

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA PC(USA)

Order of Worship
Third Sunday of Lent
March 8th – 11:00 a.m.

- ✚ **Everyone is welcome here. God loves you, and so will we. God's grace is for all.**
- ✚ We welcome children of all ages in worship! We believe that all children are gifts from God and wiggles and giggles are part of that. Restrooms are equipped with changing tables. If parents prefer, our nursery is open for ages 0-4 in the Preschool's Cricket Room (north end of the main building). All staff are background checked, as are our volunteers.
- ✚ In the Narthex is a liturgical library with items to help worshipers of all ages engage with the service. Select which items you would like to use, place them in a small black bag from the left side if you wish, and please return your bag with the items to the basket beneath the display at the end of worship.
- ✚ If you or your family find attending worship in the Sanctuary causes sensory overload, we have two sensory spaces available for neurodivergent individuals to utilize while enjoying a livestream of the worship service. The first sensory room, geared toward children and those with higher support needs, is located next to the restrooms down the south first-floor hallway. The second sensory room, geared toward teens, adults, and those with lower support needs, is located in the Worship Center.
- ✚ Throughout the service, at the **, each person is invited to stand in body or in spirit.

Gathering Around the Word

Prelude

Welcome

Prayer of the Day (from the lectern)

Let us prepare our hearts for worship today by turning to God in prayer:
Come, O Holy Spirit. Come as Holy Light
and lead us in the darkness, come as Holy
Power and enable our weakness, come
as Holy Life and dwell in us, until we are
set free from the service of ourselves to be
your servants to the world. Amen.

Call to Worship** (from the lectern)

Please stand in body or in spirit and join me in the Call to Worship:

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

All: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

One: For the Lord is a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are God's also.

All: The sea is the Lord's, for God made it, and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

One: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

Call to Confession**

As we wander through the wilderness of Lent,
we come closer and closer to confronting human
sin, both our own sin and our collective sin.
It is with honesty about how we have hurt others,
and hurt ourselves, that we can move closer to the
healing that God wills for us. Confession allows us
to exercise such honesty, knowing that the God
who hears us is the God who already loves us.
Therefore, we need not fear confession, but draw
near to the love of God, in honesty and candor,
first together, and then in silence. (silence)

Prayer of Confession**

in unison

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another:
**God of endless renewal, God who calls us to lives restored, God who
rescues the lost and saves the afflicted, there are times when our
way grows confused. We struggle to know what to do. Or worse,
we know what needs to be done and find it easier to stay on the
wrong path. Forgive us for failing to heed opportunities to follow a
better way. Remind us that you stand more ready to forgive than we
are to confess those aspects of our lives that stand in need of your
grace. And thus forgiven, help us to lean in to what you would teach
us about how we are to be. We pray all these things in Jesus' name,
and for his sake...Amen. (silence)**

Kyrie

551

O Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mer-cy upon us. (repeat)

Assurance of Pardon

It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes who was raised, who is at the right
hand of God who indeed intercedes for us.

Believe the promise of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Response of Praise**

581

**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.**

Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Proclaiming and Sharing the Word

Prayer for Illumination (from the lectern)

Let us pray:

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of all of our hearts, be acceptable, even pleasing in your sight, O Lord, our strength and redeemer. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 17:1-7; (OT, pg. 61)

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"³ But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Scripture Reading

John 4: 5-42 (NT 89-90)

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.)¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband' for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(pause) I now invite our younger worshipers forward for the Time with Children

Time with Children

Jesus Loves Me, GTG 188

Children and Worship, a worship experience for ages 3 years – 3rd grade, meets in the Westminster Room, to the left as you exit the Sanctuary.

