

First Presbyterian

FLORENCE SOUTH CAROLINA

11 a.m.

March 8, 2026

*We are called to love God
with our head, our heart,
and our hands*

LOVING

with

OUR HEAD

We are lifelong learners shaped by God's Word

OUR HEART

We commit to loving God and loving people

OUR HANDS

We use our God-given gifts to serve others



700 Park Avenue ✦ Florence, SC 29501

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www.florencefirst.org

Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly.
Leave Gracefully. Serve Christ Faithfully.

Order of Worship

PRELUDE

Be Still, My Soul

arr. Mark Hayes

GREETINGS

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Cecilia Meggs, Lighthouse Ministries

CHORAL INTROIT

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

DEO GRACIAS

'The Agincourt Song,' England, c. 1415

arr. Richard Proulx

O love, how deep, how broad, how high, how passing thought and fantasy,
that God, the Son of God, should take our mortal form for mortals' sake!

All glory to our Lord and God for love so deep, so high, so broad,
the Trinity whom we adore forever and forevermore.

Thomas à Kempis

CALL TO WORSHIP

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

No. 68

NETTLETON

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

front of hymnal

***THE GLORIA PATRI**

Glory Be to the Father

No. 733

MEINEKE

Christoph Meineke

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.
second century Gloria Patri

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we meant to be more loving to that person You put on our mind. But there is no way they would know that because we didn't do a thing different. Forgive us. And give us the courage to do so this week. And here are some other ways we fell short this week: (time of silent prayer and confession). In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Kyrie

The Worship Book

arr. Johnson

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Though Your sins are as obvious as a big, red mark. ...

All: In Christ, they are removed and the slate is clean.

Pastor: You are forgiven and invited to walk in him.

ANTHEM

Blessed Lamb, on Calvary's Mountain

arr. K. Lee Scott

Blessed Lamb, on Calvary's Mountain slane to take our sins away:

Let the drops of that rich fountain our tremendous ransom pay.

Loving Savior, Loving Savior, lowly at Thy feet we pray.

Blessed Lamb, vouch-safe us pardon, in our souls Thy love confide:
By Thy groans within the garden, by the death which Thou hast died.

Let Thy passion, Let Thy passion, ever-more with us abide.

So shall peace, sweet peace be given, purchase of Thy precious pain;


So shall earth but lead to heaven, since for us the Lamb was slain.

Great Redeemer, Great Redeemer, may we ever praise Thy Name.

Matthew Bridges

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Kelly Hickey

 Children in 3K-5K are invited to go with a worship caregiver to attend Children in Worship. If this is your child's first visit, please fill out and follow the instructions on the "First Presbyterian Church Loves Children" sticker located in the friendship pad. Parents, please pick up your children at Children in Worship at the end of the service.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

What Wondrous Love Is This

arr. Kurt Kaiser

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this,
O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the
dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, when I was sinking down,
sinking down: when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid
aside his crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!
To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to God and to the Lamb I will sing!
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing, while millions join the theme, I will sing!

PRAYER FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

Elder Janet Brand

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Mission

Ennio Morricone

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COVENANT PARTNERS

SERMON

Dr. Stuart Bond

Should We Keep Some Bad Company?

Luke 5:27-39

(Pew Bible page 1020)

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

No. 373

Change My Heart, O God

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Marty Haugen

*POSTLUDE

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

arr. John Carter

This morning's worship is led by
Dr. Stuart Bond, Senior Pastor
Janet Brand, Elder
Kelly Hickey, Director of Children's Ministries
The Chancel Choir
Emily Lake, soprano
Clair Compton, oboe
Betsy Johnson, music assistant

*Congregation is invited to stand if able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jay Pearson by his family.

Welcome guests! If you're visiting us for the first time this morning, we would like to give you a small gift. As you leave the sanctuary, deacons (with name tags on) will have a Jesus Calling book ready for you. We are glad you're with us.

Lord, Hear Our Prayer. Those in need of prayer include Sam Dozier, for the loss of his father, Larry Dozier; Aubrey Crawford; Rainey Josey; Quincy Kennedy; Dave and Linda Lawson; Bob McLean; Lalla Saleeby; Ginger Sullivan; and Mary Lynn van Witzenburg.

Moment for Mission: Today we welcome Lighthouse Ministries Executive Director Cecilia Meggs. The local ministry centers on the prevention of homelessness, child abuse, and child neglect in Florence County. The nonprofit's annual barbecue fundraiser will be held 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, March 16-20, catered by Holt Brothers BBQ, 2087 W. Evans St. All proceeds benefit Lighthouse Ministries' programs and services, helping our neighbors find stability in a time of crisis. A \$12 plate includes barbecue, rice and gravy, macaroni and cheese, green beans, and Texas toast. To purchase tickets, visit lighthouseflorence.org/events.

Mission Trip: Deacon Brandon Blankenship and Covenant Partners Kimberly and Pack Packard, and Jeremy Emert have the opportunity to go to Southwest Asia, where they will be working with professors and students at a top university in the region. They will be part of a team leading an interactive English camp. If you would like to contribute to the mission, please use the QR code and select Southwest Asia Mission Trip in the Fund drop down.



Masterworks Winter Concert will be held at 4 p.m. today at Central United Methodist Church. Join the Masterworks Choir, including Chancel Choir members Sandra Anderson, Curt Boswell, Amelia Carter, Evelyn Childers, Jennifer Foxworth, Brandon Frost, Elizabeth Frost, Megan Garrison, Don Hebert, Laura Anne Hofler, Danielle Holland, Kristin Kiely, Mary Ann Nash, as well as guest soloists, and orchestra as they present Maurice Durufle's *Requiem*, the North American premiere of *Seven Last Words* by British composer Jonathan Rutherford, along with some contemporary composers. The concert is underwritten by McLeod Health in honor of its 120th anniversary and in honor of Mrs. Lalla Saleeby by her family and friends.

