



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MARIETTA

Sunday, March 1, 2026 | 8:30AM & 11:00AM

The art used on the bulletin covers during the Lent comes from the Stations of the Cross art, provided by Bruce and Janice Stern.

Learn more on the back pages of the bulletin.

WELCOME TO FPC MARIETTA

This church welcomes you no matter who you are or from where you come. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, we can learn together. We invite you to return often.

Friendship Pad

Whether you are a member, a long-time visitor, or just passing by, please sign the friendship pad at the end of your row.

Children in Worship

The nursery is available for infants through 4-yr-olds from 9:30am-12:15pm. Children are invited to pick up worship items from the blue cart at the entrance to the Sanctuary and Great Hall. Following the Children's Time during the 11:00 service, children in 4yr Pre-K through 1st grade may go to Children's Church.

Stephen Ministers On-Call

A Stephen Minister is on call each Sunday morning from 10:00am through 12:00pm. If you would like to speak with a Stephen Minister during that time, please see the front desk or one of the Deacons on duty, and they will locate them for you.

Chancel Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Helen Hines and in loving memory of P. Harris Hines by Clem, Mary Margaret, Clay and Hines Doyle.

Join us

New members are received each month in worship.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Matt Burnham at mattburnham2021@gmail.com.

GOD GATHERS HIS PEOPLE

The Season of Lent marks the forty days of preparation for Easter. Prepare your heart for the Resurrection through fasting and repentance as we remember the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness tempted by the devil. Notice the purple vestments on the Communion Table, pulpit, and pastors' robes that will remain until Palm Sunday, the Sunday before Easter.

Welcome

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in D Minor | Bach

Children's Praise

God Is So Good

V1: God is so good.

He's so good to me.

Dios, bueno es.

Bueno es el Señor.

V2: I love God.

He's so good to me.

Yo lo amo a Él.

Bueno es el Señor.

V3: God is so good.

He's so good to me.

Dios, bueno es.

Bueno es el Señor.

*Call to Worship (Psalm 121)

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

*Hymn of Praise No. 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Prayer of Confession

God of wisdom, we confess to you our ignorance.

So often, we speak without listening, as though we have all the answers.

We attempt to fix problems and only make things worse.

We act without thinking and are surprised by the chaos we create.

We live in confusion, while looking for guidance in all the wrong places.

Forgive us, Lord, and in this silence hear our confession.

Kyrie No. 575

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

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

Assurance of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

As far as the East is from the West, so has he taken our sins away.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Gloria Patri No. 582**

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,	World without end, without end. Amen.
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,	World without end, without end. Amen.
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.	World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning,	As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.	is now and ever shall be. Amen.

***Greeting One Another with the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(11:00am) **Children's Message**

Offering/Offertory

And Can it Be? | Forrest

*And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain—
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be,
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace—
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race:*

*'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!
No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own
-Charles Wesley, 1738*

***Doxology No. 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.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

GOD SPEAKS TO HIS PEOPLE

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Readings (NRSV)

Genesis 12:1-4a | John 3:1-21

The Word of the Lord. | **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon *Go From Your Country and Your Kindred* | Rev. Dr. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor

Ordination and Installation of Elders and Deacons

WE RESPOND TO GOD

***Affirmation of Faith** | *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation to the Table

Prayer of 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.

It is our greatest joy to respond in word and deed, in gratitude and praise to you, O God. Your presence preceded creation itself as you lovingly called order into chaos and continue even today to make way for new life. We give you thanks for your unfailing love and abiding presence even when we break your commandments and forget that we all bear your image.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Your holiness is too great to comprehend and the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, is humbling and overwhelming. As we travel through this season of Lent we reflect on how great a sacrifice you made in giving your Son to redeem the burden and weight of our sin. Jesus, fully God and fully human, took on flesh and dwelt among us, was baptized and raised to new life in you, and was unjustly put to death so we may know eternal life. We give thanks for this ultimate sacrifice of love and look with hope for Jesus' return. Until that day, we give you thanks for the presence of your Holy Spirit as Jesus dwells with you in heaven. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Blessed are you, O Spirit, giver of life. You give us words when we have none; you fill us with vision when we have the most need; you give us voice to proclaim our faith in every hour. Be our guide and teacher, today and always. Come now, O Prince of Peace, Spirit of Love, Breath of Life. Bring to all this hurting world the joy that Mary knew, and teach us to proclaim with her, "I have seen the Lord!" In the unity of the Holy Trinity, in gratitude for this great day of resurrection, we praise you, God of all that is, now and forever, using the prayer Jesus taught us to pray, saying:

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.

The Words of Institution

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!**

The Distribution

Prayer of Commitment

GOD SENDS HIS PEOPLE

*Sending Hymn No. 634

To God Be the Glory

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You | Lutkin

Sending Music

Trumpet Tune | German

Today's Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Joe Evans, Senior Pastor | Rev. Cassie Waits, Associate Pastor

Rev. Meri Kate Marcum, Associate Pastor of Fellowship & Outreach

Acolyte: Harold Foster | 8:30am Beadle: Larisa Dukes | 11:00am Scripture Reader: Jasper Meadows

Dr. Jeffrey Meeks, Director of Music & Fine Arts | The Chancel Choir

8:30am AV: Ben Brinitzer | 11:00am AV: Thomas Foster, Jimmy Eaves, Will Myers

Join us next Sunday between services for our monthly Fellowship Breakfast.

