



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
February 26, 2023
8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



To know Christ, to make Him known and to exhibit His love through worship, education and service.

WORDS OF PREPARATION

“But the spirit of truth does not seek comfort. The purpose of Lent is not to escape the conscience, but to create a healthy hatred for evil, a heartfelt contrition for sin, and a passionately felt need for grace. This continuous movement of faith from a sense of sin to grace and forgiveness ends only when the spirit is ultimately released.”

~ Edna Hong

ORDER OF WORSHIP

†VOLUNTARY

Aria: Andante sostenuto from Concerto for Trombone, op. 45
Lars-Erik Larsson

WELCOME

INTROIT

O Lord, Open Thou Our Lips
Richard Webster

O Lord, open thou our lips and our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*CALL TO WORSHIP | based on Isaiah 43:19-21

Dr. Sandra Randleman

Pastor: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

All: We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.

Pastor: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

All: We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!

Pastor: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

All: We praise God for the grace that has saved us. Alleluia! We rejoice!

*†OPENING HYMN 1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty
NICAEA

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Tara Thomas (8:30)
Julia Wilk (11:00)

FIRST LESSON | Romans 5:12-19 (page 942)

¹² Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— ¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man’s trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the result of that one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, because of one man’s trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. John Musgrave

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | Dietrich Bonhoeffer

O God, early in the morning I cry to you. Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you: I cannot do this alone. In me there is light; I am lonely, but you do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help; I am restless, but with you there is peace. In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience; I do not understand your ways, but you know the way for me. Restore me to liberty. Forgive me Lord. In your great mercy, cleanse me and wash me and make me whole. Lord, whatever this day may bring, your name be praised. Amen.

A moment for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE 634

To God Be the Glory
Crosby/Doane

**To God be the glory; great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory: great things he has done!**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Whether you are a longtime member or a guest, please mark your presence by signing the friendship pad and greet those seated near you as you pass it along.

‡BLESSING OF THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

‡ *During the services, PreK and Kindergarten children (ages 4–6) are invited to join Young Children & Worship.*

HYMN OF PREPARATION 166

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days
ST. FLAVIAN

SCRIPTURE READING | Acts 14:8-23 (page 923)

⁸ Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked. ⁹ He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well, ¹⁰ said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he sprang up and began walking. ¹¹ And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian,

“The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!”¹² Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.¹³ And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.¹⁴ But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out,¹⁵ “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.¹⁶ In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways.¹⁷ Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”¹⁸ Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.¹⁹ But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead.²⁰ But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.²¹ When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.²³ And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Pastor: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

The Gospel in a Pluralist World

Dr. Ryan Moore

“... you should turn from these vain things to a living God...” ~ Acts 14:15

OFFERTORY

O Sacred Feast

Healey Willan

O Sacred Feast, wherein Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed in us, our souls are filled with grace, and the pledge of everlasting glory is given unto us. Alleluya.

As you reflect on the Lord's goodness, you can make an offering by dropping your gift in the offering plate, texting "GIVE" to 707-475-3005, or donating online at fpcnashville.org.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Dr. Stuart Gordon

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

All: It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion at First Presbyterian Church is offered to all baptized Christians and will be served today by intinction. When your row is called, come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it into the cup, and receive both elements together. All bread is gluten free and the cup is juice.

ANTHEM

Your Only Son

LAMB OF GOD

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God. *O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God! O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.* Your gift of love, we crucified; we laughed and scorned him as he died; the humble King we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God. *Refrain.* I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God. *Refrain.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*CLOSING HYMN 450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

A Blessing

James Chepponis

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

* *Those who are able, please stand.*

† *Latecomers may be seated.*

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE

Ryan Moore, PhD – *Pastor*

Stuart Gordon, DMin – *Sr. Associate Pastor for Christian Formation & Witness*

John Musgrave, DMin – *Parish Associate*

Sandra Randleman, DMin – *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Missions*

Raphael Bundage, DMA – *Director of Music*

Peter Rogahn, DMA – *Organist and Assistant Director of Music*

Rhonda Swanson, MM – *Assistant Organist*

Greg Swanson – *Trombone*

MUSIC NOTES

Aria: Andante sostenuto from Concerto for Trombone, op. 45, Lars-Erik Larsson Carl Gehrman's Musik, Stockholm, © 1957.

