

# University Presbyterian Church



Sunday, March 1, 2026  
10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday in Lent, March 1, 2026  
Service for the Lord's Day  
10:30 a.m.

**AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

In order that people may listen to the music or pray in silence without distraction, please refrain from conversation after the music begins and kindly silence all cell phones. Also, please do not bring any food or beverage, other than water, in the sanctuary. Thank you.

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship. A playroom is available near the sanctuary for young children who are accompanied by their parents.

Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request which you would like the pastor to include in "Prayers of the People," please fill out the yellow prayer request slip found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate when passed.

**THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

Prelude

Prelude on St. Flavian  
*Partita, Var. I Andante, Var II Andante*

Healey Willan

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship<sup>†</sup> (Psalm 121:1-2)

I lift up my eyes to the hills-  
**from where will my help come?**  
My help comes from the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth.**

**\*Prayer of the Day<sup>‡</sup>**

O God, you are infinite, eternal and unchangeable, glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth. Your works everywhere praise you, and your glory is revealed in Jesus Christ our Savior. Therefore, we praise you, blessed and holy Trinity, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

\*Hymn #414

Be Still and Know That I Am God  
*Psalm 46*

John L. Bell

## THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

### Call to Confession†

We need God's help. Therefore, let us approach God's throne of grace and honestly confess all that keeps us from right relationship.

### Prayer of Confession†

**Gracious God, as we wander through the wilderness this Lent, we are aware of our need for your presence, your love, your guidance on life's journey. Forgive us for turning away from you. Forgive our doubt and uncertainty that led us to place our faith in worldly comforts that don't run deep enough and don't last. We come to your well this Lent desperate and thirsty for Christ's living water. Quench our thirst, we pray. Grant us your forgiveness and your grace. (Time for Silent Prayer) Amen.**

### Kyrie Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison

*Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy*

New World Symphony

### Assurance of Pardon† (from John 3:17)

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.” Know that you are forgiven in Jesus Christ, and be at peace. **Amen.**

### \*Hymn #581

Glory Be to the Father

Henry W. Greatorex

**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.**

### \*Sharing the Peace and Greetings

*As God's forgiven people we extend the peace of Christ to one another saying, “the peace of Christ be with you.”*

\*Sung response Hymn #822

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.  
May God's full mercies, bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination‡

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving Word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts — a spring of hope for a thirsty world. **Amen.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where is my help to come?  
**My help comes from the LORD,  
the maker of heaven and earth.**

The LORD will not let your foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.  
**Behold, the keeper of Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

the LORD watches over you;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;  
**the sun will not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

The LORD will preserve you from all evil and will keep your life.  
**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,  
from this time forth forevermore.**

First Scripture Reading Genesis 12:1-4a (OT p. 10)

Second Scripture Reading John 3:1-17 (NT p. 93)

Anthem

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Lloyd Larson

Children's Sermon

Sermon "Blessed to be Blessings"

\*Hymn # 51

I Will Be Your God  
*Llanfullin*

Welsh Melody

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

St. Flavian  
*Var. III Moderato, Var IV Moderato*

Healey Willan

\*Doxology

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

\*Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

## THE EUCHARIST

The Invitation (Luke 13:29; 24:30–31)

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful.

Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise:

## 565

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Capo 3: (Em) (D) (C) (D) (Em) (Am)  
Gm F E<sup>b</sup> F Gm Cm

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

(Em) (Am6) (B7) (Em) (D)  
Gm Cm6 D7 Gm F

pow - er, God of might, heav - en and earth are

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1984  
Music © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc.

SANCTUS (Haugen)

(C) (D) (Em) (Am) (D)  
 E $\flat$  F Gm Cm F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

(Em) (D) (Em) (D) (C)  
 Gm F Gm F E $\flat$

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(D) (A) (Am) (D)  
 F C Cm F

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(Em) (Am) (D) (Bm7) (E)  
 Gm Cm F Dm7 G

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored. Remembering your boundless love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we break bread and share the cup, giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise.

## The Memorial Acclamation:



Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world. By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## Intercessions for the Church and the World

### 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.**

### The Words of Institution

When Jesus was at table with his disciples he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, saying: Take, eat. Whenever you do this, remember me. In the same way he took and poured the cup, saying: Take and drink. Whenever you do this, remember me. Now, whenever we eat and drink at this table, we celebrate Christ's death and resurrection until he comes again.

### Distribution of the Bread and Cup

## Prayer after Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

*Hymn # 300	We Are One in the Spirit <i>They'll Know We Are Christians</i>	Peter Scholtes
*Benediction		
Postlude	St. Flavian <i>Var. V Moderato</i>	Healey Willan

\*Please stand or rise in spirit as you are able and feel so led.

† Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott and provided for free distribution for © Presbyterian Outlook, 2026.

‡ From the *Book of Common Worship*.  
*One License #: A-723910*

## Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choir Director

Gregory White, Organist

Jim Smyton, Liturgist

Kathryn Hallborg, Sharon Melius & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Val Macer, Live streamer

Sandy Boag, Pat Cookfair-Casseri, Barbara Kraemer, Sharon Melius & Vicki

Moorhouse, Communion Servers

*Next Week:*

*Val Macer, Liturgist*

*Scott Horton & Sharon Melius, Greeters*

*Nick Casseri, Live streamer*

*Jude Hammer, Sunday School Assistant*

**This Week...**

Sunday, March 1	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	11:30 am	Children's Choir
	11:30 am	Hand bells
Monday, March 2	10:00 am	Worship & Education
	7:00 pm	Zoom Deacons' Meeting
Tuesday, March 3	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, March 5	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	6:00 pm	Prayer Service Zoom
Saturday, March 7	10:00 am	Breakfast with Friends <i>Turn clocks ahead before bedtime</i>
Sunday, March 8	<i>Girl Scout Sunday</i>	
	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	11:30 am	Children's Choir
	11:30 am	Hand Bells

**Children's Choir:** Calling all young singers! We are creating a children's choir to join our Easter service! Rehearsals will be at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, beginning March 8th. For any questions, please contact Rebecca Kroetsch.

## University Presbyterian Church's Vision Statement

Let us be **BREAD**:

**B**eaming Christ's love to our neighbors and beyond

**R**esounding praise of God in worship with music while caring for one another and growing our faith

**E**nriching our neighborhood through creative use of our building

**A**cting with energy to foster a growing, vibrant, and welcoming church family

**D**eveloping diversity by engaging and welcoming all of God's beloved people

## University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff

Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Christine James
Organist	Gregory White
Choral Director	Rebecca Kroetsch
Treasurer	James W. Smyton
Clerk of Session	Pat Cookfair-Casseri
Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator	Kathryn F. Hallborg
Administrative Assistant	Peg Kovach
Facilities Manager	Aaron Vivian
Custodian	Roll Tomosso

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Services are live-streamed on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/upcbuffalo>

