



MATTHEW 25

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
In Celebration of the Life of the Rev. Dr. Fred Rogers  
Sunday, March 19, 2023

## How to Connect

- Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. We are glad you are here!
- Currently our church observes a “Masks Optional” policy throughout the church campus with the exception of the nursery staff and volunteers. Adult teachers, volunteers, and nursery staff, if they are unvaccinated, are asked to remain masked when involved in children’s Christian Education activities. Some may still opt to wear a mask even if they are vaccinated. Additionally, we have returned to observing The Peace, passing the offering plate, and joining hands to sing The Congregational Response (“God Be with You ‘Til We Meet Again”) in our traditional manner. Anyone uncomfortable with this approach is encouraged to refrain from participation in any or all of these aspects with full knowledge that our congregation is respectful and recognizes that our members have different needs and comfort levels. Please check any of the following for updates and possible changes in our COVID protocol:

### First Presbyterian Church, Dalton Communication Channels:

- “First Presbyterian Church Dalton” - Our church’s public Facebook page.
  - “FPC Dalton Connect” - Our private Facebook page for church members and staff
  - “Midweek News” - Our newsletter sent online to most members unless a paper copy is requested by calling 706-278-8161.
  - Your E-Mail
  - Your personal mailbox
- Find the most current contact information on our members in the church directory. It can be found on our website ([www.firstpresdalton.org](http://www.firstpresdalton.org)) under the fellowship tab. Please email the church office for the directory password.
  - Regular team meetings will be held at the discretion of team chairs in-person and/or through video-conference. Scheduling will take place through direct communication and will be posted to the newsletter.

## WI-FI



Free Wi-Fi is available throughout the church. There are two options available: First Pres Guest 2.4 and First Pres Guest 5. Although these will connect to the same network, 2.4 has more strength while 5 has more range. The location of the device will influence which one will automatically connect. The password for the guest network is **johncalvin**

## Announcements

- This morning we are excited to celebrate the **baptism of Ann Meade Brown**, daughter of Lucy and Andrew Brown and granddaughter of Pam and Jack Partain, and to welcome her into the family of faith. A book entitled *Llama Llama Gram and Grandpa* by Anna Dewdney has been donated to the church children’s library in honor of her baptism.
- The session is pleased to call a meeting of the congregation today, immediately following worship, for the purpose of electing five persons to serve as members of the **Pastor Nominating Committee**. In the words of the Book of Order, the committee “shall be representative of the whole congregation. The committee’s duty shall be to nominate a pastor for election by the congregation.” G.2.082. The Nominating Committee proposes **Steve Farrow, Leanna Granillo, James Hoskins, Jodi Johnson, and Julie Tharpe** to serve as the Pastor Nominating Committee. Nominations will be accepted from the floor on the condition that the nominees have agreed to serve if elected. Please plan to attend and participate in this step forward for our church.
- Today our church celebrates **Mr. Rogers Day** and our local mission efforts. Mr. Rogers was an ordained Presbyterian minister who taught generations of children (and adults) to love their neighbor, get along with others, feel good about themselves, and cope with fear. Thank you to everyone who brought in food for our pantry and/or books for Park Creek.

# SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2023

## PRELUDE

Prelude in A minor

J.S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MOMENT FOR MISSION

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## THE GREETING

*At the sound of the bells, please prepare your heart and mind for worship.*

## INTROIT

Wade in the Water

Trad. Spiritual, arr. Burnette

*Wade in the water – wade in the water, children.  
God’s gonna trouble the water.*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bob Hubbs

Welcome to the neighborhood!

**What neighborhood is this?**

This is the neighborhood of grace, where the blind see, the deaf hear, the hungry are fed and the diseased are healed.

**Who lives here; what kind of people are they?**

There is not a “they,” there is only a “we.”

**Do you mean that just anybody can move in?**

Anybody at all. Even you. Especially you! Welcome to the neighborhood!

**Come, neighbors, one and all! Let us worship God!**

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**We come to Your neighborhood, O Lord, full of hope and dreams. Teach us the path of gentleness and acceptance. Fill us with Your grace that we may welcome all in the name of Him who came to save us, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## \*HYMN 196

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Valet Will Ich Der Geben*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(A time of silent prayer and meditation.)*

**We find it hard to welcome others, dear God. They may not look like us or speak like us. Their food may seem strange and their customs unfamiliar. Yet You love them as much as You love us. Help us to make them feel welcome in our neighborhood and give us the grace to visit them in theirs until the day comes when all neighborhoods are one. Amen.**

### Hymn 196 Note:

These stanzas for Palm Sunday have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne’s court. They are sung to a 17th-century German chorale, as adapted for these words in the mid-19th century.

\*Where you see this notation, please rise in body or in spirit.

# KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

Castle Road

Cantor:  
Lord, have mer - cy;

Congregation:  
Lord, have mer - cy;

Cantor:  
\*Christ, have mer - cy;

Congregation:  
\*Christ, have mer - cy;

Cantor:  
Lord, have mer - cy;

Congregation:  
Lord, have mer - cy;

# ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

# \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

St. Flavian

Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,  
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

# CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

# SERVICE OF BAPTISM

Rev. Dr. Walter Jones

# PRESENTATION OF ANN MEADE BROWN

# QUESTIONS TO THE FAMILY & THE CONGREGATION

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Ann by word and deed, with love and prayer, encourage her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his church? Do we?

