

# First Presbyterian Church



512 Third Street SW

Rochester, Minnesota 55902

Phone 507-282-1618

**Service for the Lord's Day**  
**February 18, 2024**  
**First Sunday in Lent**

**11:00 A.M.**

## *Welcome to worship*

\* \* \* *As a courtesy to others, please silence cell phones.* \* \* \*

## *Gathering*

**Prelude**

I'm Just a Poor Wayfaring Stranger

Spiritual, arr. Hart Morris

Jubilate Deo Ringers

## **Greeting and Welcome**

Please sign the *Opportunity for Friendship* register and pass it to the person next to you.

## **Opening Prayer**

**Call to Worship**, by G. Oliver Wagner

*Judy Smithson*

*As Jesus made proclamation to the spirits in prison,*

**so now, God is making an appeal to our conscience.**

*In former times, there was unrighteousness and disobedience.*

**But God waited patiently in order to save us.**

*Jesus suffered and died; was buried and raised.*

**He is the righteous one, our Savior and Lord!**

*Let us worship the Lord.*

♦ **Hymn 386**

Come, Worship God

O QUANTA QUALIA

## **Call to Reconciliation**

*God remains faithful to the covenant of steadfast love,  
even when we are unfaithful.*

**Without fear, then, we confess our sins.**

## **Unison Prayer of Confession**

**God of mercy, we begin this Lenten season in confession. We  
do not live according to your ways, but according to our own.  
We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice, and  
use power to our own advantage at the expense of others.  
Forgive us, we pray, when we are tempted to follow paths  
other than those you set before us. Amen.**

♦ Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.

## Silent Confession

### Lamb of God

FARLEE



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a way the sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace.

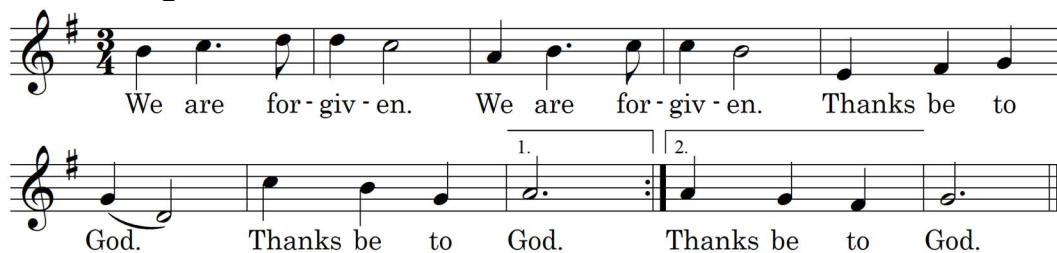
### Words of Life

*Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and earth.*

**Thanks be to God for this good news! Amen.**

### Lenten Response

GTG 447, WE ARE FORGIVEN



We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to

God. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

### Time for Young Worshipers

#### ◆ Passing of the Peace

*The peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Let us share a sign of the peace of Christ with one another!*

## ***The Word***

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet

GTG 458, Michael W. Smith, arr. John Sharber

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,

still you're there right beside me.

Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end.

Text: Amy Grant

Cherub Choir

### **Reading from the Old Testament**

Genesis 9:8-17

### **Reading from the Epistles**

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 3:18-22

*This is the word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Anthem**

Lord, for Thy Tender Mercy's Sake

attr. Richard Farrant

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge;  
but forgive that is past; and give us grace to amend our sinful lives;

to decline from sin, and incline to virtue;

that we may walk with a perfect heart,

before thee now and evermore. Amen.

Text: Lidley's Prayers (1566)

Chancel Choir

### **Message**

*Standing Right Alongside God*

Rev. T.J. Parlette

## ***Our Response***

### ◆ **Hymn 420**

Lord, to You My Soul is Lifted

GENEVAN 25

### ◆ **Affirmation of Faith**

by G. Oliver Wagner

**Washed in the saving waters of baptism, we give thanks for  
the ark of the church. Joined to the faithful of all times and  
places, we proclaim the suffering of Christ for the sins of  
all. We rejoice and trust that:**

**The righteousness of Christ brings us to God,**

**The death of Christ proclaims God's love,**

**The resurrection of Christ awakens our spirits,**

**And the Ascension of Christ enthrones him as Lord.**

**Therefore, with a good conscience and obedient lives, we  
proclaim our faith in Jesus Christ – even if for that faith we  
must suffer. So be it! Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

**The Lord's Prayer** (*using 'debts' and 'debtors'*)

### Invitation to the Offering

**Offertory**

There is a Balm in Gilead

Spiritual, arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

◆ **Offertory Response**

GTG 717, PLEADING SAVIOR

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,  
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:  
here we offer, Lord, our praises;  
heart and mind and strength we bring;  
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

◆ **Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**God of steadfast love and faithfulness, we are humbled as we try to do what is right and to walk in your ways. Receive, we ask, these offerings, and use them for your own good purposes in the church and in all creation. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## *Sending*

◆ **Hymn 213**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

◆ **Benediction**

**Postlude**

Prelude and Fugue in e minor, BWV 533

J.S. Bach

The flowers are given by Chris & Ariel Boswell  
in loving memory of Charles and Gail King; Diane Bloom and Albert Boswell.

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Please see the *Stained Glass Window* for a full list of church activities.

