

Celebrate

Second Sunday of Lent

March 1, 2026

THE WAY



First
Church

Celebrate Service - March 1, 2026

We Gather

Prelude

Preparing Together

Prayer for the Path

God of Grace, we know you are with us on The Way. But we need sustenance in order to make the journey. As we come seeking peace and a place at the table, we find that you have already prepared and were expecting us. Help us to set tables of abundance for all who travel this journey of life, just as Jesus did.

Amen.

Song

"We're Marching To Zion"

Greeting Each Other

The Children Lead

We Proclaim

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 55:1-9

Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for God will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Gospel Lesson

Luke 5:29-32

Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house, and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others reclining at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

P: Thanks be to God.

The Message

Lead Pastor

Prayers for Getting Out of Our Own Way

Assistant Pastor

O God,

You so love the world that you give and give and give: the generous gift of Life itself, freedom of choice, sunrise in the morning, sunset in the evening, and all those surprises in between. Then you give us all the time there is—eternity.

I confess that my schedule often crowds out appreciation for these gifts and my numbness allows me to take them for granted. Everyday living requires such a serious investment of my energy that I easily neglect the grandeur all around me. Set me free to dance to the rhythms of your Spirit. Help me see that even times of sorrow and despair often enable me to discover strength I never knew I had. Make me strong at the broken places. Yet when the dark night of the soul approaches, if it is possible, let that cup pass from me, but if not...

Meet me in the stillness, Lord

Be the air I breathe

Meet me in the stillness, Lord

Free me to receive

Praying for Others Along the Way

We Go Forth

Great Thanksgiving

L: Will you open yourselves to the grace of Jesus Christ that is always and already available here at this table? If so, say, “Open us to your grace, Lord.”

P: “Open us to your grace, Lord.”

L: Will you open yourselves once again to the call of Jesus Christ? If so, say, “Open us to your call, Lord.”

P: “Open us to your call, Lord.”

L: Will you open yourselves to the possibility of transformation through Jesus Christ? If so, say, “Transform us, O Lord.”

P: “Transform us, O Lord.”

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them up to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of all that was, and is, and is to come.

L: You formed us in your image, creating all in goodness, asking us to walk with You in love. When we held back from Your invitation, You sought us out, encouraging us on our way, time and again.

L: You led those who could not see by a road they did not know. You have turned nighttime before them into light. You have smoothed out the rough places and made them plain. You have released the prisoners from the dungeon. You have made all things new.

L: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

L: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to walk with the poor, the captive, and the oppressed and to proclaim freedom and abundance in your name. On dusty paths and lakeside shores he encountered friends, strangers, and enemies, inviting them to journey with him and to eat with him. He offered newness of life and renewed covenants of love by water and the Spirit.

On the night that he gave himself up for the path of justice, he was at the table with his friends. He invited them... and he invites us, to pause in our quest for destinations and savor the company of each other and the ways in which he still is present in our gathering together. He took the bread, he broke it and blessed it and shared it. "Do this in remembrance of me." He took the cup, he poured into it, blessed it and shared it. "Do this in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

P: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again!

L: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ's pilgrimage to the kingdom, walking together one with each other, working together in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

P: Amen!

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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 Message in Music

"Hills and Valleys"

By Tauren Wells

Jorge Perzedejesus

Song

"Amazing Grace"

Vs. 1, 2, 3, & 6

Benediction

L: The Creator God filled you with breath,
inviting you to this journey called Life.

P: We will follow on The Way.

L: Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means
to make a new way with Love.

P: We will follow on The Way.

L: The Spirit gives us strength to move forward
with Courage and Compassion for all we meet.

P: We will follow on The Way.

L: May this week be filled with opportunities to choose
to take the higher ways of the Holy,
offering friendship, grace, and sustenance to those you meet.
May it be so. Amen.

“Buen Camino!”

Postlude

Prayers

Concerns Shared

Chad McLaughlin, Diana Hoke's nephew
John Anderson

All in need of prayer

Those In Memory Care

Jack Gaunt

Pat Staver

Active Military

As we update our list of active military personnel, we invite First Church families to share the names of any immediate family members currently serving. Please contact Ronda at rkroeschen@fumcwl.org and include each military member's name and rank.