We do.

# THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

# THE BAPTISM

# THE WELCOME

## “Apostles’ Creed”

## \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Bunessan

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## Psalm 23

NRSV

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
3 he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff —  
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

## Ephesians 5: 8-14

NRSV

<sup>8</sup>For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light — <sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the

unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,  
“Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

This is the Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## ANTHEM

Cantate Dominum

G. Pitoni  
(1657-1743)

### Translation

*Cantate Domino canticum novum,  
Cantate et benedicite nomini ejus:  
Quia mirabilia fecit.  
Cantate et exultate et psallite  
in cythara et voce psalmi:  
Quia mirabilia fecit.*

*Sing to the Lord a new song,  
Sing and give praise to his name:  
for he has done marvellous deeds.  
Sing and exult and praise.  
in songs with the harp and the voice:  
for he has done marvellous deeds.*

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 9: 1-41

NRSV

<sup>1</sup>As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now

see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

“Seeing Just What We Want”

Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie

**\*HYMN 451**

Open My Eyes, That I May See

*Open My Eyes*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

**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.**

**Hymn 451 Note:**

The first woman to publish a collection of her own anthems, this author/composer has created in this hymn a sung prayer of illumination. It not only asks God to help us understand scripture but also prays for the strength and courage to make God’s love known to others.

**Hymn 450 Note:**

As was his custom, the author wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16–17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it “Faith’s Review and Expectation.” Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

**Offering Note:**

Copy and paste the link under the Offertory onto your browser to easily submit your online offering.



## THE OFFERING

[www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/](http://www.firstpresdalton.org/giving/)

## THE OFFERTORY

We're Marching to Zion

*Marching to Zion*

## \*DOXOLOGY

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

*Old 100th*

**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.**

## \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## \*HYMN 450

Be Thou My Vision

*Slane*

## \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

*Traditional*

**God be with you till we meet again;**

**By His counsels guide, uphold you,**

**With His sheep securely fold you;**

**God be with you till we meet again.**

*There will be no postlude during the season of Lent.*

*Please leave the church in a spirit of prayer.*



### Contact FPC

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# VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

## WORSHIP

Date	Liturgist	Ushers	Flowers	Joy Makers	Faith Explorers
3/19	Bob Hubbs	Nancy Hallsworth	The Flower Team	Laura Goins Leanna Granillo	Jean Lowrey Priscilla Brown
3/26	Carol Houston	Charles Allgood Nathalie Sanders	The Flower Team	Jeff & Leanna Granillo	Jodi Johnson Rachel Smalley

## MONTHLY

Communion (April 2 - Palm Sunday)		Congregational Care	
Prep	Margaret Venable	March	Becky Jolly
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Jack & Pam Partain & Leanna Granillo	April	Mary Hubbs
Communion (April 6 - Maundy Thursday)			
Prep	Jean Lowrey		
Servers	Rev. Dr. Ken McKenzie, Charles & Laura Allgood & Sarah McCown		

## PRAYERS

### For our Members:

*The family of Fran Lewis*, as they mourn her death;  
*Cecilia Passmore*, recovering from surgery;  
*Nancy Rhine*, in assisted living located near her daughter;  
*Mary Dover*, in rehabilitation at Regency Park;  
*Greg George*, kidney disease and recent surgery;  
*Noel and Coy Temples*, as they continue to adjust together;  
*Stan Cramford*, multiple health challenges including spinal stenosis;  
*Kristen Weiss*, complications of Crohn's disease.

### For Family and Friends of our Members:

*Roger and Peggy Rollins*  
The family of Shirley Owens, friend, as they mourn her death;

### Friends of First Presbyterian, Dalton

*Arden Brown*, son of Amanda and Chris Brown, has been accepted into a clinical trial for a drug which hopefully will prove to be a cure for Duchennes Muscular Dystrophy;  
*Wilson Kennedy*, Cherokee Presbytery General Presbyter;  
*Families affected by COVID-19*;  
*Caregivers and aging parents*.

### Praises and Continuing Prayers!

*Becky Hansberry*, daughter of Kaye Clark, is moving to Atlanta in June and will continue her cancer treatment at Emory.

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday, March 19

Sunday School  
9:15 a.m.  
Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.  
Worship  
FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)  
10:30 a.m.  
Congregational Meeting  
11:30 a.m.  
Session Meeting  
11:45 a.m.

### Monday, March 20

Soup & Scripture  
noon-1:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 21

Grateful Heart AA Mtg  
8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 22

Handbell Rehearsal  
5:00 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

### Sunday, March 26

Sunday School  
9:15 a.m.  
Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.  
Worship  
FPC Sanctuary (& Facebook livestream)  
10:30 a.m.

### Monday, March 27

Soup & Scripture  
noon-1:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 28

Saturday Sacks  
10:30 a.m.  
Grateful Heart AA Mtg  
8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 29

Handbell Rehearsal  
5:00 p.m.  
Choir Rehearsal  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

