

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Third Sunday in Lent

9:00AM—Sunday School
10:00AM—Worship Service (Sanctuary)
11:00AM—Romans Disciple Study –Black/
Roberts/Rowell (E201)
11:00AM—FLPConversations (E209)
11:00AM—PW Coordinating Team (E102)
11:15AM—Pre-Confirmation (E205)
5:30PM—FLY/JV FLY

MONDAY, MARCH 9

8:15AM—Personnel Ministry (E205)
9:00AM-3:00PM—Wood Shop Office Hours
10:00AM—Circle 3 (Member’s Home)
11:00AM—Circle 2 (S211)
1:00PM—Bridge Group (Fellowship Hall)
3:00PM—Stephen Ministry (S211)
5:30PM—Coordinating Council (E205)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:30AM—Men’s Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
9:00AM—Yoga (Parlor)
10:00AM—Circle 1 (Fellowship Hall)
10:30AM—H3 Hunter (E205)
10:30AM—Staff Meeting (E102)
6:00PM—Circle 4

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

9:00AM– 3:00PM– Wood Shop Office Hours
11:00AM—Disciple Romans Study-Black/
Roberts (E205)
4:00PM—Book Discussion (E201)
4:00PM—Stewardship & Administration
(E205)
6:15PM—Handbell Choir (Choir Room)
7:00PM—Chancel Choir (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

9:00AM—Yoga (Parlor)
9:30AM—H3 Collins (S211)
12:00PM—FLPCafe (Fellowship Hall)
1:00PM—Mahjong Group (Library)
6:30PM—Deacons (E205)

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

Congregational Retreat

8:00AM-5:00PM—SCLEAP (Fellowship
Hall)

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Congregational Retreat

8:00AM-5:00PM—SCLEAP (Fellowship
Hall)

FLPC Livestream Team

*Billy Agee, Ryan Bailey, Zachary Barr,
Jeff Dahlin, Mike Ryker*

Worship Notes

***PLEASE BE AWARE** we live stream our worship and our services are video-recorded.

***CHILDCARE** is provided for all infants and children 6 years and younger.

***LARGE PRINT HYMNALS, BIBLES, AND BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE.** Please ask an usher if you would like to use one during our service.

***HEARING SYSTEM** available for those who are hearing impaired. You may bring your own earbuds to plug into the receiver if you would like. Please ask an usher.

***RESTROOMS** are located in the Narthex, the Connecting Point Hallway, and behind the sanctuary adjacent to the elevator. All restrooms are wheelchair accessible. An usher will be glad to direct you.

****PLEASE REMEMBER TO SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE****

Office Hours are Monday– Thursday 8:30–4:30

6500 N. Trenholm Road Columbia, SC 29206

flpc.org

803-787-5672

MARCH 8, 2026 | THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

WELCOME

Rev. Ed Black

PRELUDE

“Adoration”
Florence Price
Barbara Taylor, interim organist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

based on Psalm 23 (CEB)

Even when we walk in the darkest valleys, we fear no danger because God is with us.

Goodness and faithfulness pursue us all the days of our life, and we will live in the Lord’s house as long as we live. We are here to worship God!

***HYMN NO. 826**

“Lift High The Cross”

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O Lord, we wait for you! Come and be present with us! The suffering of the world, the pain in our community, and the hurt in our own hearts is more than we can bear. When we suffer, we feel like you have forsaken us. When we grieve, we feel alone and rejected. Hurt quickly turns to anger in our weakness, and we are tempted to deny and to curse you. O Lord, relieve our suffering, and where that is not possible redeem us through that suffering that we may come into your presence with assurance and thankfulness. And then, through our suffering make us strong in faith and unshakable in trust. Bind us tightly to you and give us your grace so that we may focus our hearts on you and see you at work in the world and in our lives. Forgive our Sin. Strengthen our faith. Accept our praise. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Based on Psalm 51

When God wipes away our wrongdoings they are completely gone and we are saved.

We are now freed to try again. Thanks be to God.

The church year is divided into liturgical seasons. For each season, a particular color is evident in our paraments and banners. This is currently the Season of Lent and the purple color of the paraments mirrors the purple color of the Advent Season, as both Advent and Lent are seasons of preparation. During Lent we prepare our hearts for the betrayal, crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

Today’s prelude is chosen in recognition of International Woman Composer Sunday.

Florence Price was a classically trained pianist, organist and composer. She settled in Chicago and was the first African American woman composer to have her music performed by a major American Symphony Orchestra.

“Adoration” was written in 1951 for church use and has been widely orchestrated for other instrumental ensembles.

When this symbol * precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or spirit. **Bold print** is an invitation for the whole congregation to participate in worship by reading in unison.

Learning to worship takes time, and we include our youngest members in worship by inviting them to the front for Time with Young Disciples. We are patient with young disciples learning to worship because God is patient with those of us who are older who are also learning to worship God.

The Lord's Prayer offers a good summary of much of Jesus' teachings.

***HYMN NO. 581**

GLORIA PATRI

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.

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

(Children through 1st Grade depart to Room #E-107)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING OF THE WORD

Romans 5:1-11 (NRSV)

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Walking in the Way of Jesus: Endure” *Dr. Ellen Skidmore*

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

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.

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“When I Cry”
Gaither/Hall
Ryan Poole, tenor

***THE DOXOLOGY**

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

***THE DEDICATION**

May these gifts, given in gratitude and love,
Change us and the world to serve your purpose!

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A Declaration of Faith: chapter 10; ll. 1-13 & 73-90

God keeps his promises and gives us hope. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus God kept his promises. All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ. But the work of God in Christ is not over. God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen. The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us. In Christ, God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death. This hope gives us courage for the present struggle.

Hope in God gives us courage for the struggle. The people of God have often misused God's promises as excuses for doing nothing about present evils. But in Christ the new world has already broken in and the old can no longer be tolerated. We know our efforts cannot bring in God's kingdom. But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible it may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming. Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

***HYMN NO. 821**

“How Can I Keep from Singing?”

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG**

The Lord's Prayer

“For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.”

***POSTLUDE**

“Diapason Movement”
John Keeble

Sanctuary Flowers

Gifts have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Martie McParland and Anne Amma by Beth Rozek.

We give to God out of gratitude. And the work of this church depends on your gifts. Offerings may be made online <https://flpc.org/give/> or use the QR code below.



A Declaration of Faith was adopted by the Presbyterian Church in the United States (a precursor to our current denomination) in 1977 as a “contemporary statement of faith, a reliable aid for Christian study, liturgy and inspiration . . .” It includes much that speaks directly to our current context and is useful for study and worship. This small section, of the much longer statement, gives us a way to affirm that the earth belongs to God and we are stewards of the earth God has made.

Some worshipers find sitting and listening to the musical postlude helps them conclude their worship. Others find joy in greeting others. Choose the response that helps you worship God. And if a fellow worshiper is seated, please allow them time and space to listen and pray.