



Welcome to First Pres! We are so glad you are here today. First Pres is an exciting faith community in which to live out your Christian discipleship. If you are a first time visitor to First Presbyterian Church, please take a moment to see one of the greeters on your way out for a special visitor gift. They will also be glad to answer any questions you might have.



We celebrate your participation in worship today. Please take a moment to register your attendance using the QR code here.

Interested in Joining First Pres? If you are considering church membership, please speak with a minister following worship. You may also call the church office at 817.335.1231 to speak with Chris Bartley (Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

Children of all ages are a welcome blessing in worship! Children are invited to worship with their families. Parents, ask an usher for a worship bag full of activities to keep children engaged. Members, having children in worship is a gift and sign that our congregation is growing. Please welcome children and offer parents a smile of encouragement.

Stephen Ministry cares for people in crisis or transition. For more information, contact the Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz in the church office, 817.335.1231 ext. 264.

Large print bulletins and personal sound systems are available from an usher.

Our in-person and online congregations share worship together. This service may be livestreamed or recorded. Your image (photos and video) may appear on our Facebook page, YouTube channel, and our website. Questions about this policy? Please email communications@fpcf.org.

The flowers in the Chancel are given in loving memory of our parents and brother, Mr. and Mrs. Will A. Courtney, Sr. and Mr. Robert W. Courtney, from Catherine Courtney Schmuck, Will Allen Courtney, Jr., and Wallace K. Schmuck.



Offerings can be given by using the envelopes in the worship spaces and placing your gift in the offering plate or using the QR code here to give online.



First Pres is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Learn more about our denomination by visiting www.pcusa.org.



Today we celebrate eleven years of partnership with our sister churches in Cidra, Sabanilla, and Unión de Reyes in Cuba. Over the past decade, more than 55 of our members have traveled to Cuba to worship, work, and grow alongside our partners -and we've been blessed to welcome Cuban friends into our church as well.

Although current conditions prevent us from traveling, we continue to hold our Cuban sisters and brothers in prayer as they navigate severe economic hardships. We remember them in our worship today – at the Lord's Table, in particular, as we are connected as the body of Christ. Our partner churches in Cuba will also celebrate communion and the anniversary of our partnership today, joining us in spirit and in prayer.

Following the 11 a.m. service, everyone is invited to a celebratory lunch in the Youth Center. We hope you'll come give thanks for this enduring and meaningful relationship.

