



# FIRST PRESS

*The newsletter of First Presbyterian Church*

**MARCH 28, 2022**

First Presbyterian Church  
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## Sunday Schedule

**9:15 a.m. Adult Church School  
Meet and Greet on Zoom & In  
Person in the Westminster Room  
Program starts at 9:30 a.m.**

**9:15 a.m. Nursery open for  
infants - two year olds.**

**9:30 a.m. Children's classes  
gather for music in room 307.**

**9:45 a.m. Preschool and  
Elementary School classes begin  
in their respective rooms**

**11:00 a.m. LORD'S DAY WORSHIP  
SERVICE**

**Children and vaccinated adults  
with masks are welcome in the  
Sanctuary. Childcare is available  
for children younger than  
kindergarten.**

**5:00 p.m. Youth Group**

## In Person and Live-Stream Worship

Visit [www.oldfirstchurch.org](http://www.oldfirstchurch.org) to  
download Sunday's bulletin and  
view the service. Services are  
recorded and available for later  
viewing on YouTube  
@FPCTallahassee.

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Monday-Friday



Dogwood Acres is geared up for Summer Camp 2022! From late-June through the end of July, camps are available for all ages, from High School Hangout to a 4-day, 3-night Intro Camp for 1st and 2nd graders.

Dogwood's summer camps are designed around small-group experiences. We encourage future generations by guiding our youth toward a greater awareness of their relationship with God, instilling a sense of accomplishment, an appreciation for their own and others' abilities, and presenting a new outlook on what they are capable of achieving. It's our goal to provide an outdoor ministry where individual kids and groups can grow in Christian faith, fellowship, and fun, as we marvel in God's miracle of creation! Registration is open, and scholarships are available. Take advantage of the early registration discount! To learn more, please visit [www.dogwoodacres.org](http://www.dogwoodacres.org).

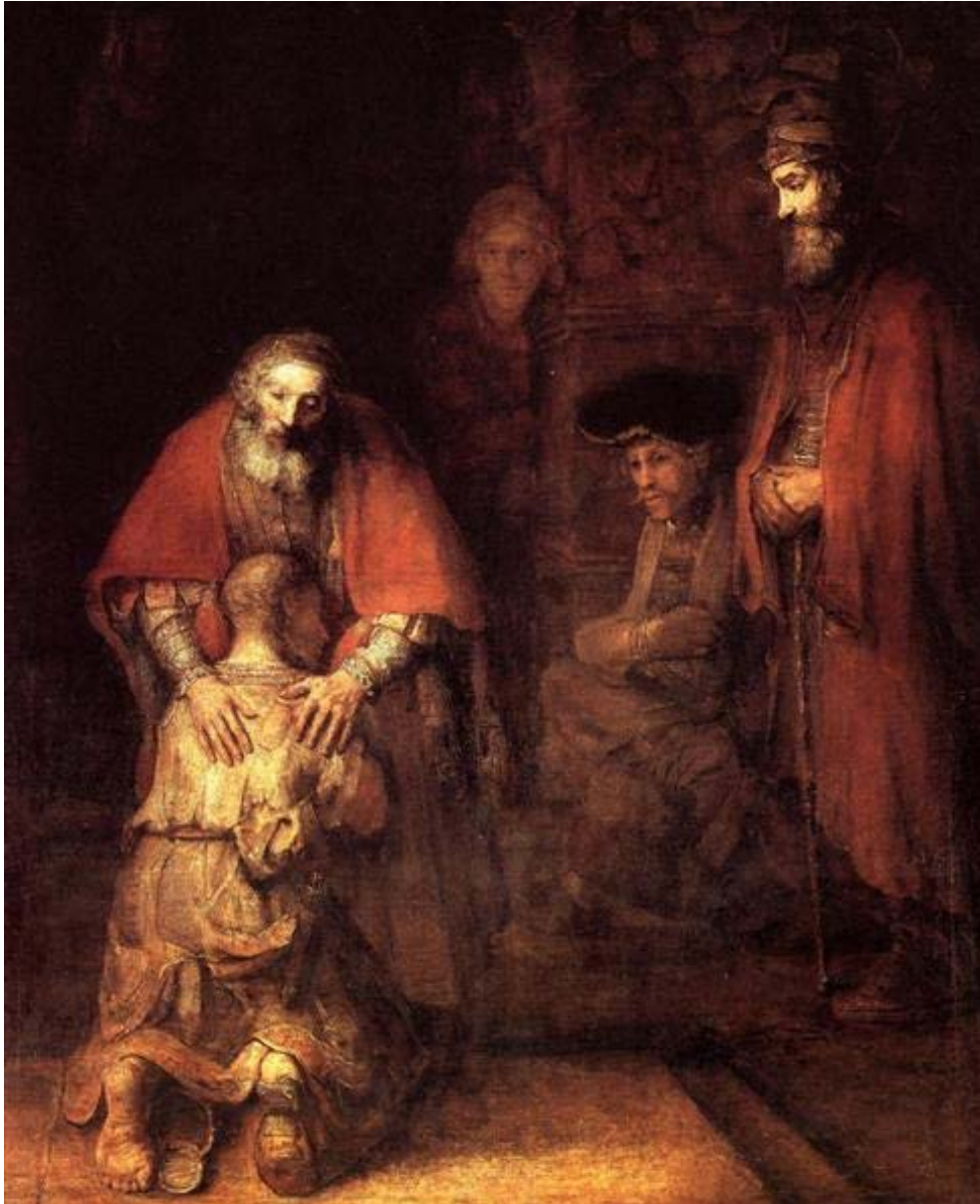
[Register soon](http://www.dogwoodacres.org) – spaces fill fast!



