

with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” 9 Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” 10 Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

11“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14 And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

Sermon: “God So Loved The World,” Rev. Heidi Bolt of the Presbyterian Foundation

* Hymn # 494 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*

Offering -



* Doxology

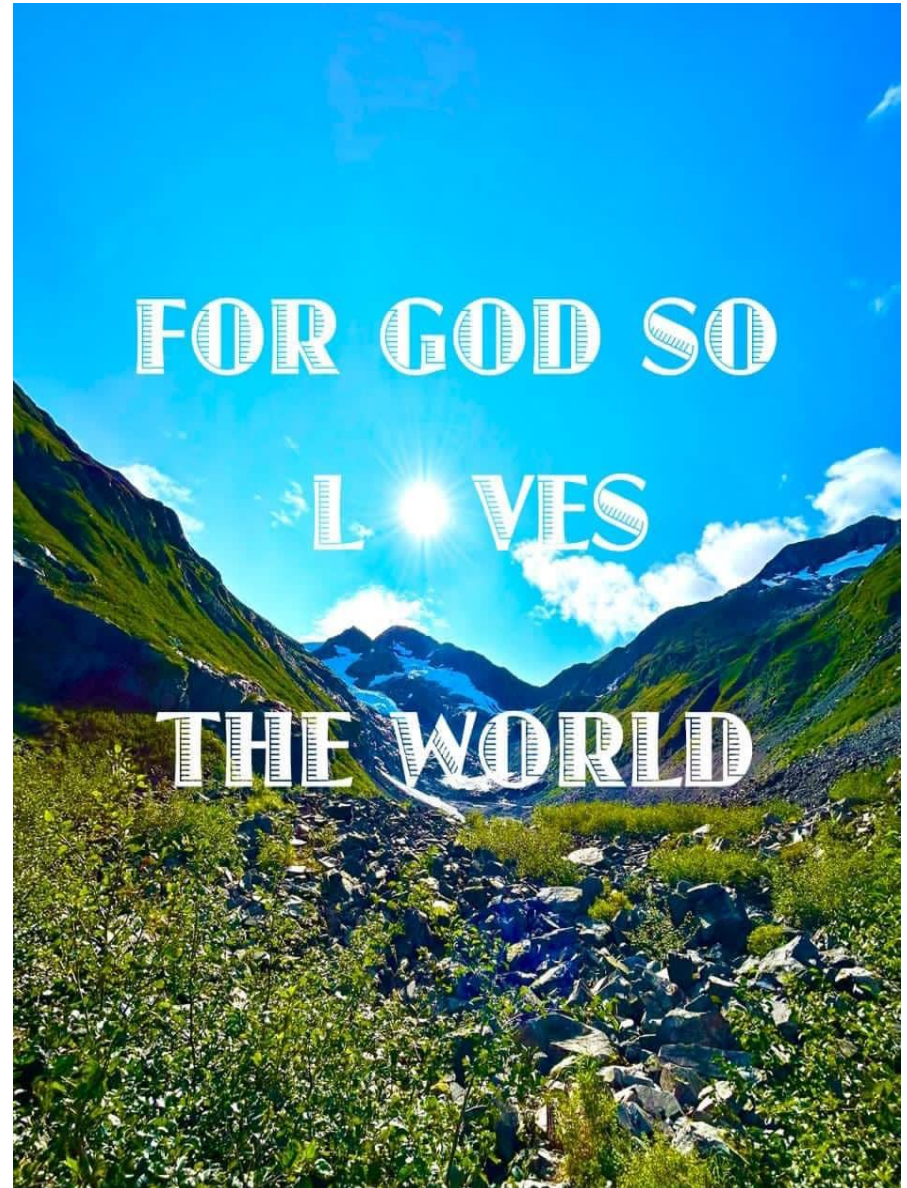
Lord's Supper

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

* Hymn # 545 *Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace*

Benediction

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in D Minor*
By J.S. Bach



**WELCOME TO FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

First Presbyterian Church
Worship March 1, 2026 – Lent 2
Welcome!
***Indicates please stand**

Prelude *Offertoire* by Theodore Dubois

Welcome, Announcements, and Invitations

Call to Worship (Psalm 107, Ephesians 2, John 3; written by Jamie D. Greening) **Pastor Matt and Mary Mystrom, Liturgists**

Leader: God loves us with a steadfast love.

All: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!

Leader: God loves us so much he gave us his Son.

All: Let us believe and have eternal life!

Leader: God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy.

All: Let us have faith to receive this grace!

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

All: Let us rise, join our voices, and worship God, together!

* **Hymn # 618** *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*

Time for Reconciliation (inspired by Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-16; written by Amy Loving)

Leader: God, we confess that we are an impatient and selfish people.

When you offer us the promise of a new future,

All: we complain that you don't get there fast enough.

Leader: When you provide for our needs,

All: we complain that it isn't enough.

Leader: And when our bad attitudes and negative outlooks cause us to stumble,

All: We blame you.

Leader: Holy God, forgive our sinful ways.

All: Teach us to be patient.

Instruct us to be grateful.

Guide us to be responsible and humble.

Leader: : As we turn ourselves around and look to the cross,

All: Let us experience your grace and your gift of new life.

In the name of Christ our Savior, we pray. Amen.

Leader: We pause for a moment of silence, to privately confess our sins to God, and to forgive those who have sinned against us.

Moment of Silent Confession

Leader: Sisters and brothers in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, all is forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God!

* **Response: 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.

Passing of the peace

Choir Anthem

As We Gather at Your Table

By Loyd Larson, words by Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Kids' Time

Scripture Readings

- **Genesis 12:1-4a** - Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. 2 I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

- **John 3:1-21** – 1 Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. 2 He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." 3 Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6 What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 8 The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is