

GATHERING

Loving God, as I enter into the gift of this day, I trust that you are with me. May I see signs and wonders of your presence in the world today? I ask that this day afford me opportunities to celebrate and share with others the abundance of your grace and love. In Christ's name, I pray. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Look at the World

J. Rutter

Look at the world, ev'rything all around us: look at the world, and marvel ev'ry day. Look at the world: so many joys and wonders, so many miracles along our way. Praise to Thee, O Lord, for all creation, give us thankful hearts, that we may see: all the gifts we share, and ev'ry blessing, all things come of Thee. Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower; look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain; look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains, valley and flowing river, field and plain. Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer, bringing the harvest before the winter's cold. Ev'rything grows, ev'rything has a season, till it is gathered to the Father's fold. Every good gift, all that we need and cherish comes from the Lord in token of His love; we are His hands, stewards of all His bounty; His is the earth, and His the heav'ns above.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We will take some of the first fruit of our labor,

and offer it to the Lord.

Because of this offering,

we will remember the goodness of God, and trust in his future care.

*** HYMN 367**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O God, our refuge and fortress, forgive us when we fail to trust in you. We fall to temptation; we are swayed by false words; we speak false words of our own. We choose our ease and comfort over your demanding claims upon us and upon the world. In turning from you, we settle for less than the abundant generosity you intend. Forgive us, we pray. Do not let us be put to shame, O God. Hear us as we call to you and show us your salvation. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.

KYRIE (HYMN 551)

Lord, Have Mercy

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:1-10 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 82

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11 A.M.) **He's Got the Whole World in His Hands** Traditional
Alleluia Choir; Alek Concepción, conductor
He's got the whole world in His hands.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.) **Andy Vloedman**
(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God.)

* **HYMN 166** **Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days** **ST. FLAVIAN**

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (NRSV)**
This is the Word of the Lord. **OT pg. 180**
Thanks be to God.

SERMON **First Fruits** **Rev. Mark Hults**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

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; on 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY **When I Survey the Wondrous Cross** **G. Martin**
When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love, so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!

* **DOXOLOGY** **Hymn 606**
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* **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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (8:30 A.M.) (Gluten-Free Bread)

SENDING

* **HYMN 215** **What Wondrous Love Is This** **WONDROUS LOVE**

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE** **What Wondrous Love Is This** **L. Larson**
Jubilate Ringers; Andrew Netardus, conductor

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Scott Stuart, Andy Vloedman

ELDER ON DUTY: Geoff Spiegel

ACOLYTE: Travis Fosser

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

COLLABORATIVE PIANIST: Anait Piloyan

CHANCEL CHOIR, JUBILATE RINGERS

CHAPEL USHER: Tom Chamberlain; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Roger Bachmann, Paul Bennett, Matthew Morse, Carol Turner

A/V TEAM: Kaylee Bleeker, Kim de Fretes, Jack Harling, Dink Henderson

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We pray that you experience Christ's presence in our midst and that His presence will sustain you in the week ahead. Visitors are welcome to participate in the worship and the work of First Presbyterian Church. You can find a "Three Steps to Membership" card with information about how to join the church in the pew racks. If you feel a call to commit your life to Jesus Christ and His Church, please speak to the pastor or an elder after worship.

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Leon & Jayne Fox, and Carol Hayes-Christiansen. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala.

Leadership

Rev. Mark Hults
Pastor

Carol Israel
Clerk of Session

Dink Henderson
Treasurer

Session

Class of 2025
Fleetwood Fleming
Carol Israel
Heather Mears
Joe Mueller
Elisa Neale-Tobener
Geoff Spiegel
Alexis Vellis
Sarah Whitfield

Class of 2026
Pam Bailey
Greg Dowling
Perry Foote
Andy Greer
Margaret Lingg
Susannah Peddie
Dick Rauber
Steve Walker

Class of 2027
Rachel Coffey
Colin Conerly
BarBee Geiger
Evelyn Lewis
Coleen O'Brien
Rose Anna Rutledge
Eileen Stephens
Rick Young

