



First
Presbyterian
CHURCH SALINA

5th Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026



*for those who wish to stand
Bold print indicates congregational participation

Today's Liturgy written by Rev. Sarah A. Speed / A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.org

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Pastor Phil Price

*please sign the act of friendship pad

BREATH PRAYER

Inhale: "We honor our mortality."

Exhale: "Hope is written in the ashes."

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Welcome to the weary and the worn.

All: Welcome to the wiggly and the eager.

One: Welcome to the skeptical and the seeking.

All: Welcome to the early risers and those still trying to wake up.

One: Welcome to the rule followers and the rule breakers.

All: Welcome to those hungry for justice and those desperate for mercy.

One: Welcome to the sinners and the saints.

All: This is God's house.

One: You can make yourself at home here.

All: Let us worship our just, merciful, and faithful God!

*OPENING HYMN

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

#444

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we love to live our lives by the rules. We love clear answers. We love right and wrong. We love swift justice. We love to pick up stones, but you show us another way. You welcome shades of gray and nuanced conversation. You prioritize mercy over legality. You prioritize people over tradition. You prioritize love over everything. Forgive us for losing sight of what truly matters. Forgive us for clinging tighter to laws than to each other or to you. Forgive us. Soften our hearts. Root us in mercy, justice, and love. With hope for a better tomorrow, we pray.

TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

One: Church family, Jesus saw a crowd ready to throw stones and invited them to choose another way. Jesus offered them grace, mercy, and compassion, and the same can be said for us. So, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

All: Our God is a God of mercy. Our God is a God of compassion. Our God is a God of grace. We are forgiven, loved, and invited to choose another way. Thanks be to God for yet another second chance. Amen.

*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri

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.

WELCOME THE CHILDREN

Heidi Paquin

This, this is where children belong. Welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 23:23

Page 38 NT

One: The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Oceans

Sorenson

SCRIPTURE READING

John 8:2-11

Page 136 NT

One: This is God's word to us.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Rooted in Justice, Mercy, & Faithfulness"

Phil Price

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH A Sanctified Art

All: I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. It sounds like welcome and feels like home. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table, so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ. I have seen it alive in the world. And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage, even when mercy feels out of reach, I remember the one who welcomed the children and led with nonviolence. I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable and inspired those around him. I remember that the good news really is good news, for I have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION

God, How Can We Forgive

#445

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.

GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

To give online, visit <https://www.fpcsalina.org/give>. To give over the phone, text FPCSalina and your dollar amount to 73256 or download our Realm Connect App.



CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Jesus Saves

Sorenson

*DOXOLOGY

#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.***

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

SENT OUT TO BEAR GOD'S WORD IN THE WORLD

*SENDING HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#435

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*The red rose is in congratulations to
Jo and Shannon Buchanan for having a new grandson!*

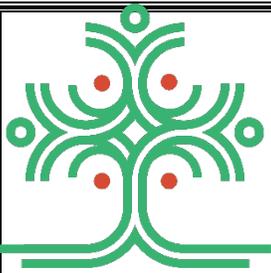


TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS:

Worship Assistant: *Ruth Ascher*

Hospitality Host: *Betty Norman*

Ushers: *Mark & Lisa Speer*



Weekly Glance

SUNDAY, March 22: 11:00am – Weekend Food Bags
11:15am – Adult Class

MONDAY, March 23: 5:15pm – Session

TUESDAY, March 24: 12:00pm – Lent Bible Study
5:00pm – Fill the Freezer

WEDNESDAY, March 25: Salina Grace meal prep & serve
4:00pm – FBI

5:30pm – Soup for the Soul

6:30pm – God Squad

THURSDAY, March 26: 7:00am – HeBrews

6:30pm – Choir Practice

SUNDAY, March 29: 9:00am – Adult Class

Easter Cantata/ Palm Sunday 10:00am – Worship, Sanctuary

11:15am – Adult Class

Stay for:



**Assemble
Weekend
Food Bags**



MATTHEW 25

March 22 After Worship

Salina Grace Resource Center

Looking Forward



Fill the
FREEZER

Tuesday
March 24
5:00 – 7:00PM
Kitchen



Wednesday
March 25th
5:30 - 6:30PM
Blair Hall
Soup, Rolls &
Butter, and
Cookies
BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE FPC FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

RUB-A-DUB-DUB!

There's a new baby to love!

SUNDAY MARCH 29TH
AFTER WORSHIP IN THE PARLOR

JOIN US FOR COOKIES AND A DIAPER
SHOWER FOR PARKER AND JACK FREELAND
TO WELCOME BROOKS OLIVER-LEE

THE FREELANDS PREFER
MILLIE MOON AND HUGGIES BRAND DIAPERS
SIZE 2+ AND GENTLE/SCENT-FREE WIPES



Mar 29, 2026
**Easter
Choral
Cantata**

Written by Richard Koshgarian



**EASTER
EGG HUNT**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST
START 4:15 PM

COURTYARD OR INSIDE IF NEEDED
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Epilogue by T. Denise Anderson

I often wonder about the backstory of the woman from John 8:2-11. What were her circumstances? How did they “catch” her in the act of adultery? *In flagrante delicto*?¹⁸ Was it less graphic than that? Was she allowed to explain herself? Did she protest? If she was about to be stoned, what happened to the person with whom she was accused? Was this a loving relationship? Was it even consensual?