AWR1 Isaiah Hale

Alex Turco

James Beaty

Worship Team

Audio/Visual

Livestream:

Todd Pickard

Slides:

Tom Dienhart

Soundboard:

Dustin Coolman

Liturgists

Liturgist:

Richard Bagnall

Heidi Bagnall

Musicians

Piano:

Charis Vander Plaats

Pastors

Lead Pastor:

Duane Carlisle

Assistant Pastor:

Kory Pritchett

Vocals

Soprano:

Vanessa Martin

Quick Links



[Giving](#)



[Bulletin](#)



[Check In](#)

Marching to Zion

1. Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
 2. Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
 3. The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
 4. Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry;

join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with
 but chil - dren of the heaven - ly King, but chil - dren of the
 be - fore we reach the heaven - ly fields, be - fore we reach the
 we're march - ing through Em - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Em -

sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and
 heaven - ly King may speak their joys a - broad, may
 heaven - ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or
 man - uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to

thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur -
 speak their joys a - broad, may speak their
 walk the gold - en streets, to walk the
 fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er

THE COMPLETION OF CREATION (THE CITY OF GOD)

Refrain

thus sur-round the throne. We're march - ing to Zi - on,
 speak their joys a - broad. We're march - ing on to Zi - on,
 walk the gold - en streets.
 fair - er worlds on high.

round the throne.
 joys a - broad.
 gold - en streets.
 worlds on high.

beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on; we're march - ing up - ward to

Zi - on, the beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.
 Zi - on, Zi - on, the

Amazing Grace

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1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound that
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 5. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and
 6. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 mor - tal life shall cease, I shall pos - sess, with -
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved.
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be, as long as life en - dures.
 in the veil, a life of joy and peace.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Cherokee

OOH NAY THLA NAH, HEE OO WAY GEE.'
 E GAH GWOO YAH HAY EE.
 NAW GWOO JOE SAH, WE YOU LOW SAY,
 E GAH GWOO YAH HO NAH.

Navajo

NIZHÓNÍGO JOOBA' DITTS' A'
 YISDÁSHÍTÍNÍGÍí,
 LAH YÓÓÍYÁ, K'AD SHÉNÁHOOSDZIN,
 DOO EESH'ÍÍ DA NT'ÉÉ.

Kiowa

DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY HE TSOW'HAW
 DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY HEE.
 BAY DAWTSAHY TAW, GAW AYM OW THAH T'AW,
 DAW K'EE DA HA DAWTSAHY H'EE.

Creek

PO YA FEK CHA HE THLAT AH TET
 AH NON AH CHA PA KAS
 CHA FEE KEE O FUNNAN LA KUS
 UM E HA TA LA YUS.

Choctaw

SHILOMBISH HOLITOPA MA!
 ISHMMINTI PULLA CHA
 HATAK ILBUSHA PIA HA
 IS PI YUKPALASHKE.

WORDS: John Newton, 1779; st. 6 anon.; phonetic transcription Cherokee, Kiowa, **AMAZING GRACE**
 Creek, Choctaw as sung in Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference; Navajo phonetic **CM**
 transcription by Albert Tsosi (1 Chr. 17:16-17)
 MUSIC: 19th cent. USA melody; harm. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900

GET INVOLVED



Protecting Our Neighbors

Want to learn practical ways to support and protect our immigrant neighbors? Come to First Church 6:30-8 PM for a community conversation. The event is sponsored by Greater Lafayette Immigrant Allies and We All Belong Greater Lafayette. Refreshments and childcare will be provided.



Stay Informed

The League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette will hold a Town Hall at First Church 2-4 PM March 7 to discuss local taxes. Property taxes were reduced last year, cutting funds to local schools, libraries, public safety and more. A bill pending before the Statehouse this year would create an income tax to offset the reduced property tax.



Euchre time!

Join us for euchre 5:45 PM to 8:30 PM on the second Wednesday of the month. Our next play date is this Wed., March 11. We usually have about five tables each month and lots of laughs. Get on the evite list by contacting Jeanne Norberg, jnorberg@purdue.edu.



Donate this month to food pantry

March is one of three months this year when FUMC has pledged to donate to the Tippecanoe United Food Pantry, 1314 Tippecanoe St. It is operated by Church Women United, a non-denominational group. Canned items: fruits & vegetables, tomatoes, beans, soup, pasta sauces. Boxed goods: cereal, macaroni & cheese, pasta, rice, crackers. Peanut butter is also always appreciated.

Please donate shelf-stable food and plastic bags for the pantry. Mail checks to Mary Alice Bauman, Treasurer, Tippecanoe County United Food Pantry, 3116 Sullivan St., West Lafayette, IN 47906.

No Tech Experience Required

Want to be part of the magic that streams our services to the world? It's easy and all takes place upstairs in a tech booth. You would toggle between three cameras as our services unfold, select the online display and adjust audio levels.

Or how about changing the slides during the service? It's done in a booth next to the streaming team. The words are scripted and so very easy to follow.

Is there someone you know who would enjoy this opportunity? No tech experience required! Ideally, we would have two people running the boards at each service. For a training session, contact Assistant Pastor Kory Pritchett or contact-us/ or call 765-743-1285.

