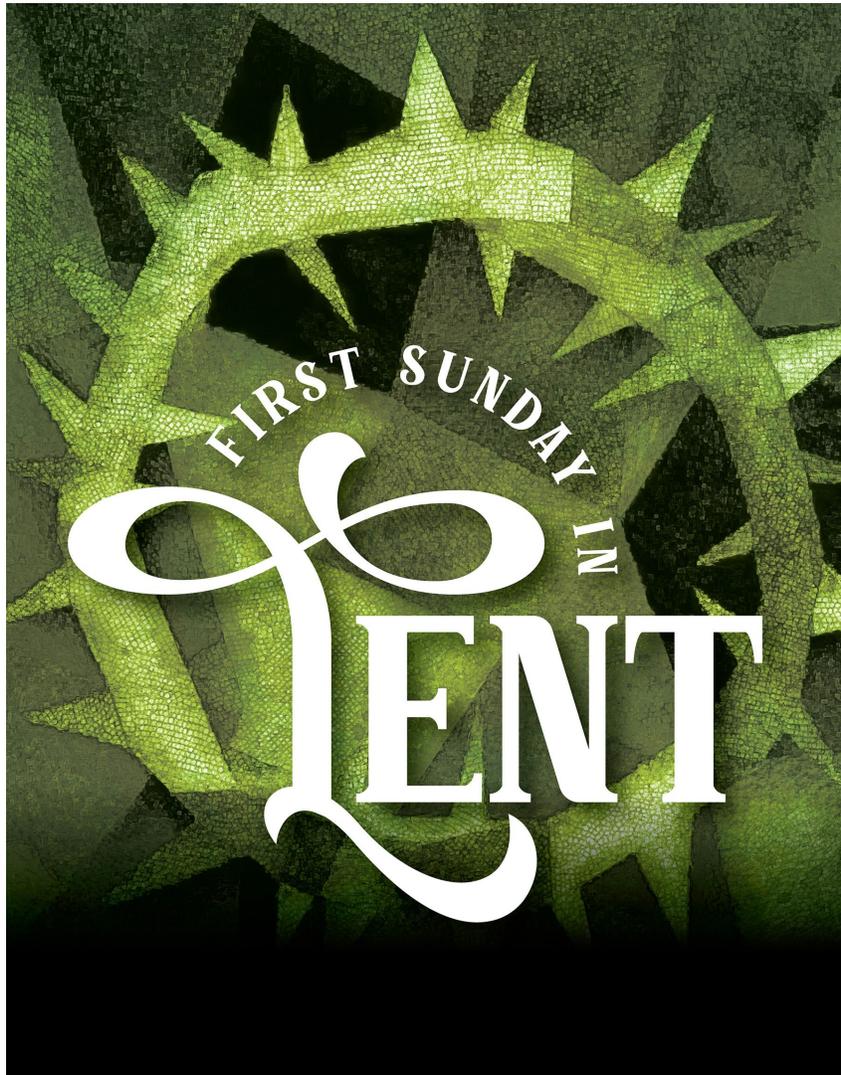


First Presbyterian Church



210 S. Wayne Street Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-9394, milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com
fpcmilledgeville.org

Inspired by Scripture, guided by Spirit, and nourished by our life together, we seek to be a reflection of God's radical grace. We believe God's love models a world without walls; therefore, we provide a safe and affirming home where you are welcomed exactly as you are. No matter the color or your skin, who you love, your gender, or the unique ways your mind and body work, you have a place here. Following the way of Jesus and empowering one another to grow in faith, we commit to feeding the hungry, caring for those in need, and working for justice and peace in our community and the world—living out our confidence in the promises of God.

February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

Ave Verum

W. A. Mozart, arr. Anthea Smith

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The spirit of God leads us into this holy season.

Congregation: We come to find our strength in God's grace alone.

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CHORAL INTROIT

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side

GTG #819, vs. 1

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Spirit leads us into the high and holy places,

Congregation: And the Spirit guides us through the dry and weary deserts.

