

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1621 E. GARRISON BOULEVARD • GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA
704.864.2651 • www.fpcgastonia.org • streaming live

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

10:00 a.m. Worship

WE GATHER FOR GOD'S WORD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Please use this time to silently prepare for worship.

PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

"What Wondrous Love Is This?"

Dale Wood

CALL TO WORSHIP

We will sing about the wonders of our Savior forever!

Let us proclaim God's love to all the generations!

We will declare that God's love stands firm,

Whose faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens above.

Blessed are those who know the Lord as their God,

For they walk in the light of his presence.

On this fifth Sunday in Lent, we gather to stand on God's eternal promises.

May the Lord meet us in this place!

Mary Taneti

†HYMN #12

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

ST. DENIO

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE PREPARE FOR GOD'S WORD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, we thank you for your promise of deliverance, of peace, but most of all, of your promise to love us forever. Through Christ, you have established a path for eternal relationship. We confess that we do not always embrace your promises for us. We try to make you fit within our own beliefs rather than allowing you to form them for us. Forgive us when we don't trust in your willingness and ability to save us. Help us to see you clearly and to live into the wonderful promises you continue to keep for us, (silent confession) amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Be at peace with God and one another, for in Christ, we are all forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #227 (Please remain seated as a posture of repentance.)

"Jesus, Remember Me"

REMEMBER ME

†**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jill Kimbirl

ANTHEM

"Do It Again"

Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matt Redman, Steven Furtick

Walking around these walls
I thought by now they'd fall
But you have never failed me yet
Waiting for change to come
Knowing the battle's won
For you have never failed me yet

Your promise still stands
Great is your faithfulness
Faithfulness
I'm still in your hands
This is my confidence
You've never failed me yet

I know the night won't last
Your word will come to pass
My heart will sing your praise again
Jesus you're still enough
Keep me within your love
My heart will sing your praise again

I've seen you move
You move the mountains
And I believe
I'll see you do it again
You made a way
Where there was no way
And I believe
I'll see you do it again

You've never failed me yet
I never will forget
You've never failed me yet
I never will forget

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 7:8-17

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:1-17

SERMON SERIES

Promises Made, Promises Kept

SERMON

It's in the Genes

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

†HYMN #725

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

NYLAND

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Tithes and offerings may be presented online at www.fpcgastonia.org/giving or by scanning the QR code on the right.



OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Great Are You Lord"

David Leonard, Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan

†DOXOLOGY #606

†DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

WE COMMIT TO SHARE GOD'S WORD

†SONG

"Do It Again"

Chris Brown, Mack Brock, Matt Redman, Steven Furtick

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†POSTLUDE

"Herzlich Tut Mich Verlangen (BWV 727)"

J.S. Bach

†If you are able, please stand.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

LENTEN LUNCHES

Wednesday, March 25, noon, off-site. **First United Methodist Church of Gastonia** will host this week's Lenten lunch. Meals will be available for \$8 per person. An offering will be taken during lunch. If you require transportation, please gather under the Church Portico at 11:30 am.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE-COMMENTS FROM OUR CLERK

Wednesday, March 25, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall. Join us for our last Wednesday Night Alive this spring. We will hear the latest news and church updates from Charles Gallman. Cost: \$8/person. Menu: Baked spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, and dessert.

EASTER LILY AND ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday, March 29, is the deadline. Honor or memorialize someone with a lily or One Great Hour of Sharing. Return the completed form with a check payable to First Presbyterian Church.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S SPRING GATHERING

Saturday, April 18, 10:00 am, off-site. We will recognize the scholarship and Faith Fund recipients, hear from our mission partners in Guatemala, and honor those women who joined the Church Triumphant in 2025. Our guest speaker, Brian Smith, is a member of the Long Creek Congregation and a local history expert. Registration begins at 9:00 am. Cost: \$15/person.

CURIOSITY AND COURAGE COMMITTEE DINNER PART II

Sunday, April 19, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall. We'll have dinner, fellowship, and conversation. The Curiosity and Courage Committee members will share progress to date on the Strategic Plan and provide an opportunity for congregants to offer feedback as the plan continues to be refined.



BLOOD DRIVE

April 21, 1:00 to 6:00 pm, Church parking lot. Help save lives by donating blood. Your donation can support patients in our community who rely on life-saving blood transfusions. Sign up to reserve your donation time. PW is asking ladies to bake cookies to give to donors.



HOLY WEEK OPPORTUNITIES

Easter Egg Hunt:	Sunday, March 29 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.
Stations of the Cross:	Monday–Thursday, March 30–April 2, 10:00 am–4:00 pm Monday–Tuesday, March 30-31, 4:00–7:00 pm, Sanctuary.
Maundy Thursday Dinner & Worship:	Thursday, April 2 at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.
Good Friday Tenebrae Service:	Friday, April 3 at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.
Easter Sunday Services:	Easter Sunrise service at 7:00 am in the Columbarium. Thrive Service at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Traditional Service at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS, VISIT
FPCGASTONIA.ORG/EVENTS



WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! Whether you are a first-time visitor, a lifelong member, or anywhere between, we pray that you experience God's love found in Jesus Christ through our worship this morning.

CONNECTION CARDS

Please fill out a Connection Card located in front of your pew. We will reach out to you as promptly as possible if you have a prayer request, would like to sign up for an event, or need a pastor to reach out to you.

NEW MEMBERS

Are you interested in becoming a member? If so, you may contact the Church Office or check the appropriate box on your Connection Card.

NURSERY CARE

Professional nursery care is offered for infants and children up to four years old. The nursery is located on the first floor; please see an usher for directions.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Daniel J. Commerford; Jill Kimbirl; Mary Taneti; David Jennings; Noah Williams; Thrive Band

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

RISE AGAINST HUNGER

Today, 11:00 am, Fellowship Hall. As part of our commitment to a meaningful mission, First Presbyterian Church, Gastonia, will be participating in Rise Against Hunger. **We have exceeded our goal of 150 volunteers. Registration is closed. Thank you for supporting this mission.**

CONNECT & GROW THIS WEEK

BIBLE STUDY

- **Youth Group:** *Sundays, 5:30 pm, PAD.*
- **Men's Fellowship & Breakfast:** *Tuesdays, 8:00 am, PAD.*
- **Women's Bible Study:** *2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10:30 am, Confirmation Room.*

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Faith and Fiction: April 5, 5:00 pm, off-site.