

# First Presbyterian Church

Rev. Robert Malsack, Interim Pastor

4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 15, 2026

Preservice Music

Boyd Thomas

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Announcements / Opening Prayer

Prelude

Crystal Hogan

\*Praise Medley

Insert

Prayer of Confession:

*'There are none so blind as people who will not see.'*

**Lord, forgive our spiritual blindness.**

*'We must not close our minds; we must let our thoughts be free.'*

**Lord, forgive our narrow-mindedness that has little toleration for anyone's views outside our own.**

*'It's time to realize that people's beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder.'*

**Lord, forgive us for eyesight that is more critical than compassionate.**

*'Don't worry about what shows from without but the love that lives within.'*

**Lord, forgive us for judging people on the outside and failing to see Your presence on the inside.**

*(silence for reflection and personal confession)*

Response:

**So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,**

**Till my trophies at last I lay down.**

**I will cling to the old rugged cross,**

**And exchange it someday for a crown.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Dearly Beloved, hear and believe the good news:

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

*\*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.**

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Time with Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Hailey Walsh

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

Pg. 238, Pew Bible

Responsive Reading: Psalm 23

Pg. 458, Pew Bible

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

Sermon Text: John 9:1-41

Pg. 895, Pew Bible

Sermon: *Compassionate Eyesight*

Choral Anthem: *A Clean Heart* (B. Harlan)

\*Affirmation of Faith: **We must live as children of the light.**

**The light produces in us everything that is wholesome and good and true. Let our lives be living proofs of the things which please God. Light is capable of "showing up" everything that is darkness. It is even possible for light to turn the darkness it shines upon into light also. Thus, God speaks through the scriptures: Jesus is the light of the world, whoever follows Him will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Let us live as children of the light!**

*(adapted from Ephesians 5:8-14 & John 8:12, Phillips)*

Prayers of Intercessions

Prayer Concerns: Chris Hanley, Lorna March, Anne Starr, Phil Peterson, Chuck Jennings, Charlie and Jo Ann Novara, Floyd Kucharski, Geri Anderson, Scott Doda, Kathy Eavenson, Bonnie Hyde, Mary Rushford; the PNC; missionaries, Sam and Cayla

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.**

The Offering

Offertory: *Everything is Beautiful* (Ray Stevens)

\*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.**

\*Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Hymn: *Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)* Insert

\*Charge & Benediction

\*Response: *My chains are gone, I've been set free...*

\*Postlude

\*Those who are able, please stand.

\*\*\*\*\*

### CHURCH NOTES

**Monday:** 5:00p.m. Soup Kitchen (*drive-thru only*)

**Tuesday:** 1:00p.m. Shawl Ministry

**Wednesday:** 3:30p.m. 4-yrs. – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Young Disciples

5:00p.m. 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Young Disciples

6:30p.m. Adult Choir

**Thursday:** 9:30a.m. Sit, Chat, Finish That

**Friday:** 11:30a.m. Women's Luncheon: *Thai Bistro*

**College Connection:** Care packages will be sent to our college students in April, so please get your college student's address to Mary Jean ([maryjean5775@gmail.com](mailto:maryjean5775@gmail.com)) by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**All women are invited to the Women's Luncheon** this Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at *Thai Bistro* at 11:30a.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fireside Room.

**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA: Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.**  
See the sign-up sheets on the table in the Fireside Room.

**We still need Ushers & Readers for April.** There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fireside Room.

**Ushers:** Joe and Lulu Floriano; Larry and Connie Olkkonen

**HERE I AM TO WORSHIP** © 2000 Thankyou Music

Light of the world, You stepped down into darkness,  
Opened my eyes, let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You.  
Hope of a life spent with You.

**Chorus:**

And here I am to worship; here I am to bow down;  
Here I am to say that You're my God.  
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, O so highly exalted,  
Glorious in heaven above.  
Humbly You came to the earth You created,  
All for love's sake became poor. (*chorus*)

And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.  
And I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.  
No, I'll never know how much it cost  
To see my sin upon that cross.  
I'll never know how much it cost. (*chorus*)

**GIVE THANKS** © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. *repeat*

And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us. *repeat*

Give thanks, give thanks

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**OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART** CCLI Song # 2298355, Paul Baloche

**Chorus**

Open the eyes of my heart Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see You, I want to see You. *(repeat)*

**Verse**

To see You high and lifted up,  
Shining in the light of Your glory.  
Pour out Your power and love,  
As we sing holy, holy, holy. *(chorus)*

**Bridge** *(ending)*

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy.  
I want to see You.

**AMAZING GRACE / MY CHAINS ARE GONE**

© 2006 Rising Springs Music; Vamos Publishing; worshiptogether.com songs

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost but now I'm found  
was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed

**Chorus:**

My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood, his mercy reigns  
Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures *(chorus)*

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