

Lord's Day Worship
Third Sunday in Lent
Narrative Lectionary
March 23, 2025
10:30 AM

Prelude: *The Cross*.....arr. Linda R. Lamb
Gloria LaCoe and Jane Jude, bells; Dr. Gerald Anderson, piano

Welcome.....Rev. Dr. Will Robinson

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Jesus tells us that God searches relentlessly for those who are lost

All: and is filled with joy when they are found.

Leader: Jesus tells us that God waits patiently for lost children to return home

All: and welcomes them in without reservation.

Leader: Jesus tells us that even the righteous can distance themselves and become lost,

All: and they too are sought out and invited to join God's celebration. Come, let us worship our gracious God!

***Processional Hymn:** *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*.....No. 415

***Lighting the Disciples' Candles** ..A.J. Santos Almeida and Graham Walters

Each week during Lent, we will light two candles in remembrance of the twelve disciples who enthusiastically followed Jesus. On Maundy Thursday, these same twelve disciples' candles will be extinguished to represent their desertion and betrayal. We've lit candles for Peter, Andrew, James and John. This week, we light two more candles as we remember Philip, who introduced Nathanael to Jesus, and Bartholomew (Nathanael), "an Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, we confess that we sometimes turn away from Your love, preferring life on our own instead of life with You. Forgive us, we pray, and don't give up on us. Welcoming God, when we come to our senses and return home to You, Your embrace reassures us and invites us in. We give thanks for Your overwhelming grace.

Celebrating God, we confess that our resentment builds when You welcome some that we think are undeserving. Forgive us and open our hearts to share in Your joy. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Response:** *We Are Forgiven*No. 447

***Passing the Peace**

Musical Meditation: *The Ninety and Nine*.....Elizabeth Clephane/Ira D. Sankey
Chalmers Gorman, baritone

Scripture: Luke 15:1-32 Elder Julie Hellman

Sermon: *Stray Sheep, Loose Change, and a Rolling Stone*Rev. Elizabeth Johnson

***Hymn:** *Sofly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*.....No. 418

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory: *He Shall Feed His Flock*John Ness Beck
Sanctuary Choir

*He shall feed His flock like a shepherd. He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
and carry them in His bosom, and gently shall lead those that are with young.*

*He shall gather the lambs in His arm, and carry them close to His heart.
And gently, so gently, shall lead those with young.*

*He shall feed his flock like a shepherd. He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
and carry them in His bosom, and gently, so gently shall lead those with young.
The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Amen.*

***Response:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*.....No. 606

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn:** *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*.....No. 649

***Charge and Benediction**

***Response:** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

***Postlude:** *Prelude in F*.....Gordon Young

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (FPC)!

We're glad you're here. We don't look or act alike. God knows we don't think alike. We come with questions, burdens and joys. But every Sunday we worship as one—in person and online. We pray you'll experience God's presence and better understand your faith through today's service.

In-person worshippers: Complete the maroon fellowship register at the end of your pew and wear your name tag if you're a member or friend so we can greet one another by name. (If you need a new name tag, just contact the church.) After worship, enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the Gathering Space.

Online worshippers: Use the QR code you'll see on the screen at the beginning of worship or click on the green "Connect" button on our website's homepage and complete the brief pop-up form so we can connect with you.

“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME”

We value children in worship and encourage them to sit with their parents/guardians or to use the Family Worship Center (in James Chapel under the south balcony in the Sanctuary) which helps engage them in worship. We offer a Sunday class at 10:30 AM for children ages 3-7. Please drop off and pick up children in the Children's Library (on the first floor across from the nursery). Children age 8 and older are welcome to sit with their parents/guardians in worship or to join staff in the Family Worship Center. A nursery is available for children through age 3.

THESE MAY HELP

Large-print bulletins are available; just ask an usher. Hearing devices are available as well. FPC also has a smartphone option that may work with your hearing aid. To use it, go to the App store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android) and download WaveCAST Receiver by Williams Sound. Then log into the FPC Member wifi network (password firstpres [case sensitive]); open WaveCAST; click on FPC Sanctuary; adjust the volume and enjoy the service. Need help? Just ask an usher!

ABOUT WORSHIP

Worship the Lord with us each Sunday at our 9 AM CrossRoads contemporary service in Fellowship Hall or at this 10:30 AM traditional service here in the Sanctuary. Or worship online by livestream or through a recording (available after 2 PM Sunday) of these services via our website's homepage or on our YouTube channel.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving honor and memory of Robert and Norma Forsyth by Hilary and Steve Salmon. The memorial flower is in honor of Louise Lang who entered the Church Triumphant on March 17, 2025.

(Contact the church to give flowers for Sunday worship in memory or in honor of a loved one or in celebration of a particular event.)

From September 2024-June 2025, our sermons and worship are based on Scripture from the Narrative Lectionary (NL). The NL is a set of readings that walk us through high points of the Bible story from creation to Pentecost. You can watch the services and sermons in this series on our YouTube channel. If you'd like to see the full NL calendar we're using, go to our website. If you'd like to watch brief, engaging video overviews of the books of the Bible that are part of the NL, we recommend thebibleproject.com.