Whatever her story, the Pharisees bring her to Jesus expecting him to uphold the law’s punitive prescription. Jesus knows it’s a trap. If he concurs with the law, he initiates and must bear witness to an act of

extreme brutality that would traumatize anyone who had to watch. If he counters the law, he’s a heretic and should probably be stoned himself. But he outsmarts them and turns their self-righteousness and rage back onto them.

In what should have been the end of her life’s story, this woman now finds herself standing. Whole. Alive. Freed to a new future. And through it all, Jesus is just drawing on the ground—like you do!

I wanted to show this woman standing in her wholeness, right after the crowds have dispersed and right before Jesus rises to meet her as an equal. She’s backlit in a way that suggests the sun has set, indicating the end of a saga. What will she do at the end of a nightmare with a new life ahead of her? What decisions do we face at the dawn of a second chance? —Rev. T. Denise Anderson



There Is Good by Hannah Garrity

In this series of scriptures, gathered crowds drew my attention.¹⁹ Jesus always drew a crowd, but so did the voices of hate in his time. In our current historic moment, this dichotomy of crowds for justice and crowds for injustice confounds me. Are all crowds worthy of joining? In the background of this piece, I dyed and collaged together torn newspaper, representing the fabric of the world, to portray the cacophony of crowds gathering. What is drawing them in? Is everything that compels us to gather right and good? No.

The clarity comes in this scripture: “For you tithe mint, dill, and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith” (Matthew 23:23). Most especially, in the context of Jesus denouncing the scribes and Pharisees, the crucial point is that gathering to enact justice is good and gathering to enact injustice is not.

The crowd depicted in this artwork is inspired by the 100,000 who gathered strong in Budapest, Hungary, in June, 2025. The Hungarian parliament had outlawed Pride as part of a larger systemic effort to take away the rights of the LGBTQIA+ community in Hungary, and a “wider effort to curb democratic freedoms ahead of a hotly contested national election next year.”

In the four corners of the artwork, symbols of justice, mercy, and faithfulness echo the clarity of Jesus. Gathering for justice is the work of the gospel. —Hannah Garrity



Dedicate Easter Flowers!

Honor a loved one by dedicating an Easter plant that will decorate the Chancel on Easter Sunday!

A list of dedications will be available on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.

The deadline to submit orders is Monday, March 30.

Please contact the office with any questions at communications@fpcsalina.org or 785-825-0226.

I would like to purchase # _____ Easter Lily(s) for \$20/each

Please list the way you want your name(s) listed as donor:

Given in Memory of:

OR

Given in Honor of:

Do you wish to **KEEP** the plant(s)? Yes No

Plants may be picked up after the Easter Sunday Service.

If you would prefer, you may donate the plant (check No above) and it will be distributed as gifts to the homebound.

Return this form with your payment to:
First Presbyterian Church 308 S. 8th St, Salina, KS 67401





For Your Information:

- FPC's Nursery, located on the second floor, is available for any child under the age of 6. We also have a playground in the parlor – a space for parents and younger children to be close to the sanctuary during worship.
- **Worship bags** for children of all ages are located in the lobby. When you are finished with the bag, please put it in the basket so that it can be replenished and straightened.
- Extra hymnals, including large print, and Bibles are available in the back of the sanctuary.
- The sanctuary is equipped with a Hearing Loop. Please switch your hearing aid to t-coil to use. *Please see your audiologist to activate your t-coil if you haven't done so yet.* Headsets are also available. **Please sit in center section of Sanctuary.**



Faith Formation Programs:

- **FBI-In-Training** is our Faith Formation program for children age 2 through Pre-K.
- **FBI** (Faithful Bible Investigators) is our Faith Formation program for children in grades K-5.
 - FBI & FBI-In-Training meet every Wednesday during the school year at 3:45 pm.
- **God Squad** is our 6th-8th grade Youth Bible Study that meets every other Wednesday during the school year from 6:30-7:45 pm in the Youth Room or a restaurant.
- **HeBrews** is our 9th-12th grade Youth Bible Study that meets every Thursday during the school year at 7:00 am at Mokas on Crawford. The name is derived from *Hebrews 10:25*.

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers: *Every Member of Congregation*
Pastor/ Head of Staff: *Rev. Phil Price*
Administrative Coordinator: *Nicole Olson*
Bookkeeper: *Kathleen Pierson*
Building & Grounds Coordinator: *Steve Fowler*
Week Day Custodian: *Dennis Augustine*
Sunday Custodian: *Kirsten Lilak*

Children's Ministry Director: *Heidi Paquin*
CE Assistant: *Meghan Hessman*
Nursery Caregivers: *Kirsten Lilak & Haley Lindenmuth*
Youth Volunteer Leaders: *Makenzi & Trey Cullins,*
Music Director: *Dr. Richard Koshgarian*
Musician: *Parker Freeland*
Worship A/V Tech: *Jesse Smith*

Notice of Filming: Worship services are filmed and recorded to be included on our Church website, Facebook, YouTube, etc. While most footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. Children during children's sermons may be seen. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.

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