Leader: We do not live by bread alone,

Congregation: But by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Leader: In our hunger and in our thirst, in our testing and in our triumphs,

Congregation: We trust in God's unchanging love. Let us worship God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy One, You know the wilderness of our lives. You know the places where we are hungry, where we are tired, and where we are most prone to wander. As we begin this Lenten journey, settle our hearts. By Your Spirit, give us the strength to face the crucible of our character and the courage to cling to You when the tempter whispers. May this hour of worship be a battlefield where faith is hardened and grace is revealed. Amen.

*HYMN 618

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have often turned our backs on You. We have yielded to temptations of the flesh, seeking meaning in wealth, power, and our own pleasure. We have succumbed to spiritual temptations, manipulating faith to serve our own ends and excluding those whom You welcome. Most of all, we confess our total temptation—the silence when we should speak, the apathy when we should act, and the moments we walk away from the needs of our siblings in Christ. Forgive us, O God. Strengthen the fabric of our faith and lead us back to the path of Your righteousness. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake

GTG #819, vs. 2

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news: It is by grace that you are saved, not by any effort of your own.

Congregation: Even when we fail, we are not alone.

Leader: God is with us, and in Christ, we are forgiven.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI**

***Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end!
Amen, amen.***

***THE PEACE**

Leader: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
Congregation: And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

TIME WITH THE YOUNG DISCIPLES

Gloria Burns

ANTHEM

My Song is Love Unknown

Mark Schweizer

*My song is love unknown,
My Savior's love to me;
Love to the loveless shown,
That they might lovely be.
O who am I, that for my sake
My Lord should take, frail flesh and die?*

*Christ came from heaven's throne
Salvation to bestow;
But people scorned, and none
the longed for Christ would know:
But O! my Friend, my Friend indeed,
Who at my need His life did spend.*

*Here might I stay and sing,
No story so divine;
Never was love, dear King!
Never was grief like Thine.
This is my Friend, in Whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT: Genesis 3:1-7
GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

OT 2-3
NT 3

SERMON

Facing Temptation

***LITANY FOR LENT**

Leader: For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

Congregation: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Leader: For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

Congregation: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Leader: Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

Congregation: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Leader: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in the silence.

Congregation: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Leader: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

Congregation: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Leader: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

Congregation: Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.

Leader: Eternal God ... Jesus our Savior. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

MOMENT FOR HISTORY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING



You may present your offering at the front of the sanctuary, or if you prefer to contribute electronically, you can do so using the PayPal QR code in your bulletin or visit our website at fpcmilledgeville.org.



OFFERTORY

O Lamb of God, I Come

Johann Pachelbel

***DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God, you nourish us with the Word that proceeds from your mouth and sustain us in every wilderness. We offer these gifts and our very lives not to earn your favor, but in grateful response to the grace that has already claimed us. Use what we bring to unmask the idolatries of our world and to feed those who are famished in body or spirit. May our giving be a testament that we do not live by bread alone, but by your sovereign and unchanging love. Amen.

BEARING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 166**

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on

GTG #819, vs. 3

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

Johann G. Walther

****At these times the congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.***

Acknowledgments: All liturgy is written by the Rev. Marianne B. Turner, except the “Litany for Lent” which is from the Book of Common Worship, Office of Theology and Worship for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Westminster John Knox Press, 2018. All music used by permission. CCLI License #





CHURCH FAMILY:

Sherry Henry, recovering from surgery
Holley Cowan, recovering from surgery at home
Harry Beck, ongoing health concerns
Nan Carpenter, ongoing health concerns
Louise Sallstrom, ongoing health concerns

EXTENDED FAMILY:

Darryl Allen, Andrew Allen's father, ongoing health concerns
Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues
Kandace Allen Bivins, friend of Margaret Ivester, heart attack
Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer
Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns
Charles Morgan, Jennifer Flory's father, ongoing health concerns
Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, ongoing health issues—at Carlyle House in Macon
John J. Murphy, Kathy Carroll's father, recovering from kidney operation
Chris Pearson, Sunda Coleman's son, medical complication requiring hospitalization
Renee Pearson, Sunda Coleman's daughter-in-law, diagnosed with congestive heart failure,
at home
Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis
Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards' son-in-law, ongoing health concerns
Ike Thomas, ongoing cancer treatments
Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, at home in hospice care
Wayne Woodward, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