Leading in worship: Dr. Gerald Anderson, piano; Julie Hellman, Elder; Rev. Elizabeth Johnson, Associate Pastor of Congregational Evangelism and Engagement; Jane Jude, AV/Tech Coordinator; Chad Martin, Director of Music and Organist; Rev. Dr. Will Robinson, Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Dr. Bettina Kilburn, our Associate Pastor of Congregational Care, is part-time, so she'll be in worship only about once a month and preach every other month. This will allow her to devote most of her time and energy to leading FPC's efforts to provide pastoral care and lay care to the congregation in this interim period.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join FPC at our new member class TODAY AT 11:45 AM IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY!

IN THE LIFE OF FPC

SACRIFICIAL SERVICE

Lent is a forty-day period of repentance and renewal in preparation for Easter. This year, we encourage you to combine the urge to purge and to help others through "The Great Lenten Giveaway": Each day of Lent place a household item in a bag. At the end of Lent, donate those forty items to a local charity/ies. What will *you* share with others?

Visit our Global Outreach Fair in the Gathering Space TODAY!

"Feed My Sheep": bring non-perishable items to the Gathering Space on the first Sunday of the month for local food pantries, including our own PIN (People In Need), or drop off items at your convenience in the cart by the elevator. PIN especially needs paper products, cans of tuna, toothpaste and white rice. Thank you!

Help us change lives and make disciples by giving via 1) a check made payable to FPC (540 William Hilton Parkway, HHI, SC 29928), 2) the Give button at fpchhi.org, 3) QR code (on the screen and the card in the pew racks) or 4) texting "FPCHHI" to 77977.

CARING CONNECTIONS

We're hosting a Love Luncheon on April 2 at 11:30 AM in our Gathering Space for our cherished saints who're 90 and older. Our own Son-light Singers will entertain us! RSVP to the church by March 25.

We thank God for member Lauren Stilgross, who helped establish our CrossRoads (CR) contemporary worship service in 2006. Lauren plays keyboard for our CrossRoads Worship Team and has been instrumental (pun intended!) to that team. She and her husband Dennis are moving, so we'll celebrate Lauren's ministry next Sunday with cupcakes in the Gathering Space after our 9 AM CR service. Join us!

Submit prayer requests for our staff prayers and our confidential prayer chain via:

- Prayer boxes in Fellowship Hall and the narthex (the area outside the Sanctuary)
- Email info@fpchhi.org or a pastor (ejohnson@fpchhi.org, bkilburn@fpchhi.org, wrobinson@fpchhi.org)
- QR code (on the card in the pew racks)

If you or a family member will be in the hospital, had a recent hospitalization or would like pastoral care or to receive communion, contact Pastor Bettina Kilburn (404-771-7608) or the church (843-681-3696, ext. 245).

LENT & EASTER @ FPC

To learn more, go to [fpcghi.org](https://www.fpcghi.org) or contact the church.

Lenten Devotional

Go to https://www.pts.edu/devotional_1

Lenten Book Study

Meeting Jesus at the Table by Campbell and Fohr

“The Great Lenten Giveaway”

See the bulletin announcement under Sacrificial Service

Floral Easter Tribute

Purchase a lily or azalea in honor or memory of a loved one

Lenten Poetry and Organ Series

Thursdays, through April 10, at 11 AM (Sanctuary)

TODAY: Lenten Jazz Vespers

5 PM (Courtyard)

March 29: Spring Fling

2-4 PM (Hover Park and FPC parking lot)

Fun for the whole family with a petting zoo,
bounce house and much more!

April 13: Palm Sunday

9 AM CrossRoads contemporary worship (Fellowship Hall)

10 AM Easter Egg Hunt (front lawn)

10:30 AM Traditional worship (Sanctuary)

Mozart's *Requiem* presented by the Sanctuary Choir and Chamber Orchestra

April 17: Maundy Thursday

6:30 PM Worship with communion (Sanctuary)

April 18: Good Friday

12 PM Community worship, Christ Lutheran Church, Hilton Head Island

April 20: Easter Sunday

9 AM CrossRoads contemporary worship (Fellowship Hall)

10:30 AM Traditional worship (Sanctuary)

Nursery available at 8:45 AM

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EASTER TRIBUTES — DUE BY APRIL 11

Name _____

Phone number _____

Contribution: \$25/tribute. Contributions accepted by cash, check payable to FPC, and online at fpchhi.org (select Easter Flowers from the dropdown menu via the Give button)

___ In memory of _____

___ In honor of _____

___ In celebration of the Easter season

- *Thank you for your contribution that covers the cost of the Easter flowers.*
- *Tributes will be listed in the Easter Sunday worship bulletins. All are invited to take the lilies and azaleas after the 10:30 AM Easter Sunday worship service.*