!	<b>PATH NEEDS:</b> Cereal and canned meats like Vienna sausages, chicken, tuna, etc. Please leave them in the PATH boxes at the back door parking lot.
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**Session Members & Their Committees**

Liz Ann Hill...Clerk & Personnel & IT	Rick Beard.....Property
Jenny Hill.....Asst. Clerk & Family Life	Pete Carroll....Property
Eddie Lee....Worship & Personnel	Donna Langford..Cong. Care & PW
Ronnie Bailes..Finance & Personnel	Sonya Kent....Congregational Care
Melissa Allman....Family Life & Personnel	Jamie Caveny..Family Life
Lynn Leake...Worship	Jay Leake.....Property
Christopher Black..Personnel & Finance	Shawn Jarrett...IT
Debbie Lowe...Congregational Care	Jake Walden...Mission/Evangelism
David Dickson..Mission/Evangelism	Neil McWhorter...Finance
Angie Pratt....Mission/Evangelism	Tom Setzler....Congregational Care

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<http://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianYork>  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstPresbyterianChurchYorkSC>

To tithe or give online, scan the code below with your smartphone.




*First Presbyterian Church*  
 York, South Carolina  
 March 8, 2026  
 Third Sunday in Lent

*Faithfully serving God and Community*