Men's Retreat: Don't forget to sign up for the spring Men's Retreat that will be held April 17-19 at Hickory Knob State Park. Cost is \$150. Sign up on Realm using the QR code or with the church office. If you have any questions, call Bill Cain at 407-473-0912. Register by March 31.



Birds & Bees: Join us from 4 to 6 p.m. today in the sanctuary for a parent education talk with nationally known speaker Mary Flo Ridley, who will equip parents of young children to have successful dialogs about sex. This talk focuses on every-day conversations rather than "one big talk." Childcare will be provided for children from nursery to 2 years old, 3K-5K, and first-fifth grade during this event. Tickets are available for purchase by scanning the QR code. For more information, contact Brittany Mimms, brittanymimms1@gmail.com or 843-496-7901.



God's Plan for Healthy Eating and a Healthy Life: Women of the church are invited to a nutritional lunch and workshop following the 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, March 22. Guest speaker will be Christina O'Malley, Institute for Integrative Nutrition, Certified Coach and Christian Health Mentor. RSVP for child care by March 13. Register on Realm or by using the QR code. For more information, contact Janet Brand, janet81661@aol.com.



Children's Ministry

- **Palm Sunday Procession:** Children are invited to participate in the 11 a.m. worship service procession as we celebrate Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem. Children should gather with Ms. Kaiti outside the church steps by 10:50 a.m. March 29 to receive a palm and prepare for the procession into worship.
- **Easter Egg Hunt:** 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 29, join us at the Whitehead's farm, 175 W. Pocket Road. Children and families are invited to join us for a joyful afternoon together. We need your help — please bring at least two dozen boiled and decorated eggs to church on Sunday morning, March 29. Our goal is 800 eggs!
- **Children's Sunday:** 10 a.m. Combined Worship Service on Sunday, May 10. Our children will lead worship on Mother's Day! If your child would like to participate, please contact Kaiti Bryant as soon as possible to sign up.
 - **Third-5th Planning Dates:** March 15, March 22, April 12
 - **First-5th Rehearsals:** April 19, April 26, May 3All planning sessions and rehearsals take place on Sundays after the 11 a.m. service (10 a.m. service May 3) in the CLC until 1:30 p.m.

WinShape Camps for Communities: Helping Florence Flourish is bringing back WinShape Camps for Communities to First Presbyterian for a day camp experience for those who have completed grades K-5. The program will run June 29-July 3. Cost for the camp is \$225, and the first 50 families get \$50 off. Register for the camp here: <https://camps.winshape.org/day-camps/florence-sc-2/>. There are opportunities to volunteer and give scholarships. Helping Florence Flourish has a goal of raising \$25,000 in scholarships and 40 volunteers. Register as a volunteer at <https://camps.winshape.org/volunteer>. You also can donate online at helpingflorenceflourish.org and in the comments use WinShape.

PALMS AND EASTER LILIES

Remember or honor a loved one this Easter as we herald the remembrance of our risen Lord with a profusion of lovely palms, lilies, and greenery to accompany our worship. Your gift of \$10 should be turned into the church office along with your loved one's name and your name and phone number by March 30.

CIRCLE ONE:
In memory OR honor of _____
Given by: _____
Phone: _____



CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 Third Sunday of Lent

- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 AM Sunday School
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 1:30 PM Youth: Paintball
- 4:00 PM Birds & Bees: Sanctuary
- 5:30 PM Embracing God's Word

MONDAY, MARCH 9

- 9:00 AM CDC Chapel
- 10:00 AM Florence Garden Club Council: Women's Only Classroom
- 12:15 PM CDC Bible Study: Youth Room
- 2:30 PM Prayer Group: Price Classroom
- 4:30 PM Girl Scouts Troop Meeting: Scout room
- 5:15 PM CDC Bible Study
- 5:30 PM Selah Yoga: CLC
- 7:00 PM Men's Bible Study: Room 203

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

- 7:00 AM Men's Prayer Meeting
- 10:00 AM WiM Joyful Hearts: Room 100
- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 11:00 AM Just for Women Bible Study: CLC
- 12:00 PM WiM Soul Sisters: Price Classroom
- 3:00 PM WiM Serenity: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 5:30 PM Enabling Team Meeting
- 5:30 PM WinShape Camps leadership planning meeting: WOC

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

- 8:00 AM Veterans Brunch meeting: Lawson-Rain Chapel
- 12:15 PM Missions Team Meeting
- 5:00 PM Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner: pancakes/grits, scrambled eggs, bacon, and fruit
- 5:30 PM Youth Group
- 6:00 PM Wednesday Night Programs
- 6:00 PM WiM Prayer Warriors: WOC
- 6:00 PM WiM Wednesday Night Women
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

- 7:00 AM Donuts for Dads: Jenkins Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 AM Men's Bible Study: LR
- 7:00 AM Youth: Coffee at F.E. Pop's
- 7:45 AM Faith in Motion Men's Bible Study
- 10:30 AM Women's Bible Study: WOC
- 2:00 PM Good News Club: Royall Elementary

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

- Youth Spring Getaway departure; youth return Sunday
- 10:00 AM InterVarsity Team Meeting: LR

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

- 6:00 AM Parking Lot Mission
- 9:00 AM WiM Bread & Fish: Room 100
- 1:00 PM Memorial Service for Bob Silver