\$7/person and \$25/family max | 9:15-10:15 in Holland Hall

Book of James: A Practical Letter for Today

Join us Sundays at 9:45am in the Sanctuary.

For many followers of Jesus, the epistle of James offers helpful, practical instructions on how to live faithfully. Over the six weeks of Lent, we will explore this fascinating letter and discover the gift and challenge of this book. Leading this series will be Dr. Martha Moore-Keish, the J.B. Green Professor of Theology at Columbia Theological Seminary, and our own Rev. Dr. Mark Durrett. This series is based on Dr. Moore-Keish's recently published commentary on James.

Holy Week is Coming!

Our church is hosting midday Holy Week worship and lunch again this year and we need YOU! Sign ups will take place in the Gathering Space on Sunday, February 22, March 1 & March 8, between services. We are looking for folks to greet our guests, help serve lunch, and all manner of fun things. Questions? Email Libba Schell at libbaschell@gmail.com.

Lent "Lunch & Learn"

March 4, 11, and 18 | 12pm | Glover Room

This Lent, are you trying to give up something? Break an old habit? Or take up a new spiritual practice? Have you ever wondered why bad habits are so hard to break? Join us on Wednesdays to hear from church member and habit formation expert, Neale Martin. Lunch will be provided. Please email Susan Palacios at SusanPalacios@fpcmarietta.org to reserve your spot.

Lenten Discovery Journal

The forty days of Lent are traditionally a season of reflection and sacrifice. Yet their deeper purpose is transformation—growing closer to God. With this sacred purpose in mind, we invite you to journey through the season with the Lenten Discovery Journal. On most days, the Scripture readings focus on prayer, with space to reflect on your fasting, record acts of almsgiving, and note moments of gratitude. On Sundays—and on certain days during Holy Week—the readings follow the Revised Common Lectionary. Each week also includes pages for sermon notes and personal reflection. May this Lenten season deepen your faith, renew your spirit, and draw you ever closer to God.

Stations of the Cross

This Lent, come walk the Stations of the Cross at First Presbyterian. Fourteen original artworks depicting the passion and crucifixion of Christ will be on display at the church. Come walk, meditate, and pray at each station.

40 for 40 Food Drive

In observance of the Lenten Season, many people choose to give up something they enjoy as they enter a period of reflection. An alternative is to give to someone who needs what you take for granted. Please consider donating shelf stable items to our FPC Food Pantry!

Details in the Gathering Space and at fpcmarietta.org/events.

Easter Lilies

Dedicate a lily in honor or in memory of a loved one this season.

Forms are available online and in the Gathering Space.

Holy Week Mid-Day Services - March 30-April 3

Devotional in the Sanctuary, followed by lunch (suggested donation: \$5/day) | Time TBD

Join us each day for a brief devotional led by a local pastor, followed by a soup and sandwich lunch. This beloved tradition brings our community together in worship and fellowship during this holy season.

Maundy Thursday - April 2 | 7pm in the Sanctuary

In this service, we remember how Jesus, at table with his disciples, took the bread and the cup and issued this mandate: "Do this in remembrance of me." Communion will be served.

Good Friday - April 3 | 7pm in the Sanctuary

Good Friday is the day we remember Jesus' crucifixion. The Good Friday service is a penitential service, yet it is also a celebration of the good news of the cross.

The Chancel Choir and members of the Georgia Symphony will present David H. Pettit's "Good Friday," using the text from Matthew's portrayal of Jesus' private trial and public execution. The tonal and harmonic colors are dark, angry, and jarring. FPC will be the home for the "Good Friday" world premiere.

On Good Friday, we are reminded that when the world was at its worst, God was at his best.



Thank you, FPC Officers!

Something that makes the Presbyterian denomination stand out from many other churches in our community is the emphasis we put on lay leadership. To serve as an elder or deacon in the Presbyterian Church is a high honor. It is a true responsibility and a call to serve the Lord in important capacities.

So honored was President Woodrow Wilson to be elected as an elder in his Presbyterian church that in reflection, he said that the greatest honor of his life was not to be elected president but to be elected an elder in the Presbyterian Church. As the men and women named below rotate off their respected boards let us all give thanks for their dedication, and for all the ways that God has been at work in them.

The following members have completed their terms:

Elders (3 years of service)

Bebe Adams
Jeff Byrd
Tom Clarke
Ken Farrar
Pam Googe
Kirk Maassen
Jim Ray
Bob Smith

Youth Deacons (1 year of service)

Lily Evans
Emma Grace Rutledge
John White

Deacons (3 years of service)

Patrick Cherches
Beth Eckford
Martha Farrar
Anne Fletcher
Julie Galt
Katherine Harrison
Stacy Jenson
Amy Maassen
Kenneth Maassen
Natasha Newsome
Joshua Price
Minnette Rutenberg
Sally Wright