Diaconate

Class of 2025
Holli Best
Megan Greer
Fred Lewis

Class of 2026
Mark Coffey
Mimi Gray
Dean Schoenfeld
Jane Smith

Class of 2027
Buzz Boyd
Mimi Carr
Bob Tucker
Beth Wood

Trustees

Class of 2025
Ken Mears
Brenda Pickens

Class of 2026
Kate Vellis

Class of 2027
Kevin Golden
David Osmun

Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Hults - pastor@1stpc.org

Director of Music and Organist

Mitch Rorick - music@1stpc.org

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

Fred Lundy - youngadult@1stpc.org

Parish Associate, Director of College Ministry

Rev. Scott Stuart - college@1stpc.org

Preschool Director

Lisa Hershkowitz - preschool@1stpc.org

Business Manager

Trudy Bonerba - business@1stpc.org

Operations and Administrative Associate

Laura Montgomery - assistant@1stpc.org

Communications Specialist

Jenny Chamberlain - communications@1stpc.org

Event Sexton and Music Clerk

Andrew Netardus - events@1stpc.org

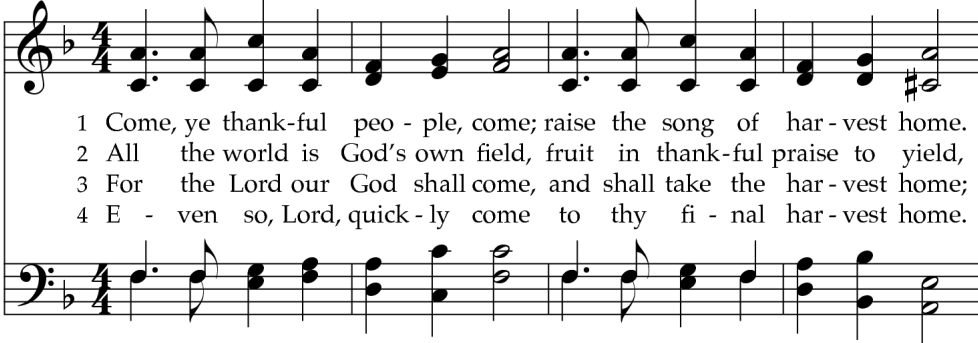
Head Sexton - Tony Cogdill

Sexton - Margaret Hill

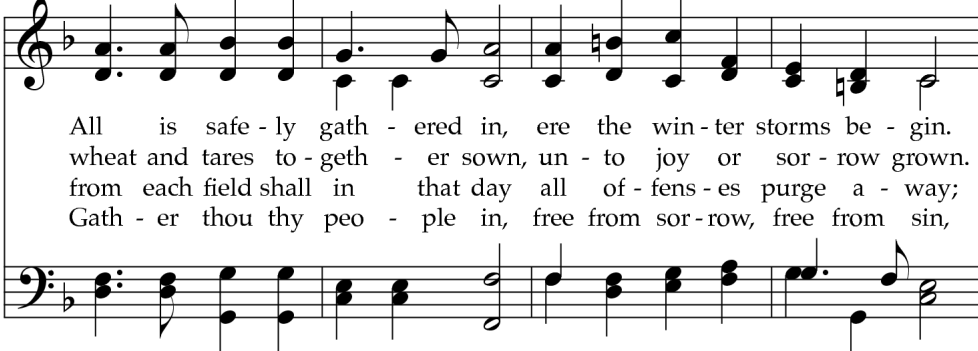
Property Coordinator

John Rayl - png.1stpc@gmail.com

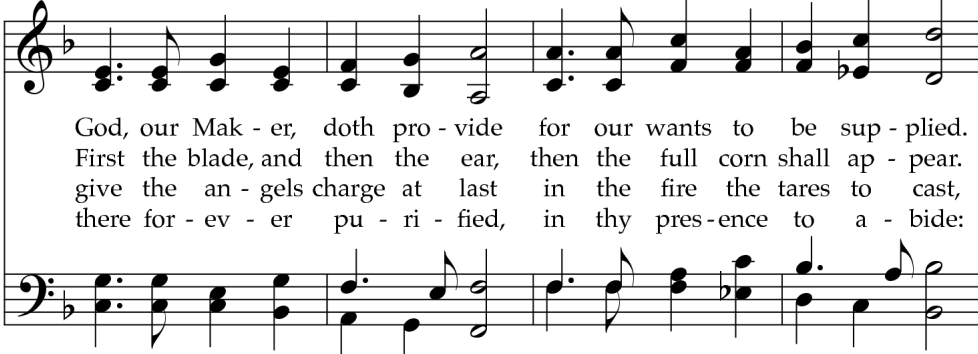
367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