Sermon

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith**

(Excerpted from Confession of 1967)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

Hymn of Faith 479**

Ho, All Who Thirst - Jacob's Well

Prayers of the People *(concluding with The Lord's Prayer in unison)*

Eternal God, you have reached out to us so often, so persistently, we know of your love for us from so many sources, that we know as well that we may draw near to you with the needs of our hearts. And so we do, not as distant followers held at arms-length, but as beloved children, held close. So it is that we pray to you this morning with our concerns. For world affairs beyond our control, we pray your mercy. For the people of Ukraine and Gaza, we pray for peace, knowing that you alone are the source of Shalom, the peaceable kingdom. Where there are those in harm's way, p2 we pray protection. Where we harbor enmity and prejudice, we pray awareness and grace for ourselves that we may learn forgiveness. Teach us how we may serve you more fully in ways we cannot even imagine. We pray for needs closer to home, for our own community. Through this season of Lent, we ask that you would open our eyes to the needs that are on our very doorstep. May we see those and others whose names are known to you, and offer compassion and goodwill. We pray for victims of violence, and gun violence in particular. We pray for all who practice the healing arts, for their endurance and for their safety. We pray as well for ourselves, our own material and spiritual needs. Where our members suffer from illness and affliction, grant your healing touch, bringing wholeness. For any in our midst who suffer from depression or addiction, give us understanding and compassion. For those who are lonely, may we be a place of friendship, a warm haven where love is shared. We make this and all of our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together.

Invitation to Discipleship and Call for the Offering



Call for the Offering (from lectern)

God gives generously. Let us honor God by giving generously in return. From the dust of the earth, God made our mortal bodies, and with God's breath, life was instilled in us. There is nothing that we have that is not a gift from God. Remembering all of God's manifold blessings, let us worship God with our tithes and our offerings.

Offertory Anthem

My Soul Is Thirsting For You, O Lord – Charles Callahan

Doxology**

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

**To God the Father, God the Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in one,
may every tongue and nation raise an endless song of thankful praise. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication (from lectern)

Holy God, from abundance upon abundance, you have said that we may freely take, and freely share. As we return to you what is already your own, we ask that you would bless these gifts and multiply them. May we, in turn, be blessed, as we see your reign unfolding before us, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Hymn 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDA

Charge and Benediction**

By our endurance, may we gain character, and may the character Christ has given us carry us to abundant hope, that as we know Christ, we might make him known. And as we go, may the love, grace and communion of our triune God go before us to show us the way.

Postlude

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The Communion table flowers are given to the glory of God by The Ankroms celebrating their First Wedding Anniversary.

The Narthex table flowers are given to the glory of God by Dustin and Virginia Charter celebrating their 20th Wedding Anniversary.

53 O God, Who Gives Us Life

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
 2 O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare,
 3 O God of covenant and law, re-vealed in cloud and flame,

who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
 to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there:
 your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name.

de-liv-er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
 when we de-spair in wan-der-ing through wastes of emp-ty lies,
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove,

Help us to know your Spir-it still is mak-ing all things new.
 re-fresh us with the liv-ing spring of hope that nev-er dies.
 as on our hearts you write a-new the cov-e-nant of love.

Christians often fail to appreciate how much we can learn about God from the Hebrew Scriptures. This text draws on a variety of passages that call attention to God's faithfulness toward the Chosen People and the promise of a new covenant written on the heart (Jeremiah 31:31-34).



Come Now to the Water

Capo 1: (D)

(A) (G) (Em7) (A)

Refrain F All

C Bb Gm7 C

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa-ter, and

(D) (Bm) (G) (Em) (G) (A)

F Dm Bb Gm Bb C

all whose souls are parched and wea-ry, come and drink!

(D) (A) (G) (Em7) (A)

F C Bb Gm7 C

Ho, all who thirst, come now to the wa-ter, and

from your heart will flow a nev-er-fail-ing spring!

(Bm) (A) (G) (Bm) (A)

Dm C Bb Dm C

1 Why for-sake the Lord, the fount of liv-ing wa-ter,

2 For the Lamb will be our shep-herd and will guide us

3 All who come may take this gift of liv-ing wa-ter.

(Bm) (C) (Bm) (A) (A7)

Dm Eb Dm C C7

choos-ing bro-ken cups that can-not be filled?

to the well-springs of the wa-ter of life.

They will thirst no more, for they shall be filled.

