

February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE "Kum Ba Yah, My Shepherd" arr. Rogers

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL HUNGER OFFERING

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is merciful and gracious, Ps. 103:8

slow to anger and abounding in love.

The word of God is near to us. Rom. 10:8, 13

Call on the Lord and you will be saved.

God's promise is for all generations; Gen. 9:12

God's covenant is with every living thing.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

+ **HYMN:** GTG #166 "Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days" ST. FLAVIAN

CALL TO CONFESSION Rom. 5:8

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained, and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

RESPONSE "Come and See (Kyrie)" MH KYRIE

Kyrie, Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Christe, Christe, Christe eleison.

Translation: Lord, Lord, Lord have mercy. Christ, Christ, Christ have mercy.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS Rom. 5:5

... In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!

HYMN: GTG #819 "Be Still, My Soul" FINLANDIA

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Your kingdom come, **your will be done.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children and youth are dismissed to Sunday School

MESSAGE FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE Debbie Markiewicz
One Great Hour of Sharing

INVITATION TO OFFERING Matt. 6:21

OFFERTORY "God Leads Us Along" arr. Stevens

+ **RESPONSE:** GTG #606 OLD HUNDREDTH
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

+ **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

+ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Adapted from the Belhar Confession (1982)

We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice, and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 O.T. page 2
Eating of the tree of knowledge

PSALM Psalm 32
Mercy embraces us

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."

Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you
in time of trouble;**

when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."

**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Romans 5:12-19 N.T. page 119
Death came, life comes

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 4:1-11 N.T. page 2
The temptation of Jesus

RESPONSE TO SCRIPTURE Matt. 4:4
We live not by bread alone, but by every word that comes from God.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM "The Jesus Way" arr. Martin

SERMON "Temptation!!!" Rev. Bill Pinches

+ **HYMN:** GTG #275 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" EIN' FESTE BURG

+ **CHARGE** Mark 8:34

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus:
If any wish to be my disciples
let them take up the cross and follow me.
Amen.

+ **BLESSING** Luke 4:1-2

May the Spirit of the triune God
strengthen and sustain you,
all throughout these forty days
and into the life that is to come.
Alleluia!

+ **CHORAL BENEDICTION** "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Lutkin

POSTLUDE "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" arr. Courtney

**You are invited to join us
for fellowship and refreshments
after worship in the Memorial Room.
It is not necessary to remain seated during the postlude.**

SERVING US TODAY

Liturgist: Suzanne Lang

Youth Acolyte: Jill Castle

Greeters: Debi and Mike Buchman

Next Week's Greeters: Lisa and Jill Castle,
and Laurie and Erin McGonigal

Sound: Tami Chapman

Livestream: Tami Chapman

Security: Tim Hammond and Doreen Chapman

Today's flowers are given by Nancy Sue MacDonald
in memory of Robin Shaw

CHURCH HISTORY IN MINIATURE

#66: *Death of Paul*

Early Christian writings say that Paul was executed by beheading, in Rome, during the reign of Emperor Nero, sometime after the great fire in Rome. (c. AD 64-68)

THE STUDY CATECHISM

Question 102. Why do we Christians usually gather on the first day of the week?

In worshipping together on the first day of the week, we celebrate our Lord's resurrection, so that the new life Christ brought us might begin to fill our whole lives.

CREDITS

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Mason First Presbyterian Church

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Office hours: Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

MINISTERS

All Members

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Bill Pinches

Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Jim Hegedus

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Charlie Herrick

Spiritual Growth Director: Lori Filka

Sanctuary Choir Director / Bell Choir Director: Deb Melse

Office Manager: Jessica Tessman

Financial Secretary: Becky Moots

Choral Music Accompanist: Yinzhe Li

Sexton: Eric VanDyke

Adult Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Michelle Mackey

Youth Ministry Coordinator: Sarah Fay-Koutz

Child Care: Jill Castle, Jasmine Leffew,

Violet Mackey, Sam Pinches, Keren Tayong

ELDERS

Class of 2026: Bruce Archer (*Clerk*), Ginnie Gibson,

Jane Hamelink, Tim Hammond

Class of 2027: Travis Archer, Dan Baker, Evelyn Tayong, Steve Sowles

Class of 2028: Mary Garland Jackson, Greg Lang, Suzanne Lang, Monte Shuck

DEACONS

Class of 2026: Ron Dlouhy (*Treasurer*), Bill Leutscher, Sandy Leutscher,

Nancy Sue MacDonald (*Secretary*), Laurie McGonigal

Class of 2027: Donna Archer, Rick Cote (*Co-Moderator*),

Sally Hughes, Debbie Johnson, Issie Nielsen

Class of 2028: Sandy Diehl (*Co-Moderator*), Pattie Yanz, Torrie Yanz

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Today	Annual Congregational Meeting	11:15 am
	Adult Sunday School	11:30 am
Wednesday	Lunch packing for Advent House	10:15 am
	Midweek Prayer Service	12:00 pm
	Wonderful Wednesday (K-12)	4:00 pm
	Wednesday Night Dinner	6:00 pm
	Bell Choir Rehearsal	6:30 pm
	Choir Rehearsal	7:10 pm
Thursday	Personnel Committee	5:30 pm
Friday	Church Office closed / Pastor's Sabbath	

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Feb. 23: Noah Santana

Feb. 23: David Torrey, Sr.

Feb. 26: Colson Tessman

Mason First Presbyterian Church

February 22, 2026 First Sunday in Lent



The Temptation in the Wilderness
by Briton Rivière, 1898

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness
to be tested by the devil...
(Matthew 4:1)