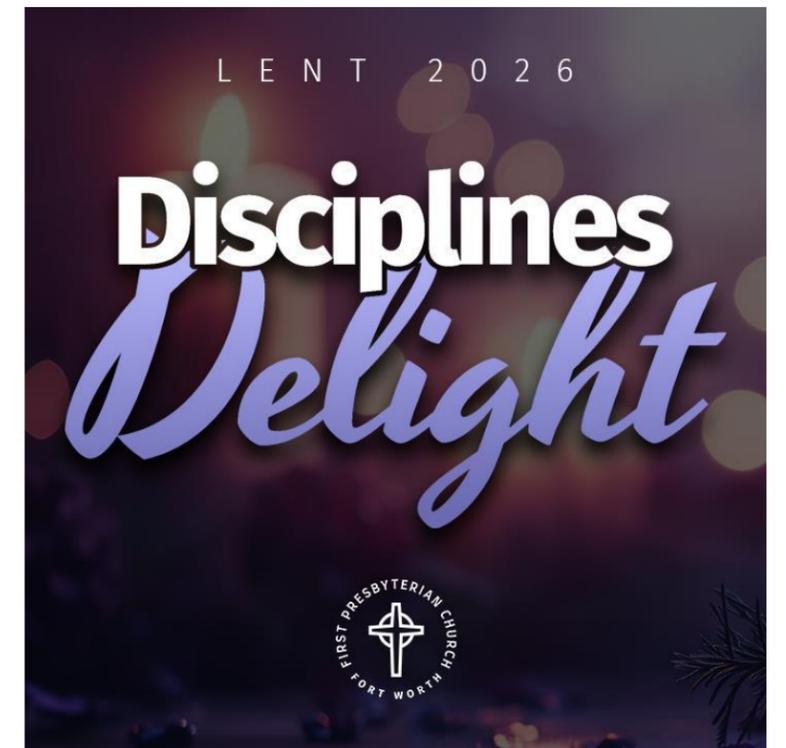
Staff & Worship Participants

Pastor/Head of Staff	The Rev. Dr. Brian Coulter
Senior Associate Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Michael Waschevski
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Robyn Michalove
Associate Pastor for Youth	The Rev. Dr. Josh Stewart
Parish Associate for Pastoral Care	The Rev. Ashley Drake Mertz
Director of Music/Organist	Dr. Ahreum Han Congdon
Music Associates	Rebecca Sawyer, Laura Collins
Associate Organist & Choral Assistant	Brent McCartney
Director of Children's Ministry	Ann Nielsen
Engagement Coordinator	Eric Varnon
Senior Director of Engagement & Programs	Chris Bartley
Parish Visitor	Matt McGraw
Digital Content Producer	Felix Oyola
Audio/Video Engineer	Tristan Medina
Liturgist	Carol Adcock

Ministers: The Entire Congregation
Partner Congregation in Fort Worth: Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church
Partner Congregations in Cuba: Buen Pastor, Resurrection, and Cidra Presbyterian Churches

3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

Sunday, March 8, 2026 | 11 a.m.



Gathering in God's Name

Prelude *On the Wings of the Morning* Anthony Giamanco

"If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast." Psalm 139.9-10

Use the prelude to make the transition from getting here to being here. Open yourself to the Spirit of God moving in our midst.

Welcome, Greeting and Announcements Josh Stewart

Please pass the Ritual of Friendship down your row and back to the side aisle during worship in order to greet one another by name.

*Call to Worship Carol Adcock

Our steps are made firm by the LORD,
when he delights in our way.
For the LORD loves justice;
he will not forsake his faithful ones.
Take delight in the LORD...
for the LORD holds us by the hand.

(from Psalm 37)

*Hymn *The Church of Christ in Every Age* 320

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God, full of care for all your creation, we confess our reluctance to follow your way of service. We prefer to help from a distance, with a minimum investment. We haven't been calling the dead to life, and we fear our own illnesses rather than reaching out to heal the sick.

Lead us, O God, to a deeper compassion for all your creation. Remind us that we meet you as we care for the least and the forgotten. Teach us a servanthood that is a joy and not a burden, a way of care that is humble and not proud. For it is in giving that we receive. Amen.

Kyrie *You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!* 437

*Assurance of Pardon

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation, the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: **in Jesus Christ, we have been forgiven.**

Thanks be to God.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

* The congregation may stand. ** Words in bold are read in unison.

*The Peace

Please share the peace with those around you by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and responding, "And also with you."

*Response *We Are Forgiven* 447

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

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text. MUSIC (WE ARE FORGIVEN 10.8.10.8): Hal H. Hopson, 1995; © 1995 Hal H. Hopson. Used by permission

Encountering God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson (page 717, Old Testament) Jeremiah 15.15-16

Children's Moment Ann Nielsen

Jesus Loves Me! 188

Second Lesson (page 213, New Testament) 2 Timothy 3.10-17

Sermon "inspired by God" Brian Coulter

Sealing God's Word

*Song *Be Thou My Vision* 450

Offering of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory *Hear My Prayer* Alexander Kopylov
Chancel Choir

*Hear my prayer O Lord and answer unto me:
keep not Thy peace from my soul.
Unto Thee, O God, do I lift up my heart;
O my God, I trust in Thee; keep Thou my soul and deliver me.*

Bless the Lord, oh my soul: and all within me bless His holy name. Thou art exalted above the heavens, and Thy glory above the earth. Hear my prayer, O Lord; and answer unto me.

*Doxology *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow* 606

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

*Prayer of Dedication

Invitation to the Table Michael Waschevski

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The minister continues the Great Prayer, ending with the Lord's Prayer (The Lord's Prayer text is found in *Glory to God* page 35)

The Bread and the Cup

Communion is served by intinction. Come forward to receive a piece of bread from the elders and dip it into the cup, taking both elements together. Gluten free wafers are available at the communion station nearest the pulpit. Elders will come to any who need to be served in their seats.

The bread of heaven. The cup of salvation.
Amen. Thanks be to God.

Communion Song *Break Thou the Bread of Life* 460

Prayer After Communion

Going in God's Name

*Hymn *O for a Closer Walk with God* 739

*Benediction

*Sung Amen 601

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue No. 6* Craig A. Penfield