# Stained Glass Window

What is happening around FPC ...  
Week of February 18, 2024

## This Week's Calendar

- † **Sunday, February 18, 2024**  
Worship—8:30am in-person  
Message: *Standing Right Alongside God*,  
Rev. T.J. Parlette  
Christian Formation & Fellowship—9:30  
Kerygma Class—South Fireside Room  
Current Events—Sheldon Jackson Lounge  
Worship & Communion—11am  
in-person & livestreamed
- † **Monday, February 19, 2024**  
President's Day—the church office  
will be closed
- † **Tuesday, February 20, 2024**  
Session Meeting—7pm
- † **Wednesday, February 21, 2024**  
Priscilla Circle—9:15am  
Card Crafters Group—1pm  
FPC @ Friendship Place—4pm & 7pm  
Follies@First and Hotdish Competition
- † **Thursday, February 22, 2024**  
Jubilate Deo—6pm  
Chancel Choir—7pm
- † **Sunday, February 25, 2024**  
Worship—8:30am in-person  
Message: *The Father of Many Nations*,  
Rev. T.J. Parlette  
Christian Formation & Fellowship—9:30am  
Kerygma Class—South Fireside Room  
Book Discussion—Sheldon Jackson Lounge  
Worship—11am in-person & livestreamed

## One Great Hour of Sharing



In Isaiah 58, God calls us to be repairers of the breach. Isaiah 58 is a veritable litany of how we are called to repair brokenness by putting our faith in action — pray, welcome, unmask, hear, work. **Give.** If we answer the call to be repairers of the breach, we will, by God's grace, be led into a new season of justice, freedom and peace.

You can donate to the OGHs Offering using the envelopes in your pew rack; mailing a check to the church office; or through our online giving platform (Vanco.) Please indicate "OGHS" on the memo line of your check or on the comment line in Vanco.

## The HYMN OF THE MONTH Project GTG 215 What Wondrous Love is This WONDROUS LOVE

Though you may not realize it, there are a few distinct reasons why *Wondrous Love* is such a well-known hymn and why you probably like it so much (and can remember it). It could be because the *Dorian mode* tune limits itself to a hexatonic scale. Just six pitches in an interrupted whole-tone pattern which omits a 'third' (no F's) modality is both alluring and elusive. With that comes an unusual ABA form (the first and last musical phrases are identical) with the peak distance of an octave smack in the middle of its neat geometric organization — symmetry is pleasing. Essentially, the music and text are equally repetitive and uncomplicated. Or, it could be that this hymn is somewhat self aware: both from a perspective of adversity, "When I am sinking down..." and one of victory, "And when from death I'm free..." the singer promises to keep singing. The hymn references Revelation 7:9-10, and Carl P. Daw, Jr. suggests this mention of singing "is a wonderful affirmation that the heightened existence of the life to come will require enhanced communication: no more speech, only song.

(Continued on back)

Welcoming & Nurturing Committee  
Introduces Monthly Lunch Bunch



Join us on the last Sunday of the month at an area restaurant for a casual time for fellowship with each other— all ages. Restaurants will vary each month. Suggestions for restaurants that can seat about 25 or more are welcome. All will be responsible for their own costs.

Our first **Lunch Bunch** gathering will be at Chester's on February 25, beginning at 12:30pm. Seating this month is limited to 22, but additional seating will be available in restaurant. Sign up in the atrium by February 22.



## Our Condolences

✦ We offer our condolences to **Harry Coleman** and his family on the death of his father, **Walter Coleman**, on Tuesday, February 13. The memorial service will be March 9 at 11am in Kasson.

## Birthdays...

### 18 February

◆ Neal Evans & Sylvia Rogers

### 20 February

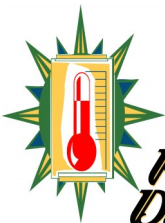
◆ Ginger Kirby & Ari Konkol

### 21 February

◆ Chloe Carter & Eli Zetsche

### 23 February

◆ Leslie Litwiller



## STEWARDSHIP 2024

**Campaign Goal:**  
**\$870,000**

*Pledge  
Drive*

Of our 315 giving units (individuals, couples and/or families), as of February 16, we have received 156 pledge cards totaling \$573,815.

*Jeremy Braun, Stewardship Committee*

## FPC needs YOU! (Part 2 of 3)

Previously we covered some of the reasons to volunteer as an usher. Next let's look at what do ushers do.

Each Sunday morning, we have people serve as ushers and one person serve as a head usher. The ushers basically have 4 main duties:

1. Greet people at a door and hand them a bulletin.
2. Collect prayer cards from the side aisles, usually during the "Time for Young Worshipers."
3. Collect the offering.
4. Collect the names from the friendship pads and help tidy up the sanctuary.

Next time we will cover the duties of being an usher.

**Please prayerfully consider volunteering to help usher.**

Please Mark Mueller at (markmueller@chartermi.net) with any questions about serving as an usher.

*(Continued from front)*

## HYMN OF THE MONTH (cont.)

The hymn text was first published in 1811. The tune was composed by James Christopher of Spartanburg, South Carolina before 1840 when it appeared in the appendix William Walker's 2nd ed. of The Southern Harmony and Musical Companion. Whatever the reason for its endurance and inclusion in most hymnals, the hymn itself indeed sings on.

John Stender

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Thomas J. (T.J.) Parlette, Senior Pastor  
John E. Stender, Director of Music and Organist  
Lee J. Afdahl, Director of Music Emeritus  
Harry E. Coleman, Facility Manager  
Emmanuel Bogani, Custodian  
Beth Herr, Sunday Host

Cindy Kunzman, Office Manager  
Sarah A. Stender, Assistant Director of Music  
Janine M. Yanisch, First Players bands  
Paul Herr, Security  
Than Boutelle, Custodian/Sunday Host

Sunday worship in-person at 8:30am; and in-person and livestreamed on YouTube at 11am;  
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 9am – 4pm

First Presbyterian Church / 512 Third Street SW / Rochester, MN 55902  
(507) 282-1618; web@fpcrochester.org; www.fpcrochester.org

*First Presbyterian Church is an  
inclusive community celebrating God with:  
†Energy †Intelligence †Imagination †Love*

Member: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)