

March 22, 2026



**First Presbyterian  
Church**  
of Pittsburgh

*Worship Service* – 10:45 am

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\*Please stand as you are able

**Prelude: "There Is a Balm in Gilead"**  
African American spiritual

Ruth Ann Reamer, *piano*

**Time of Welcome**

Rev. Thomas M. Hall II  
*Pastor Emeritus*

*Gathering Before the Word*

\***Responsive Call to Worship (Psalm 31:1-5)**

Kathy Davis  
*Liturgist*

Leader: In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; deliver me in your righteousness.

**People: Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue.**

Leader: Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me.

**People: Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge.**

Leader: Into your hands I commit my spirit.

**All: Deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.**

\***Hymn #604: "To God Be the Glory"** (located in this bulletin)

Joining the congregation on the hymns is Anderson and Ruth Lacerda, *violinists*

**Call to Confession**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

Kathy Davis

**H**eavenly Father, we know the importance of commitment. We say we admire people who "give one hundred percent." But we confess that we fail to live up to our own standards, let alone yours. Our commitment to you and to others is weak. We fail to follow your ways. We ignore the pain of others. And so, the cross confronts us with the total commitment of our Savior. With his dying breath, he gave himself and all that he was to you. In that greatest act of love, he bore all our sins away. Father, forgive us once more. Give us minds and hearts totally committed to you. *Amen.*

## Time of Silent Prayer and Confession

### Assurance of Forgiveness

### Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Hall

### The Lord's Prayer

**O**ur 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; lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

### Children's Message

Jana Hall

**\*Hymn #2086:** "Open Our Eyes, Lord" (*located in this bulletin*)

## *Proclaiming the Word*

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 23:44-49

Kathy Davis

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last. 47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, "Surely this was a righteous man." 48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. 49 But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon:** "Father, Into Your Hands, I Commit My Spirit"

Rev. Hall

## *Responding to the Word*

**\*Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles' Creed**

**W**e believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His 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 into hell; the third day He rose again, from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. We 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.*

**Offertory Music: "Arise, My Soul, Arise"**  
Music by Dan Forrest (2012)  
Lyrics by Charles Wesley (1742)

Torey Gricks, *soloist*  
Anderson Lacerda, *violinist*

*Arise, my soul, arise, shake off thy guilty fears.  
The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears.  
Before the Throne, my Surety stands.  
My name is written on His hands.*

*Five bleeding wounds He bears, received on  
Calvary,  
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead  
for me:*

*"Forgive them, O, forgive," they cry,  
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die."*

*My God is reconciled, His pard'ning voice I  
hear;  
He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear;  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.*

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Hall

**\*Hymn #770: "In Christ Alone"** (see insert page)

**\*Invitation, Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude: "To God Be the Glory" - Reprise**

Ruth Ann Reamer, *piano*



*Our sincere appreciation to Rev. Tom Hall and Jana Hall for being with us today,  
and to Ruth Ann Reamer for so graciously stepping in as our music leader and pianist.*

*Special thanks to Anderson and Ruth Lacerda—violinists, Duquesne University students, newlyweds, and  
new members of First Church—for sharing your talents and enriching our worship this morning.*

604

# To God Be the Glory

G D7 G D G C

1 To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done; so loved he the  
2 O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, to ev - ery be -  
3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

The first system of music is in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

G A D G D7 G

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -  
liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who  
joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er and high - er and

The second system of music continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

D G C G/D D7 G

tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceives.  
great - er will be our won - der, our \*trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

The third system of music continues the melody and bass line from the second system. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

*Refrain*

D D7

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord,

The Refrain section of music is in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

*\*ecstatic joy*

➤ Continued on next page . . .

## To God Be the Glory (continued)

praise the Lord; let the peo-ple re-joice! O come to the Fa-ther through

Je-sus the Son, and give him the glo-ry; great things he has done.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1875, alt., P.D.

Music (TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11.11.11.11 refrain 6.6.6.6.11.11): William H. Doane, 1875, P.D.

2086

# Open Our Eyes



O - pen our eyes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ we want to see Je -



sus, \_\_\_\_\_ to reach out and touch him, \_\_\_\_\_ and



say that we love him. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen our ears, Lord, \_



\_\_\_\_\_ and help us to lis - ten. \_\_\_\_\_ O - pen our



eyes, Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ we want to see Je - sus. \_\_\_\_\_

770

In Christ Alone

G D G A Bm

1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my  
 2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh— full - ness of  
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the  
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

G Em7 A D G D G

light, my strength, my song— this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babel— this gift of love and right - eous -  
 world by dark - ness slain; then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
 power of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fin - al

A Bm G Em7 A D

ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of  
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save. 'Til on the  
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain! And as he  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No power of

G D A D G Bm7

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings  
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -  
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on  
 hell, no hu - man plan, can ev - er pluck me from his

Continued on flip side >

## In Christ Alone (continued)

cease. My com - fort - er, my all in all,  
 fied. For ev - ery sin on him was laid;  
 me; for I am his and he is mine,  
 hand; 'til he re - turns or calls me home,

here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 here in the death of Christ I live.  
 bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Words and Music (IN CHRIST ALONE 8.8.8.8 D): Keith Getty and Stuart Townend © 2002 Thankyou Music (PRS), admin. worldwide at [EMICMGPublishing.com](http://EMICMGPublishing.com) (excl. Europe admin. by Kingswaysongs)

## Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

### Hospitality Hour

Join us after worship this morning for a time of refreshments and fellowship in the chapel. If you're visiting with us, we would especially like to get to know you!