IN ASSISTED LIVING

Nan Carpenter, PO Box 527, Jefferson, GA 30549
Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Laura King, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive
Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Runette Pounds, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Louise Sallstrom, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive
Suzy Smith, The Oaks Peake, 400 Foster Rd., A2, Macon, GA 31210



Greeters

Feb. 22: Nancy Miller & Millie Murphy
Mar. 1: Margaret Ivester & Bill Werts

Liturgists

Feb. 22: Jan Hoffman
Mar. 1: Becky Humphrey

Nursery Volunteers

Feb. 22: Laurie Peebles/Susan McGill
Mar. 1: Charles Burrell/Nancy Miller

Communion Mar. 1

John Bradley, Donna Gautier,
Becky Humphrey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Milly Free Fridge sandwich squad meets today in the kitchen following the worship service! Join us as we make sandwiches to share with our neighbors.
- The youth group will meet in the Youth Room after making sandwiches.
- Food pantry collection will take place next Sunday, March 1, 2026. Items requested are: Canned soups; canned pasta; canned ham; tuna; salmon; and chicken; boxed mac & cheese; grits; oatmeal and/or cereal; peanut butter & jelly; canned fruit and vegetables
- Bicentennial Ornaments are available for sale before worship or in the Church Office. The cost is 1 for \$15 or 2 for \$25. All proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to support the Bicentennial celebration in 2026.
- Are you interested in reading or sharing a moment in history about someone who was important in the life of this church? See Ruby Werts.
- Our Lenten Devotional is available online at <https://bit.ly/2026LentenDevotional> or can be found at the sanctuary entrances, near the bulletins.

Offerings in February \$ 12,275.00
 Anticipated February expenses: \$ 19,736.00
 (Monthly expenditures may exceed anticipated amounts)

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: Feb 22—Mar 1

Today	9:45	Adult Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship
	12:00	Milly Free Fridge Sandwich Squad
	12:00	Youth Group
Monday	7:00	Oconee Recovery Coalition
Tuesday	9:30	Food Pantry
	7:30	NA Meeting
Wednesday	10:00	Have a Mug with Mari
Thursday	7:30	NA Meeting
Saturday	7:30	A Meeting
Sunday	9:45	Adult Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship (Communion)
	12:00	Youth

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Mari Turner (in office every Wednesday)
 Children & Youth, vacant
 Admin. Asst., Jessica McQuain
 Music Director, Dr. Jennifer Flory, jennifer.flory@gcsu.edu
 Organist, Kate Phillips
 Treasurer, Joel Burns
 Church Phone (478)452-9394, Cell (478) 443-5203
 Email: milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