## Pastor's Column

By Rev. Margaret Fox

Thank you for your continued assistance with Winnie, meals, and re-housing. And for the care you've shown to the McCall, Lamar, and Sandon families. It's been a full week of worship and congregational care, and I'm grateful for the grace and presence of this community. From yesterday's sermon, here's Rembrandt's *The Return of the Prodigal Son*. My sermon was based on Henri Nouwen's book of the same name.



# "Bless This Mess"

## LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

The last three years have taught us more about finding hope and being resilient in the face of the chaos of the world. This coming season of Lent, we invite you to join us in finding ways to be still, to search for hope and to renew faith.

Even in the mess of this world, we recognize God with us.  
Blessings in the midst of mess.



### **Midday Moments of Grace & Peace**

Tuesdays in Lent – Join us for a quiet and reflective prayer service at 12:15 p.m. in the sanctuary followed by a brown bag lunch either in the courtyard or the Westminster Room.

March 29 – Matt Frease, PCUSA Pastor and UKirk Campus Minister  
April 5 – Mary Vance, honorably retired PCUSA Pastor



### **Lenten Volunteer Opportunity at Second Harvest's Warehouse:**

Thursdays from 9-Noon  
March 31 and April 7.  
Older children and youth are welcome during the week of Spring Break.  
We need 4-8 volunteers each time.

**Volunteers are still needed.**

Volunteer by emailing [christy@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:christy@oldfirstchurch.org)

## **SPRING MISSION WORKSHOP APRIL 3RD IN-PERSON AND ON ZOOM DONATE UNNEEDED ITEMS TO REFUGEES AT THE SPRING MISSION WORKSHOP**

Have you been longing for more storage space in your kitchen cabinets and linen closet? Donating gently used pots, pans, cutting boards, measuring cups, mixing bowls, utensils, and even can openers could solve your space problems and help a refugee family put a meal on their table in this new country! Bedding no longer needed by your grown family can warm a refugee family that has arrived in a safe place but needs everyday items to start their new life. If giving a financial donation is easier for you, please know that your dollars can become anything that family needs, and they are so grateful for your generosity. Please check the list of other needed items later in this article, such as underwear, laundry detergent, diapers and baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, children's toys, and other items, and please reach out if you need assistance in transporting your donations to our church.