### Sunday School

*The Cornerstone Class* continues to explore the early Church through a study of the **Book of Acts**. The class meets from **9:30 - 10:30 a.m.** in **Room #17** (chapel area, next to the stage). If you'd like to join them for fellowship and learning, please contact **Charlie Claudon at 412-400-4868**. Children's Sunday School also continues in Room 4 downstairs. All children are invited.

### Easter Flowers

This Easter, our sanctuary will be decorated with beautiful white lilies and mixed-color tulips, available for purchase at \$15 each. A portion of the proceeds will support a floral arrangement for the lower pulpit. Donors and the individuals honored or memorialized will be listed in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

**Order deadline: Friday, March 27**

To place an order, contact **Carly at 412-471-3436 ext. 213** or **cblack@fpcp.org**. If ordering by email, please include:

- The quantity and type of plant(s)
- The wording for any "in memory of" or "in honor of" designation
- How your donor name should appear
- Whether you will take the plants after the Easter Sunday service

Checks (payable to the church) may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

### Spring Clean Workday - Saturday, March 28, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Join us for our upcoming Workday of Service & Fellowship. We'll provide snacks! Helpers of all skill levels are welcome as we spruce up our building and grounds in preparation for Holy Week services. Please consider joining us for any part of the morning that works for you. Let us know you'll be coming by contacting our new Volunteer Coordinator Mary Caswell at the church office at **mcaswell@fpcp.org** or 412-471-3436 ext. 211.

### Worship with us during Holy Week

**Maundy Thursday Service - April 2 - 7:00 pm** - This will be both a Communion and a Tenebrae service.

**Good Friday: April 3 - 12:00 pm** - Service followed by a City-wide Prayer Walk.

### A New Easter Tradition at First Church!

You are invited to **bring freshly cut flowers on Easter Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> to adorn the First Church Easter Cross**, symbolizing the hope and renewal of the Resurrection. The cross will be prepared with wire mesh to receive fresh flowers, allowing it to be transformed into a floral cross.

## Looking Ahead . . .



**Annual Congregational Meeting** will take place on **April 12<sup>th</sup>** following the worship service.

**Marathon Sunday - Volunteers Needed** - This year's marathon will take place on **Sunday, May 3**. Our building will be open that morning to provide restroom access for runners and visitors. We are seeking volunteers to serve as building monitors and individuals to join **Rev. Walls** in offering **prayer and spiritual support** to runners beginning at 5:00 a.m. If you can help, please contact the church office at **412-471-3436 x213** or **cblack@fpcp.org**

**New Summer Worship Time** - Beginning **June 14** and continuing through September 6, Session has unanimously approved moving Sunday worship to **9:30 a.m.** to take advantage of the cooler morning temperatures.

## First Church Staff and Clergy

Church Office: 412-471-3436  
320 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
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**VOLUNTEER SOUND/  
VIDEO TECHNICIANS**  
Victor Ndinyah  
Doug Williams  
Dan Conner  
David Charlton  
Brian Vertz

Anita Perry, *assistant*

**PASTOR EMERITUS**  
Rev. Thomas M. Hall II

Our Sanctuary is open to visitors Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
*Call to Schedule a Tour!*

You can reach the Church Office Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Call: 412-471-3436 | Email: info@fpcp.org | www.fpcp.org.

### Visiting Us Today?



**Scan Code to Connect with Us!**

### Giving Online?



**Scan Code to Give!**

### Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get a sticker for your parking ticket at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). Scan both sides of the ticket at the payment booth at the **Oliver**, **Mellon Square**, and **Smithfield** garages to pay \$1 for parking.