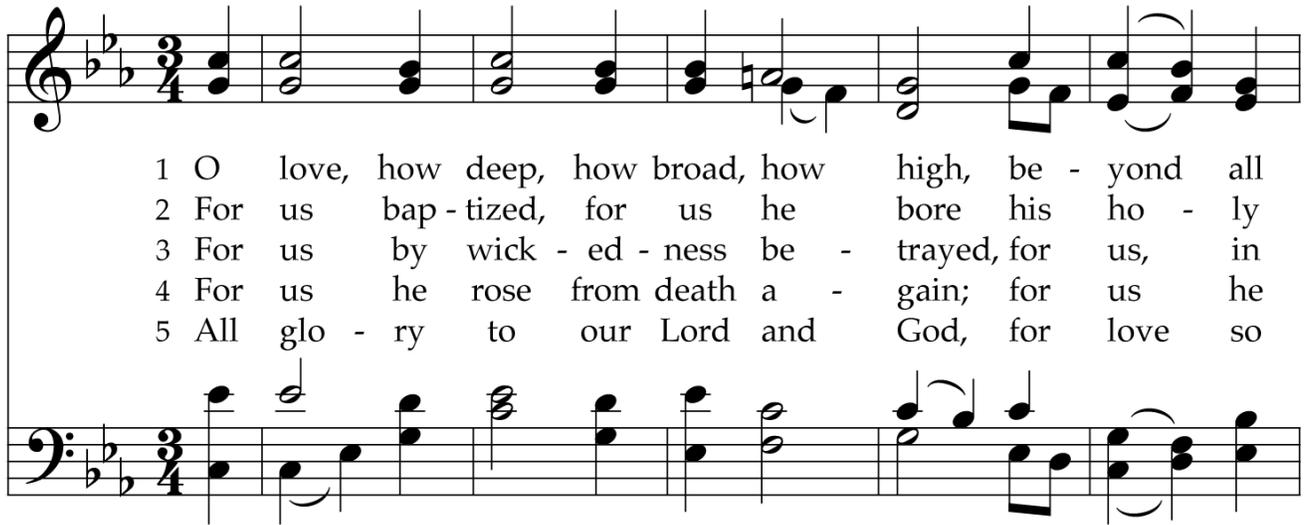
9am ~ 1pm Mon-Thur.



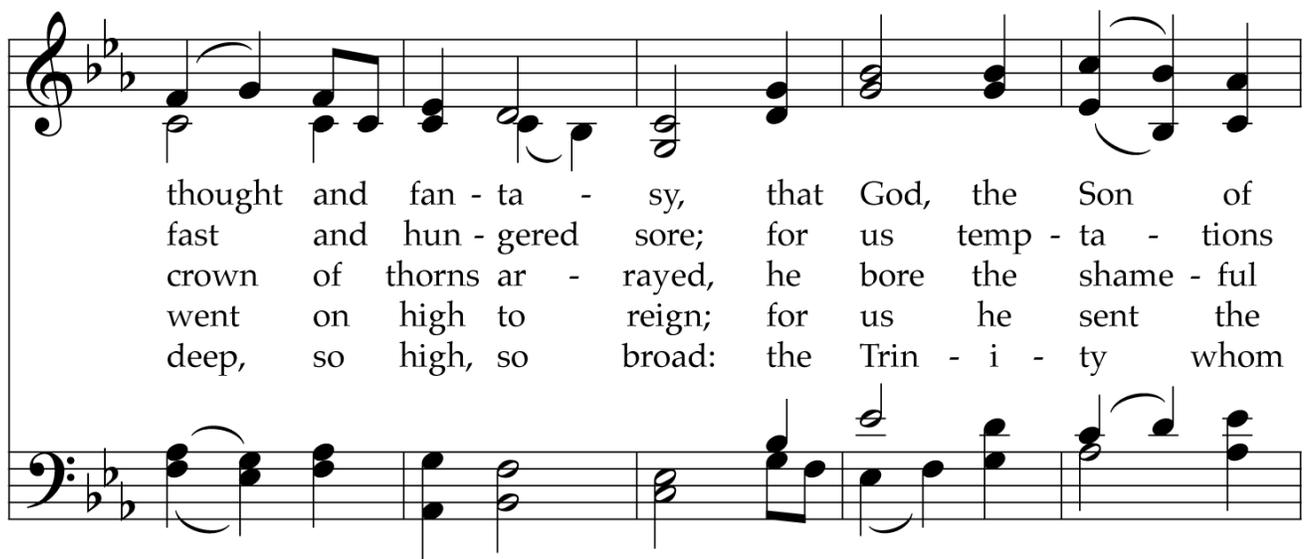
MORE LIGHT
 PRESBYTERIANS

618

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly
 3 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed, for us, in
 4 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he
 5 All glo - ry to our Lord and God, for love so



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions
 crown of thorns ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful
 went on high to reign; for us he sent the
 deep, so high, so broad: the Trin - i - ty whom



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.
 sharp he knew, for us, the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.
 Spir - it here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.
 we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

166

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and
 2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory
 3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-
 4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be

pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
 win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.
 tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.
 past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at-tain at last.