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COVER IMAGE

Paul and Barnabas at Lystra by Nicolaes Pieterszoon Berchem (1621/1622–1683), Musée d'Art et d'Industrie de Saint-Étienne, France.

NEWS & EVENTS

History, Politics and Religion | Tuesday, March 7 | 7:00 p.m. | Gathering Place

You're invited to a conversation with our ancestors in the faith: those who wrote the Heidelberg Catechism (Germany) and the Westminster Catechism (England). Stuart Gordon will moderate a group discussion about the convictions expressed in those documents, chiefly the conviction that Christian citizens have a duty to act for the well-being of their fellow citizens. In our generation, we are not accustomed to hearing claims upon our duties. This is the second monthly installment of History, Politics and Religion, a year-long effort to improve our ability to engage differences and enhance our witness as Christian citizens. If you would like to take part and have not previously done so, contact Stuart at sgordon@fpcnashville.org. Snacks and childcare are provided. Contact Amy (acoleman@fpcnashville.org) for childcare.

Red Cross Blood Drive | Wednesday, March 8 | 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall

Did you know someone in the United States needs blood every two seconds due to an accident, disaster or illness? Help save lives in your community by giving the gift of life by donating blood on March 8. Sign up on our website, at the table in the Narthex on Sunday mornings, or contact missions@fpcnashville.org.

First Friends Luncheon | Thursday, March 16 | 12:00 p.m. | Courtenay Hall | Cost: \$8

The Changing Church – State of Health of PCUSA and FPC Nashville. Elder Kevin Garvey and Dr. Stuart Gordon will conduct this exciting program. Have you wondered about the state of affairs with mainstream churches? Are you concerned about the obvious decline in churches and church attendance? Have you been curious about membership trends here at FPC Nashville and in the larger PCUSA? What about financial trends in our church and others? Have you wondered about the prospects of hiring new pastors to fill current vacancies? If any of the above piques your curiosity, don't miss our March event.

The Broadway Dinner Show is Back! | Friday, March 24 | 6:30 p.m. | Courtenay Hall | Cost \$35

Alex Apple and George Armistead will emcee the show on Friday, March 24, at 6:30 p.m. The Sanctuary Choir, directed by Raphael Bundage and accompanied by Peter Rogahn, will treat the audience to "A Little Night Music featuring Classic Broadway Songs and Choruses." Tickets are \$35. For more information, contact Daphne (615-298-9517 or dgarey@fpcnashville.org).

Vases Needed for Monday Flowers Ministry

Each week, our beautiful sanctuary flowers are also enjoyed by members who are unable to worship with us in person. On Mondays, volunteers use the flowers for smaller arrangements and deliver them to members of our church family. Our Monday Flowers Ministry needs smaller vases (ranging in size from 5-8 inches). Vases larger than 8 inches are not needed. Vase donations can be dropped off at the Hospitality Center.

What is a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministers are volunteer lay ministers who provide confidential, one-on-one spiritual and emotional care focusing on their care receiver's needs. They offer care, support and encouragement to people who are going through a difficult time or whose lives have been turned upside down by crisis or tragedy. They minister through active listening, a caring presence and prayer. The relationship is kept confidential. Applicants are carefully selected because their gifts, capabilities and life experiences compliment their interest in care giving. They are equipped with intensive training and continuing education. If you would like to know more about how a Stephen Minister could care for you, or if you would like to consider training to serve as a Stephen Minister, please contact Sandra Randleman (615-298-9502).

Missions Focus: Instruments of Joy

Do you have an instrument collecting dust, longing to be played again? Share the joy of music by donating new or gently-used instruments to benefit local mission organization, Instruments of Joy. Donations are delivered by mission teams to music programs around the world. Handheld instruments like horns, winds, strings, tambourines, harmonicas, guitars and small electronic keyboards are accepted. IOJ inspects all donations, and if needed, will have them professionally serviced prior to delivery. We will be collecting donations through March 31. Contact missions@fpcnashville.org for more information.

