



FOUNTAIN CITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 8, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

WORD OF WELCOME

The Rev. Susan Balfour

INTROIT

Why forsake the Lord?

Glory to God Hymnal Hymn 479

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 95, John 4

Meghan Tidwell

Liturgist: O come, let us worship and bow down;

All: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

Liturgist: The hour is coming and is now here.

All: Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

Liturgist: People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will you serve?

All: In spirit and truth, let us worship God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

John 4

Meghan Tidwell

Liturgist: Let us pray:

All: Lord God, Great I Am, you are living water. As we worship you this day show us who we are: channels of your love and vessels of your grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 81

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

Glory to God Hymnal

1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
 2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
 3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,

God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
 for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
 well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.

On the rock of a - ges found-ed, what can shake thy sure re- pose?
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
 Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?

With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
 Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Please sign and pass the friendship register located on the center aisle under the pew in front.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Romans 5

Meghan Tidwell

Liturgist: God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John 4

All: Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

For the Lamb will be our shepherd

Glory to God Hymnal Hymn 479

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Romans 5

The Rev. Susan Balfour

Minister: This is the good news of God's grace: Though we were sinners, Christ died for us. Though we were enemies of God, God loved us. Once we were lost and dead- now Christ has become our life and salvation.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI 581

Glory to God Hymnal

All: 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

Meghan Tidwell

Liturgist: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

ANTHEM

"O Give Thanks"

Corfe

FAITHFUL FRIENDS

Children ages 5 through 8 are invited to children's worship.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John 4

The Rev. Susan Balfour

Minister: Let us pray:

All: Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures and by the power of your Spirit, may we hear for ourselves the good news, and believe, because of your Word, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Minister: The Word of the Lord

Matthew 24:3-28
Revelation 19:11-21

All: Thanks be to God

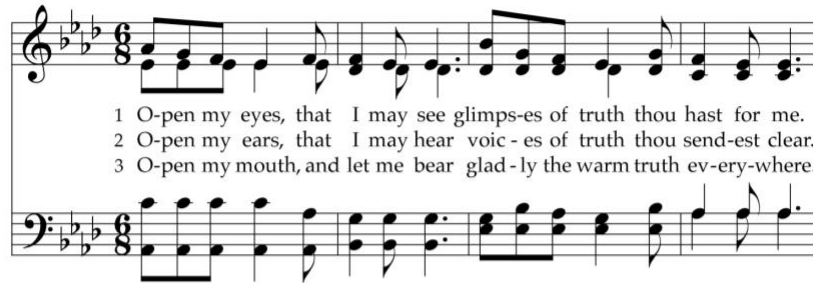
SERMON

The Rev. Susan Balfour

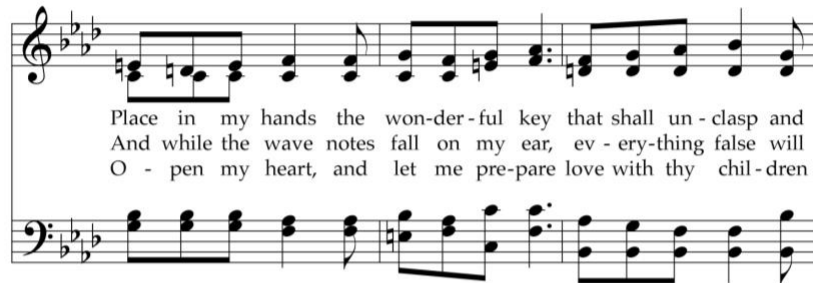
*HYMN 451

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Glory to God Hymnal



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth thou hast for me.
2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou send - est clear.
3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where.



Place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - clasp and
And while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev - ery - thing false will
O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with thy chil - dren



set me free. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy
dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy
thus to share. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy



will to see. O - pen my eyes; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
will to see. O - pen my ears; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
will to see. O - pen my heart; il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Ecumenical Apostles Creed

All: I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended to the dead; the third day He rose again; he ascended into heaven, and he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; 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

Traditional Version

All: 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 OFFERING

John 4

Meghan Tidwell

Liturgist: See how the fields are ripe for harvest! Already, God is gathering fruit for eternal life. With rejoicing, let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

"Here I Am To Worship"

Wagner | Hunter Wilburn, Violin

*DOXOLOGY 606

Glory to God Hymnal

All: 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 DEDICATION

Psalm 95, John 4

The Rev. Susan Balfour

Minister: Let us pray:

All: O Lord, you are our God; we are the people of your pasture, the sheep of your hand. As you have fed us by your mercy, may it be our daily bread to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 65

"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"

Glory to God Hymnal

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-er-er, strong de-liv-er-er,
 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.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

All who come may take this gift

Glory to God Hymnal Hymn 479

***CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION**

**All: Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
 Let Your love flow so the world will know, we are one in You.**

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP

- Liturgist Meghan Tidwell
- Greeters Gail Giffin, Susan Espiritu
- Ushers..... Darlene & Jon Miller, Amy Ogden
- Music..... The Fountain City Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir
- Interim Accompanist..... Angela Bell
- Organist George Hill
- Tech Team Mac Holland, Thomas Rader, Brett Miller, Debbie Hawkins
- Faithful Friends (Children's Worship)..... Susan Espiritu, April Lamb

OUR CLERGY AND STAFF

- Pastor The Rev. Susan Balfour
- Church Administrator..... Ashton Hicks
- Director of Music Bob Eubanks
- Nursery Staff Laurismar Wrinkle

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Flowers this week are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for the beauty of creation and new life springing up around us.

Gift of the Month: This month our community outreach and engagement committee is seeking donations for Fountain City schools of snacks. Snacks may include small waters, granola bars, etc. (no nuts.) Donations may be brought to the church office during regular business hours.

Second Friday Presbyterians: Each Second Friday, members of FCPC gather at a local bar or brewery for fellowship and libations. The mood is always welcoming and family-friendly. Join them this month at East by Orange Hat Brewing at 6:30 PM on Friday March 13.

The Lunch Bunch will gather at Loco Burro in the West Town Mall. Transportation from FCPC will leave at 10:30 AM. Please let Susan Espiritu know if you would like to attend.

Palm Sunday and Egg Hunt: Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, the most important time of the year for us as Christians. Join us for worship on Sunday, March 29 followed by our annual egg hunt. Invite your kids, grandkids and neighbors to experience the love of God at FCPC this Holy Week and Easter.

Maundy Thursday: On the night before our Lord Jesus was to be betrayed, he took bread and said "Take, eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Join us this Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 PM as we journey with Jesus from the table to the cross.

CHS Bobcat Bash: Fountain City Presbyterian Church will be present at this year's Central High School Bobcat Bash on April from 5:00-7:00 PM. Members of our Community Outreach and Engagement Committee (CORE) will be leading our presence. Come check out our new tent and get to know your neighbors.

F3 resumes on April 8 for a six-week study of the modern confessions in our Book of Confessions, which is Part I of the Constitution of the PC(USA). Copies of the Book of Confession are free, and all are welcome to attend. Stay tuned to sign up!

JARZHEIT

3/14/78 Nell Reynolds, 3/8/90 Melinda Fran Hicks, 3/14/02 Myrtle Olsen, 3/14/06 C.D. Cawrse, 3/9/08 Don Rochat, 3/9/08 Clora Cawrse, 3/11/15 Jeannette Cross, 3/12/18 Ruth Brennan

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

3/8 Abigail Bell, 3/9 Dawn Headrick, 3/11 Meghan Tidwell, 3/12 Johnny Biddle, 3/13 Mery Beth New, 3/14 Ashton Hicks