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Volume 1 |  
Issue 1  
March 2026

# FPCP in Missions

## *Getting the Word Out*

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### The “Why”

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Again, Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.” John 20:21

***I will serve these people.*** –Rev. Bohdan Kulitskiy

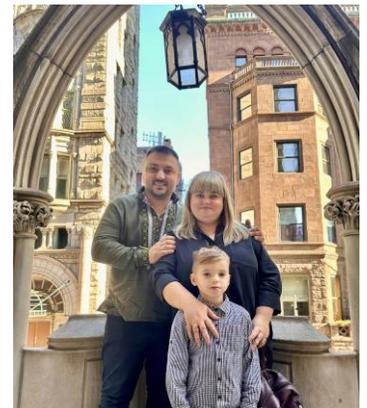
In March 2022, just after the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine, our congregation made a generous decision to send a free will offering to help our friends at the Bread of Life Church in Kozelets. The gift was more than \$10,000, but the impact of our connection did not end

there. We have kept our commitment to them with sustained giving through our missions’ budget, messages, and prayers of support. Bohdan and Inna have been



*Bohdan delivering food to soldiers.*

training local and regional teams for pastoral, children’s, and chaplaincy ministries. They have planted a new and thriving church. Their teams continue the distribution of food and other necessities in nearby villages and to soldiers at the front. During the recent, brutal winter, Bread of Life sourced, split and delivered firewood to those who



*Bohdan, Inna & Tima visit to FPCP in 2023*



*Small group study at the new church in Oster*

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*“We’re so grateful for your generous support!” —Katie DeJournette, Hosanna Industries*

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### Thank You from Hosanna Industries

During FPCP Missions Sunday on October 5, Katie DeJournette spoke to us about the urgent need to acquire a new tool truck, essential for their construction and renovation projects. FPCP’s special missions offering for 2025 was designated to help with the purchase. In January, we received word that the new truck was acquired and painted with Hosanna’s signature green!



*New Tool Truck for Hosanna Industries*

**Prayers for Hope School** For many years, FPCP has been supporting Hope School, a Christian school on the outskirts of Bethlehem, in the Palestinian West Bank. The school provides K-12 education to Christian and Muslim children. Their operation is heavily dependent on finances raised through scholarships and other forms of fundraising. After decades of encroaching Israeli settlement, a poor economy and



*Hope School, Bethlehem, West Bank*

strict military regulation, life is hard for the children and their families who live a few miles—and a giant wall—away from Jerusalem. Just after February 28, when the US/Israeli war against Iran began, we received word that Hope School was forced to close, though Director Khader Saba and the staff continue to look for solutions. FPCP’s children are learning about

Hope School this year. They are collecting coins as an offering. The goal is \$500. Their gift will be sent to Hope School at Christmas. When you see our children on Sunday, give them your spare change for the offering can! And pray for the wellbeing of Hope School — that children and staff will be safe and able to return to their classes soon!

### Ciao, piccolo Elliot!

Hello, Baby Elliot! The Harmon Family has grown to three over the past year. Rev. Shawn and Silvia Harmon visited FPCP as newlyweds in July 2024. Since their return to Rome, Italy, their ministry to Islamic immigrants has been growing. Shawn does a lot of teaching and discipling through Centro Agape, a church planted by Shawn and his team. Silvia has gained access to refugee camps where she is able to teach— a new sign of trust. Silvia is offering free Italian lessons online. Let the church office know if you would like to join in the fun!



*Rev. Shawn, Silvia & Elliot Harmon*

This is the first of a planned series of quarterly updates from the FPCP Missions Committee. We hope you find it interesting.

#### Missions Committee Members:

Judith Shipley, Chair

Susan Quam

Jon Muha

Bill Shipley

Don Larter

**How about you?**

If you would like to know more about the work of Missions at FPCP, please contact the church office: [info@fpcp.org](mailto:info@fpcp.org)  
Your gifts to “Mission,” as well as 10% of the “90/10” designation go to support Bohdan, Inna, Shawn & Silvia, Hosanna Industries and Hope School, and several others.

Rev. Bohdan Kulitskiy  
Pastor, Bread of Life Church in Kozelets, Ukraine

Statement sent on 3/4/2026 in response to my question: what is the most important thing you want a large readership in the US to know about your church in Ukraine?

Bohdan's reply:

“We are going through difficult times in Ukraine, and we as a church see the greatest need of people for the Redeemer. Therefore, this time, a time of war and suffering, when people lose everything: health, relatives, homes, lives, is the best time for the salvation of the soul. Never before have people been so open to the Gospel. Hundreds of thousands of people have heard the Gospel from our church alone and millions throughout Ukraine. We start new churches not because this is our base, although it has already become so. But because there, in the villages and cities where we preach and help, new groups of believers are organized, they are baptized, and we lead them. At some point, when there are more than 10 of them, we begin the process of forming them as a small church and put a prepared leader there in advance. This is, let's say, a side effect of good deeds and preaching to people affected by the war. And it is very exciting. We also help without the prospect of seeing the result. For example, soldiers whom we will not see again. Maybe someone died, and someone was transferred to another unit. But I am also happy because he heard the Gospel. The Word of God has power and the Holy Spirit can touch in due time and what is sown will sprout. In one photo in military uniform, there is exactly such a person. Hero of Ukraine. He repented on the spot. And when he came on leave after being wounded, Led, who survived many births, thanks to prayer, immediately joined the church. Now he preaches and is a very popular blogger. Therefore, times are difficult, but this is a time of opportunities for the Kingdom of God. And our reward with the cup is also multiplied here due to the multiplication of Putin's iniquities. God uses evil for good.”

js

3/6/2026