This Sunday, April 3, the Presbyterian Women's group of this congregation will host the returning Spring Mission Workshop live and by Zoom. Everyone is invited to eat a brown bag lunch together in the Courtyard immediately after worship (weather permitting), where water and individually-wrapped cookies will be provided, followed by the speaker and activities in the Westminster Room. If you find you can come at the last minute, we will have extra brown bag lunches for you! Our speaker also will be available on Zoom if that's easier for you, and the Zoom link will be provided later this week.

Our wonderful speaker, Karen Duncan, who is the Tallahassee Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator for the IRC (International Rescue Committee), will tell us more about her organization and her work with refugee families who are arriving in Tallahassee with little or nothing. Hands-on activities for in-person attendees, adults and children, will include sorting socks that will be given away by Beyond the Pantry, a Tallahassee-based non-profit that shares basic needs products; completing small sewing projects begun by Together in Service members; assembling and sending beautiful handmade cards with messages of Easter and hope, love and welcome; putting the finishing touches on marble-maze hand toys; learning about efforts to better care for the Earth; and, preparing to transport the vegetable seedlings started by our Sunday school children to share with refugee families.

Please join us and watch the donation tables fill up with your generosity, or send a financial donation if that is better for you. Contact Jan Bush for any questions, (850) 443-1271, or [janbush590@gmail.com](mailto:janbush590@gmail.com), or to let us know you will be there. We look forward to your participation!


**WISH LIST:** Functional laptops and charging cords, Diapers(all sizes), Baby wipes, Women's hygiene products, Laundry detergent, First aid kit, Baby and young children's toys, New underwear and socks, Men's wallets, Linens for queen and twin beds – sheets, blankets, comforters, Pots and pans, Kitchen utensils, Measuring cups, Mixing bowls, Can openers, Cutting boards, Visa gift cards, Target gift cards



## Nursery and Preschool Childcare

Sitters from Twinkle Toes Childcare agency are staffing our nursery. These sitters are all: background checked, CPR/First Aid trained and vaccinated. Two additional sitters from Twinkle Toes staff the Preschool class.

When we are in-person for church school, 9:15 - Noon, Twinkle Toes sitters will be in the building ready to care for infants through two-years-old in the church nursery. Children aged three - pre-K will be in the preschool class and will be greeted by additional Twinkle Toes sitters.




**Spiritual Formation  
Team Meeting on Zoom  
Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**



The newsletter is prepared on Mondays, including those Mondays that fall on federal holidays.

Please submit items for publication to:  
[newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@oldfirstchurch.org)  
no later than noon on the Monday of publication.



**Presbytery of Florida**  
produces a monthly electronic newsletter  
that you may access using this link:  
[Panhandle Presbyterian](#)



**ADULT CHURCH  
SCHOOL CLASS  
WESTMINSTER ROOM  
AND ON ZOOM  
APRIL 4, 2022**



Meet and greet: Sunday at 9:15 AM  
Program starts: Sunday at 9:30 AM

Everyone is welcome to the Westminster Room OR  
you can connect to the “hybrid” class on ZOOM.

For this Lenten season, Christy Williams and the Healing Racism Task Force prepared a five week program titled, “Repentance & Reconciliation: A path to healing justice.” See First Press, February 28, 2022, page 14 for more information about the series.

Last week members of the Healing Racism Task Force offered information gleaned from the church archives about the early history of First Presbyterian Church. This week we continue the conversation. Members of the Task Force will lead a discussion of what our congregation might do to heal brokenness and work towards justice.

All are welcome! Each Zoom meeting opens new opportunities to learn and share — whether you've attended previously or not.

As in worship, for your safety and as a courtesy to others, we ask all who attend in person to wear masks, respect social distance and, if eligible, be fully vaccinated.

