

United Presbyterian Church
March 8, 2026 – Third Sunday in Lent



Welcome and Announcements

Elder Allen Pease

Prelude *Adagio from K. 280*—W. Mozart Benjamin Watkins, piano

Call to Worship

Jim Haverstock, Liturgist

Liturgist: Jesus said: whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst; the water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

Liturgist: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us worship God.

***Hymn of Praise**

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word

#454

Call to Confession (Liturgist)

To all and to each, where regret is real, God pronounces pardon, and gives us the grace to begin again.

Together, let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

**O God, bring new life where we are worn and tired,
new love where we have turned hard-hearted,
forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded,
and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit
where we are prisoners of ourselves.**

**We call upon your saving mercy, O God,
and pray that you will lead us in a new direction.**

— all pray in silence.

Words of Assurance (Liturgist)

Praise to the living Christ, hanged on a tree, yet risen in the morning.

Christ scatters the sin from our souls as the mist from the hills.

Let us welcome the grace of Christ in our hearts

to begin what we do, to inform what we say and to redeem who we are.

People: Thanks be to God!

**Gloria Patri*

#579

***Passing of the Peace**

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Liturgist: Let us share that peace with one another.

Prayer for Illumination – Liturgist

Gracious and Holy God: give us Diligence to seek Thee, Wisdom to perceive Thee, Eyes to behold Thee, a Heart to meditate upon Thee, and a Life to proclaim Thee; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament Lesson *Exodus 17:1-7*

Music for Meditation *As the Deer* UPC Quartet

The Gospel **John 4:5-42**

Pastor: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

Sermon *Living Water* The Reverend Susan McGhee

***Hymn of Response** *Open My Eyes, That I May See* #324

Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and

Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Rev. Susan McGhee

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 to Offering

Offertory

*Doxology #592

*Prayer of Dedication – Reverend McGhee

***Closing Hymn** *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak.* #426

* **Charge and Benediction** Reverend Susan McGhee

Postlude Benjamin Watkins, piano

* *Please stand if you are able*

United Presbyterian Church Prayer List

The family of Nabil Turk as they mourn his loss

Kevin Roby Virginia Kathleen Anita

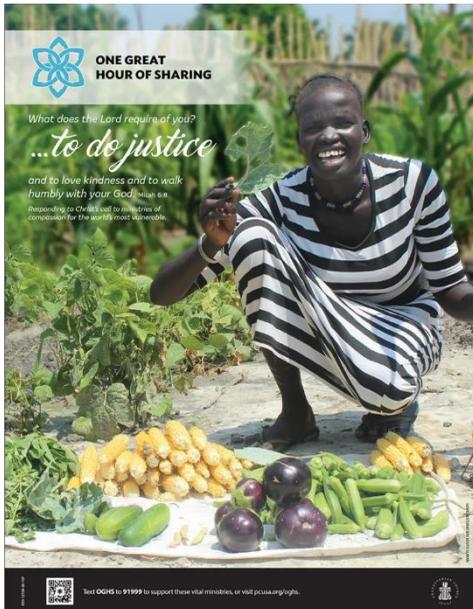
His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by Valerie & Felipe Colby

Nyaka Global in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

People of Middle East & Cypress, Georgia, Nigeria, Sudan & Ukraine

Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Ohio Valley – “Finding Hope”

is the theme of the 2026 PW Synod Lenten Zoom series begun on February 24. It continues March 10. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/pwlenten> and join any of the evening series. Rev. Dr. Sarah McKenny, Spiritual Support Coordinator at Stone Belt Arc in Bloomington, is the March 10 speaker. She will lead the ‘Hope in Community’ discussion at 7:30 pm EST/6:30 pm CST. Several PW groups in the presbytery are completing the 2025-2026 PW Horizons Bible Study, “Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ”, by Rev. Dr. Rhashell D. Hunter. Prayers requested as we Celebrate the Gifts of Women on March 8 and for those 34 PW delegates to the UN 70th Session on the Commission on the Status of Women, March 9-20.



A Call to Do Justice, Love Kindness and Walk Humbly

The prophet Micah issues a call “to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God.”

One Great Hour of Sharing

... does just that, working for justice around the world with partners who know the needs of their own communities. A way churches are answering the call is through grassroots organizing, a faith-rooted approach to addressing systemic injustices within local contexts.

The One Great Hour of Sharing PC(USA) Special Offering will be received at UPC on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.