

DEDICATION

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Philippians 2:5-11
 Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

ANTHEM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

***HYMN #376**
 “LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING”

***CLOSING RESPONSE Hymn #536**
 “LORD, MAKE US MORE HOLY”
 (vs 1)

***POSTLUDE**

*Please stand if you are able

Rev. Becky Downs, Pastor
 Corbin Sturch, Director of Music & Organist
 Jackson Okland, Assistant Director of Music
 Doyle Neuwiller, Bells Director
 Lori Wiseman, Ensemble Coordinator
 Connor Wiseman, Head of Audio and Video Services
 Luci Burns, Office Manager
 Joseph Bell, Custodian and Sunday Sexton
 Patricia Anglin, Childcare Provider
 Pat Bumpus, Clerk of Session
 David Campbell, Treasurer



FPC Mission Statement

God calls First Presbyterian Church to reflect Christ as we strive to:
 Enrich our personal and congregational spiritual growth, joyfully embrace visitors and each other in the fellowship of a spiritual family, increase knowledge about our faith, reach out to serve and include our diverse community, and respond to God's call to serve those in need.

March 22, 2026 - March 29, 2026

Sunday	12:00 PM Worship Ministry Meeting , library 12:00 PM Communications Meeting , fellowship hall
Monday	Salvation Army Monday Serving Team
Tuesday	The Bell Choir Practice , 5:30 PM, Room 214-216
Wednesday	Men’s Breakfast , 7:30 AM. America’s Kitchen Meals on Wheels Drivers Lenten Soup & Study , 5:30 PM, fellowship hall Chancel Choir Rehearsal , 7:00 PM. Choir Room
Thursday	Girls Night Out , 5:30 PM, Social Tap (811 21st Street) Chancel Ensemble Practice , 6:30 PM, Sanctuary Session , 7:00 PM, Library
Next Sunday	PALM SUNDAY 9:00 Ida Austin Class , online 9:15 Quest Bible Study , parlor 9:30 Sunday School Class , chapel

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The Mocking of Christ, by Antanas Kmieliauskas, Lithuania, 1991

First Presbyterian Church

Galveston, Texas

Sunday, March 22, 2026

5th Sunday of Lent

FPC VISION

Connecting to the Community with the Love of Christ

PREPARATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS Anne Woodson and Jane Fitz
“World Water Day”

PASSING OF THE PEACE Knox Rider, Liturgist

ADORATION

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come and worship the God who made heaven and earth.
We sing praises to one who brings justice to the oppressed.
Praise God who upholds the orphan and widow.
We praise our God, who reigns forever!

*OPENING HYMN #151

“CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS”

CONFESSION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Great God, our Creator,
As we remember Christ's suffering, our hearts are filled with shame that we foolishly waste our time in idleness and that we make little to no progress in the Christian life from day to day. We lament that war and greed flourish and grow more rampant every day. Forgive us for our cruel indifference to the cross. Teach us the good news of your forgiveness. Allow humanity, broken as it is, to live anew, and hasten the day when the whole world shall be born again. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #138

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God, Almighty” (vs. 1)

OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

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*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Psalm 146:1-10 Pg. 570

¹ Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! ² I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
³ Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. ⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.
⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;
⁸ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.
⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. ¹⁰ The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL Children ages 6 through 5th grade

*HYMN #92

“BENEATH THE CROSS OF JESUS”

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON JOHN 19:1-16A pg. 987

¹ Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ² And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. ³ They kept coming up to him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” and striking him on the face. ⁴ Pilate went out again and said to them, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him.” ⁵ So Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” ⁶ When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, “Crucify him! Crucify him!” Pilate said to them, “Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him.” ⁷ The Jews answered him, “We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God.”

⁸ Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. ⁹ He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, “Where are you from?” But Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ Pilate therefore said to him, “Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you and power to crucify you?” ¹¹ Jesus answered him, “You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin.” ¹² From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, “If you release this man, you are no friend of Caesar. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against Caesar.”

¹³ When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. ¹⁴ Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover, and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, “Here is your King!” ¹⁵ They cried out, “Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!” Pilate asked them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar.” ¹⁶ Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON