

March 9, 2025; 9:00 am
First Sunday in Lent

We Gather Together

Welcome to today's Service of Worship. Whether you are with us in person, joining us live on zoom, watching on our YouTube channel, or listening on KFIZ, we are glad you are here. For those in person, please use the time before worship to fill in the Friendship Pad in your pew. We extend a special welcome to our visitors, and if you have not already received your welcome gift, please pick one up as you leave the sanctuary after worship.

Prelude: "Aurelia"

arr. by Gerhard Krapf

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us in that we should be called God's children, and that is what we are!" (1 John 3:1)

Ringling of the Bell and entrance of the Light of Christ

***Call to Worship**

Kay M., Liturgist

When Jesus was in the wilderness, he was tempted to save himself.

We often look for the good things for ourselves first, before the well-being of others.

Jesus was offered salvation if he turned stones to bread; if he accepted wealth and power; if he tested God's commitment to him.

In all these things, Jesus remained strong in his commitment to God.

May our commitment be as strong.

May our lives be placed in God's caring hands throughout our journey. AMEN.

***Opening Prayer**

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the Promised Land. Guide us now, so that, following your son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give. Lord Jesus, as you resisted the temptations in the wilderness, help us to place our trust

in you, that we may be strong in our faith and confident in our identity as children of God, a royal priesthood, members of your household of ministry. Amen.

***Sung Response: GTG 694 “Great God of Every Blessing”** Carol W.

***Call to Confession** Kay M., Liturgist

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sins.

***Prayer of Confession** Kay M.

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Silent Confession

(In the silence of our hearts we confess our sins to God.)

Lord, have mercy upon us; **heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

***Sharing God’s Peace**

Hear this promise from Colossians 1:20, “Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile all things, by making peace through the blood of the cross.”

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

(Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you using the ancient formula ‘The Peace of Christ.’ ‘And also, with you.’ Please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands or be too close. We encourage you to use this time to send a text or emoji to someone who cannot be here.)

***Sung Response: GTG 610 “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” vs. 1**

God's Word Is Proclaimed

Psalm Reading: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16 (Common English Bible)
page 548 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 737 (CEB)

Living in the Most High's shelter,
camping in the Almighty's shade,
**I say to the Lord, "You are my refuge, my stronghold!
You are my God—the one I trust!"**

Because you've made the Lord my refuge,
the Most High, your place of residence—
no evil will happen to you;
no disease will come close to your tent.
**Because he will order his messengers to help you,
to protect you wherever you go.**
They will carry you with their own hands
so you don't bruise your foot on a stone.
**You'll march on top of lions and vipers;
you'll trample young lions and serpents underfoot.**

God says, "Because you are devoted to me,
I'll rescue you.
I'll protect you because you know my name.
**Whenever you cry out to me, I'll answer.
I'll be with you in troubling times.
I'll save you and glorify you.
I'll fill you full with old age.
I'll show you my salvation."**

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:1-13 (Common English Bible)

page 61 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 1248 (CEB)

Jesus returned from the Jordan River full of the Holy Spirit, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. There he was tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and afterward Jesus was starving. The devil said to him, “Since you are God’s Son, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.”

Jesus replied, “It’s written, *People won’t live only by bread.*” (Deut. 8:3)

Next the devil led him to a high place and showed him in a single instant all the kingdoms of the world. The devil said, “I will give you this whole domain and the glory of all these kingdoms. It’s been entrusted to me and I can give it to anyone I want. Therefore, if you will worship me, it will all be yours.”

Jesus answered, “It’s written, *You will worship the Lord your God and serve only him.*” (Deut. 6:13)

The devil brought him into Jerusalem and stood him at the highest point of the temple. He said to him, “Since you are God’s Son, throw yourself down from here; for it’s written: *He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you and they will take you up in their hands so that you won’t hit your foot on a stone.*” (Ps. 91:11-12)

Jesus answered, “It’s been said, *Don’t test the Lord your God.*” (Deut. 6:16)
After finishing every temptation, the devil departed from him until the next opportunity.

Children’s Time

Jennifer Zander

HYMN: GTG 177 “I Will Come to You” (You Are Mine)

Sermon: “Knowing Our Identity”

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin

We Respond to God's Word

The Practice of Gratitude

In response to God's Word and remembering all things come from God, we offer with thanks a portion of that which God has entrusted to us. The ushers will collect God's tithes and our offerings. For those who have given in other forms, there are cards in the pew racks that you may use as a tangible action of gratitude to God. No matter what we return to God in material forms, may we spiritually place our hearts, and our very lives, in God's hands, to be re-shaped for ministry in Christ, furthering God's kingdom here on earth.

Offering Music: GTG 188 Jesus Loves Me!

Carol W.

***Offertory: GTG 647** "Give Thanks"

***Offertory Prayer**

Prayers of the People

Anna J* (Katy J. mom)	Pete D.	Paige T.
Arnold L.	Jesse F.	Pass Family
Bob & Ollive B.	Joan K.* (Marcus A. mom)	Pat D.
Brian C.	Kathy A* (Kevin B sister)	Pat M.* (Bonnie H sister)
Chastity G. & Joan S.	Kathy G.	Paul W.
Corinne C.	Liam A.	Qualine S.* (Jodi A mom)
Dick and Maryann*	Lynn M.	Sherry M.
Elias B.* (Laurie C grandson)	Marie L.	Steven B.* (Kevin B nephew)
Gib D.	Marty P.	

Family of Carol D.

The names in **bold** are new to the prayer list. The names with an asterisk (*) are not church members. However, a church member has received permission to ask that they be lifted in prayer. Prayer request cards are available in the Prayer Box in the Narthex, in the church pews, or online ([click here](#)). You can place your prayer request in the offering plate or the lock box at the church office door. For electronic prayer requests, please complete the form and click submit. If you have a pastoral concern, that happens before or after office hours, please call the office (920.922.0425), press #2 for Pastoral Care.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

***Sending Song: GTG 43 "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord"**

***Taking the Light of Christ into the World**

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: "On Eagle's Wings"

arr. by Fred Bock

Wednesdays, March 12- April 9



12:15-12:45pm	Worship-In-person at FPC or on Zoom
12:45-1:30pm	Soup/Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall (In-person only)
6:30-7:30pm	In-person Gathering with Food and Study at <i>Bob's on the Avenue</i> (689 Fond du Lac Ave, Fond du Lac, WI)

This is part of learning to live and share with one another as the Body of Christ. All are welcome to share the meal, without concern for the cost. A free-will donation will be taken at each to help cover the costs of food.

WEEKLY STATISTICS FOR MARCH 2,2025

Individuals in Person: 118

Zoom Households: 06

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
03/02/2025	\$1217.00	Tithes/Offerings
	\$ 259.00	Special Offerings
02/24--28 2025	\$ 781.00	Vanco Online "Tithes/Offerings"
	110.00	Special Offerings
	<hr/>	
	\$ 2367.00	TOTAL INCOME FOR THE WEEK

Financial Giving and Gratitude

You can give online at www.fdlpresbyterian.org [Giving page](#). (Click on ‘Online Giving’.) You can also give by cash or check on Sunday morning, or by mail. We are so very thankful for your contributions that help us do God’s work in our church and in our community.

GETTING CONNECTED:

Office Phone

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Office Email

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Breeze Subdomain:

[FDLFirstPresb](#)

Facebook

[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](#)

YouTube

[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](#)

March

Deacon of the Month: Carol Smith

Elder of the Month:

Joanne Marchionda

STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Craig R. Alwin

pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander

jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org

Kris Bartelt

kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka

mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

This Week

Sunday

9:00-10:00am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
11:20-12:00pm

Monday

10:00-11:30am
1:00-2:00pm

Tuesday

1:00-5:00pm

Wednesday

8:00-9:00am
9:30-12:00pm
11:30-12:00pm
12:15-12:45pm
12:45-1:30pm
4:00-5:00pm
5:00-6:00pm
6:30-7:30pm

Thursday

6:00-7:30pm
6:00-8:00pm

Saturday

9:00-3:30pm

Sunday

9:00-10:00am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
11:20-12:00pm
11:30-12:30pm
1:00-2:00pm
6:00-7:30pm

March 9

Worship
Fellowship Time
Growing Connections-Lenten Journey and Practices
Sunday School
Sunday Morning Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

March 10

Staff Meeting
Nominating Committee

March 11

Blood Drive

March 12

Men's Breakfast
Mind Over Matter
Mid-day Lenten Choir Rehearsal
Mid-day Lenten Worship
Lenten Luncheon and Study
Handbell Rehearsal
Women in Faith
Lenten Evening Worship & Study at *Bob's on the Avenue*

March 13

Buildings and Grounds Meeting
GriefShare

March 15

Sunset Stitchers Guild

March 16

Worship
Fellowship Time
Growing Connections-Blandine House
Sunday School
Sunday Lenten Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)
Learning Team Meeting
PYA at the Woodlands
Boy Scout Committee Meeting