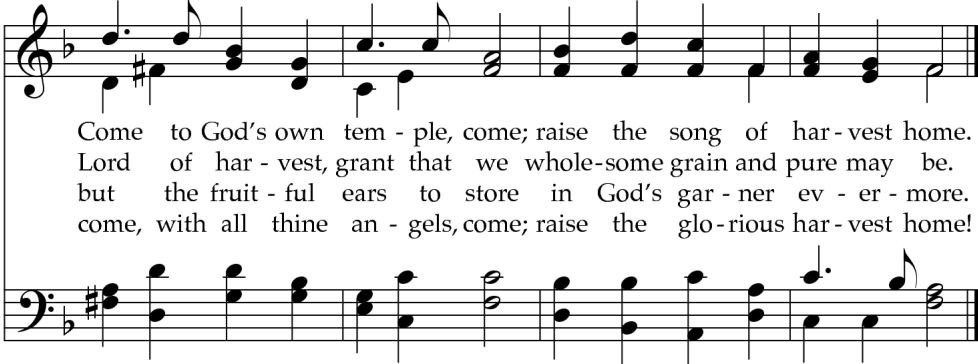
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:1-10 (NRSV)

¹He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ²A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." ⁶So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." ⁸Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." ⁹Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (NRSV)

¹When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ²you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." ⁴When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵you shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

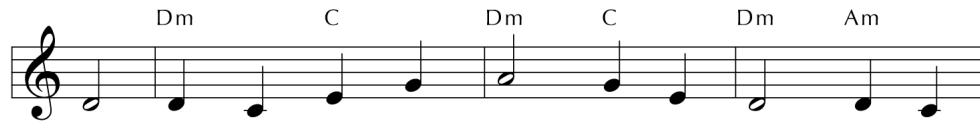
Lord, Who throughout These 166 Forty Days

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.

Like many of this author's hymns, this text was written primarily for children but works equally well in reminding adults how Lent connects us with Christ's temptation in the wilderness and prepares us for Easter. The 16th-century English psalm tune provides sturdy support.

What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

Ministry Highlights

Visit our growing website
for more about our church
and ministries.



40 Days of Caring

During this Lenten season, as we focus on what Christ has done for us in His death and resurrection, let us also share with others who are in need. We are collecting food for Gainesville Community Ministries and soft-sided Bibles (used or new, but no writing inside) to distribute at the Alachua County Jail. We have a blue bin in Gordon Hall for your donations. You may also provide donations or gift cards (Walmart, Target, or gas cards) for Family Promise and St. Francis House. Please label and place in the offering or bring to the church office. Thank you!

Save the Dates for Family Promise Hosting: March 30 – April 5. More details and a Sign-Up Genius coming soon!



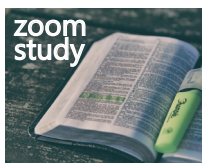
Concert for a Cause - The Concordia Choir (Moorhead, Minn)

Hear one of the nation's finest college choirs perform Wednesday, March 12 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary. Michael Culloton conducts the 70-voice a cappella choir in a varied concert ranging from Renaissance motets to contemporary choral works. They will be joined by the Gainesville High School Choir and the Gainesville Youth Chorus. A free-will offering will be received to benefit Gainesville Community Ministry.



Feel Left Out of Bible Study?

It's not too late to join the lunch hour Zoom Bible study sponsored by Presbyterian Women on Wednesdays from 12:15 - 1:00 p.m. Our topic is *Who is Jesus?* by Judy Yates Siker which looks closely at the life of Jesus through the four Gospels. (Men are welcome to join the group.) Leave contact info at the church office (352) 378-1527 to receive a Zoom link.



Join Our Hands-On Team

The Property Committee is seeking volunteers/members to assist with the upkeep and care of our church grounds. Whether you have a green thumb, enjoy light repairs, or simply want to lend a helping hand, there's a task for you. Reach out to John Rayl at png.1stpc@gmail.com. Your service will go a long way in making our church a safe and welcoming place for all who visit.



Pick-up a calendar page from the ushers for all this week's ministry events or print one from the weekly invite email. Children's worship guides are available at all entrances.

Weekly Figures

In-Person Attendance 3/2	170
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$38,129
Received Week of 3/2/25	\$15,832
Weekly Offering	\$11,003
Designated Offerings	\$1,273
Other Revenue	\$3,556
Preschool	--
FPC Fiscal Year: July 2024-June 2025	
YTD Budget Requirements	\$1,334,510
YTD Received	\$1,172,605
YTD Expenses	\$1,195,210


Online Contributions



Visit our website, www.1stpc.org, to make an online donation. Click the GIVE button at the top of the page. You can contribute to the General Budget or use the drop-down menu, change to Other, and specify the designated ministry in the memo section. Text contributions, bill pay through your bank, and electronic funds transfers are also options. Contact Trudy Bonerba.