This song brings together many biblical references that help to enlarge an appreciation of the water of baptism. The refrain is based on Isaiah 55:1, stanza one adapts Jeremiah 2:13, stanza two draws on Revelation 7:17, and the third stanza condenses the imagery of John 4:10-14.

65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

TEXT: Williams, 1762; stanza 1, trans. Peter Williams, 1771; stanzas 2-3, trans. William Williams, 1772
 MUSK: Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONL
 8.7.8.7.8.

Assisting in Worship Today

Preacher: Pastor Peter Olson

Liturgist: Belinda Bruner

Music: Lucia Unrau

Interim Choir Director: Ryan Downing

Counters: Stan Waugh & Billy McCollom

THE DEACONS' PRAYER LIST

Health/Personal	Health/Personal
Dorothy Akin	Becky Noah (Schreve)
Betty Bays	Larry Redburn
Blake & April (Baker)	Heather Rine (Seals)
Rita Breuninger	Michelle Scheible (Hearn)
Norma Burk	Carol Schmitt (Arquitt)
J. T. Cotter (Holland)	Danielle Shreve
Connie Dixon (Yost)	Roger Stevens (Garoffolo)
The Edwards Family	Connie Stiegler
Mary Emmet	Bill Tearney
Bennett Frohock	Lynda Williams
Tom Gent (Shreve)	
Mona Haney (Chermack)	Military
Denise Houston (Houston)	Dan Brooks
Edwin Koeppe & Family	Felicity Bruner
Tami Krehbiel's mom	Casey Campbell
Roger Lantz (Garoffolo)	Justin Fowler
Doug Legler (Beckstrom)	Matt Krehbiel
Nancy Martz	Miles Smith
Nathan Moore (Stangl)	

Names in parentheses indicate connection to FPC.

Ready, Set, Worship Sunday School class for children 3rd -5th grade will occur Feb 22, Mar 1, Mar 8 in the worship center. We request a parent for the class on Mar 8. We look forward to seeing your kids for this class. If you have any questions please reach out to Haley Ankrom at hbrobston@gmail.com.

First Presbyterian Church of Stillwater
524 S. Duncan St., Stillwater, OK 74074
405-372-5580 www.stillwaterfpc.org Wifi: FPC_Guest; 524Duncan

Pastor Peter Olson, Bridge Pastor/ Head of Staff: pastor.peter@stillwaterfpc.org

Kristyn Yerger, Church Administrator: kristyn.yerger@stillwaterfpc.org

Rachel Hearn, Finance Administrator: rachel.hearn@stillwaterfpc.org

Elijah Ankrom, Coordinator of Children's & Youth Ministry: elijah.ankrom@stillwaterfpc.org

Mallory Kizer, Digital Communications Assistant: mallory.kizer@stillwaterfpc.org

The Rev. Dr. Gordon Edwards, Pastor Emeritus

Rebecca te Velde, Organist/Director of Music Emerita

THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, March 8th

9:15 a.m. Meditation Group - UR

9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour - HA

9:45 a.m. Sunday school for all ages

11:00 a.m. Worship & Communion - SAN

12:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting - FH

5:00 p.m. PYG - YS

Monday March 9th

10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga - FH

6:00 p.m. Pack 3842 - FH

7:00 p.m. Scouting American Troop 820 - Scout Rm.

7:00 p.m. Scouting America Troop 888 - WR

Tuesday March 10th

9:30 a.m. Personnel Committee

1:00 p.m., Finance Committee

Wednesday March 11th

10:00 a.m. PW Bible Study

12:00 p.m. ROMEOS - HA

4:00 p.m. Trustees - YS

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - WR

Thursday March 12th

12:10 p.m. Chair Yoga - FH

2:00 p.m. Stephens Ministry - YS

6:00 p.m. Deacons - YS

Friday March 13th

Saturday March 14th

9:00 a.m. 7th day Adventist Worship - WC

11:00 a.m. Community Brunch - NFH

Sunday March 15th

9:15 a.m. Meditation Group - UR

9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour - HA

9:45 a.m. Sunday school for all ages

11:00 a.m. Worship & Communion - SAN