RECREATION MINISTRY

Registration for FPC Soccer Closes March 9

Soccer registration is currently happening at FPC! From March 25 through May 13 over 1,400 kids from around the Nashville area will play soccer at FPC each Saturday. Teams are available for boys and girls, ages 3 years through rising 4th graders. We hope your family will join us this spring! You can register online or contact the recreation department at recreation@fpcnashville.org.

Volunteer | Welcome Visitors as a Soccer Saint

We want to welcome and love the soccer families as they play, cheer and coach on the FPC campus. Would you help us create a warm and welcoming atmosphere by volunteering as a Soccer Saint at one of our welcome tents on Saturday mornings during soccer season? Whether you are young, old or in between, it's a great way to serve God's people and spread joy. Your ministry of presence will be a blessing to our community. Please email Erika (eshapiro@fpcnashville.org) to learn more.

Now Hiring | Seasonal Soccer Staff

We need two paid employees to support our recreation team on Saturdays and throughout the week during soccer season (March 25-May 13). If you know of anyone who loves Jesus, people and soccer, and who might be a good fit to help us continue moving forward in our efforts to provide excellence through the soccer program, please contact the recreation department at recreation@fpcnashville.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 6 | 9:00 a.m. | PW Handiwork Drop In
March 24, 6:30 p.m. | Broadway Music Night
March 28, 2:30 p.m. | First Friends Book Club
April 2, 3:30 p.m. | Easter Festival
April 6, 6:30 p.m. | Maundy Thursday Service
April 7, 12:00 p.m. | Good Friday Service
April 26, 6:00 p.m. | A Conversation with Author Andy Crouch

WELCOME

First Presbyterian Church extends a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today. Since 1814 First Presbyterian has sought to be faithful in service to Jesus Christ and the common good. We are rooted in the Reformed, orthodox, and evangelical traditions of the larger church. If you do not have a church home, we would love to welcome you!

HEARING ASSISTANCE

App Directions: Join WiFi network. You must be connected to this network for the app to work. Network Name: FPC Guest. Password: GreenRock-81. Download the WaveCAST app. Open the app and select "First Pres Sanctuary." Plug in your headphones and adjust the volume to your preference.

CONNECT CARD

If you are new to our community, we would love to get to know you and welcome you personally into the life and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Whether you are a guest or a longtime member, fill out a Connect Card to get more involved, update your contact information, or sign up for church communications. Drop your completed Connect Card in the offering plate so we can follow up!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
Church of Nashville

Stewardship 2023 | Finishing Strong

Help us finish strong

A COMMITMENT TO CHRIST, HIS CHURCH, AND HIS KINGDOM

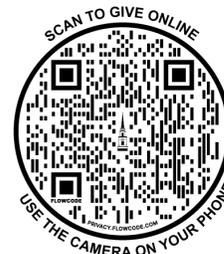
Since Stewardship 2023 began four months ago, we have seen examples of tremendous support and generosity for all of the great programs and ministries that do the good we are called to do. Over 500 of you have pledged \$3.8 million to demonstrate your care for this congregation, our community, and the missions we support worldwide. We are in the home stretch, and to finish strong, we need your help to meet our goal. Every aspect of our 2023 budget is critical. We need your support to fulfill all God has in store for First Presbyterian.

Over the next few weeks, we are embarking on a focused pledge drive to finish strong and complete the Stewardship campaign by meeting or possibly exceeding our goal. So, if you still need to make your pledge, now is the moment to submit it—either online (fpcnashville.org/2023-generosity) or using the pledge cards in the pews and Narthex.

96%
Pledge Goal

507 of 530
pledges

93% \$3,802,415 of
Giving Goal \$4,100,000



*Thank you for what you have done and for helping us Finish Strong in 2023!
With you and through you, we can do the good that is ours to do.*



STAY CONNECTED | News, events, and church information is sent weekly through the Parish News email. To subscribe, email communications@fpcnashville.org