T-Coil installed in the sanctuary, and Hearing Assist devices available in the Narthex.

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 **now from 9-10 a.m.** for our televised broadcast  or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts

Current Worship video and audio as well as archives at 1stpc.org

CCLI License #2742913 & CCLI Streaming #CSPL091568

Ministries

At **First Presbyterian Preschool**, children are fully prepared for school in a caring, Christian environment. Classes are offered 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Early Childhood Accredited.

Our **Children and Youth Ministries** provide a multi-generational approach of Christian example as the church family comes alongside parents to lead children to become fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

Nursery Care during worship for children 6 weeks through pre-kindergarten. Contact: Jenna Mueller - jdmueller2009@gmail.com

Kindergarten through 2nd grade children are released from worship for **Kids-4-God** to spend time growing their faith. After the service, families meet in Gordon Hall. Contact: Evelyn Lewis - citytr122@gmail.com

LOGOS is a mid-week ministry with worship arts, Bible time, recreation, and family dinner for students age 3 through high school. Contact Bev Vloedman to RSVP for 6 p.m. dinner at dvoloedman@aol.com.

Youth Connection meets for fellowship and food with Bible study and mentoring for students in grades 6-12.

Our **College Ministry** seeks to launch students into a life of pursuing Christ, trusting in Him, and growing with others. Join us for Sunday worship & lunch and Tuesday Bible study. Bring a friend!

Young Adult & Family Ministry (YA&FM) is for marrieds and singles, with or without kids, in grad school or in vocation. We gather for Bible Studies and to get to know each other better and would love the chance to do life with you.

With choirs for ages three and above, our **Music Ministry** welcomes everyone to sing or ring and to dedicate their music to God. Our concert season includes Concerts for a Cause, which support local and global mission partners.

Staff

Senior Pastor

REV. MARK HULTS - pastor@1stpc.org

Director of Music and Organist

MITCH RORICK - music@1stpc.org

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

FRED LUNDY - youngadult@1stpc.org

Parish Associate, Director of College Ministry

REV. SCOTT STUART - college@1stpc.org

Preschool Director

LISA HERSHKOWITZ - preschool@1stpc.org

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JENNY CHAMBERLAIN - communications@1stpc.org

Event Sexton and Music Clerk

ANDREW NETARDUS - events@1stpc.org

Property Coordinator

JOHN RAYL - png.1stpc@gmail.com

Head Sexton

TONY COGDILL

Sexton

MARGARET HILL

Glorify God
Make Disciples of Jesus Christ
Meet Human Needs



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Daylight Saving Time Begins
First Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: 1 John 3 - Serendipity Rinonos - Library
- 9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School - Lent - Room 201
- 9:30 a.m. Jubilate Ringers - Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Alleluia Choir - Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Rm 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Rm 217
- 12:00 p.m. College Cafe - Serving Room

Monday, March 10, 2025

- 10:30 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study - Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. Christian Education Committee - Zoom/Room 217
- 7:30 p.m. Human Resource Committee - Zoom

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

- 5:30 a.m. YA&FM Men's Bible Study - Starbucks
- 2:15 p.m. Staff Meeting - Parlor
- 4:00 p.m. Property Committee - Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting - Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. College Trajectory Bible Study - Gordon Hall

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

- 10:00 a.m. Trustees - Zoom
- 12:00 p.m. Executive Commission - Zoom
- 12:15 p.m. Zoom Bible Study - *Who Is Jesus?*
Questions? Contact Betsy Berry - betsypwberry@gmail.com
- 7:00 p.m. Concert for a Cause: The Concordia Choir, MN

Thursday, March 13, 2025

- 6:00 p.m. Carol Ringers
- 7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir
- 7:30 p.m. Young Professionals Bible Study - Fresh Kitchen

Friday, March 14, 2025

- 5:00 p.m. Summer Bugle Deadline

Saturday, March 15, 2025

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Second Sunday in Lent

- 8:30 a.m. Worship and Holy Communion - Iona Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Gordon Hoover: 1 John 4 - Bob Bailey - Library
- 9:30 a.m. Multiply Sunday School - Lent - Room 201
- 10:45 a.m. Nursery Care - Rm 204
- 11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
- 11:20 p.m. Kids-4-God - Rm 217