Our program begins promptly at 9:30 AM and ends by 10:30 AM. After class, those who meet in person can enjoy coffee and fellowship in the courtyard before worship at 11:00 AM.

Be on the lookout for John's Thursday afternoon email with the week's topic, background reading, and Zoom link for connecting online. If you have not been getting the Thursday emails, please contact [office@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:office@oldfirstchurch.org) so we can get you on the list.

# take them a meal ministry

Our meal team provides meals for members and their families during times of celebration and challenge. Although the needs are currently few, it is not impossible that needs will arise while we are still minimizing personal contact. There are ways to help each other that do not involve close interaction, including ordering meals to be delivered. We also have a small group of members who are available to assist with shopping or other errands for those who are trying to avoid leaving their homes. If this would be helpful to you please let the Care and Outreach team know by contacting Linda Smith, chair, at [7Yodanana7@gmail.com](mailto:7Yodanana7@gmail.com). Also, this time of lower demand would be an excellent time for you to be sure you can still access the Lotsa Helping Hands website we use to coordinate most meal requests.



Thank you to all our congregation members who contributed to the Church World Service Blanket Offering. The total donated was an amazing \$2,165, enough for 216 warm blankets that could be helping refugees very soon. Your generosity reverberates loudly in a world that sometimes seems to have forgotten those most in need. Thank you so much.



Opportunities from the  
Presbyterian Office of Public  
Witness

Join us Virtually  
April 25-27, 2022

[Registration is  
now open!](#)

EAD 2022 calls us into solidarity to restore, protect, and expand voting rights in the United States and to realize human rights around the world. As people of faith, we know each person to be created in God's image, imbued with dignity and having a voice that demands to be heard, heeded, and treated justly. We arise in unity, holding up a mirror to leaders of nations, putting injustice on display and tearing down the veil of oppression that obscures the beautiful, God-born light shining from within us all.

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III from Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago will be preaching and Rev. Liz Theoharis co-chair of the Poor People's Campaign will be a featured keynote speaker!

[Click here to register for Ecumenical Advocacy Days today!](#)

AND

Join us for Compassion Peace and Justice Training 2022!

This year we will once again be centering our event around the Ecumenical Advocacy Days theme addressing the fierce urgency of human rights both at home and abroad!

This year's event will be offered in two parts:

On April 19th we will host a roundtable discussion and workshop on the work of the Compassion Peace and Justice Ministry in supporting international human rights. We will lift up the work we and our partners are doing to support human rights globally and the intersection of human rights with the issues of food sovereignty, migration, racism, climate change, corporate accountability and corruption, militarism, and development. Join us to learn what you and your church can do!

[Click here to register!](#)

On April 20th we will be hosting a roundtable discussion on the work of the Compassion Peace and Justice Ministry on domestic civil and human rights. We will hear from staff who are working and organizing nationally on the issues of voting rights, poverty, racism, environmental justice, LGBTQIA+, gun violence, and domestic human rights for all of God's children. Learn how you and your church can plug into the work and contribute to further civil rights at home!

[Click here to register!](#)

*Please be sure to register for both the 19th and the 20th!*



## Lunch Bunch

### Following Worship

You can join us for worship and then we will carpool to Midtown Pies for pizza and salad lunch. Look forward to seeing you.



Gifts can be made [online](#), by calling (800) 872-3283, by texting PDAUKR to 41444, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church U.S.A. with "DR000156-Ukraine" on the memo line. Mail to:  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
P.O. Box 643700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

# Old First Church Book Group

## MARCH & APRIL

### 2022

**March 31 at 7:00 p.m.**

we will discuss the book

*The Personal Librarian*

by Marie Benedict and

Victoria Christopher Murray.

"An extraordinary tale that is both brilliant historical fiction and an important and timely commentary on racism. By holding up an unflinching mirror and illuminating this little-known chapter in American history, these two gifted authors have penned a work that is a must-read."

Questions for reflection were emailed at the beginning of the week along with the zoom link for this meeting. Please contact [christy@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:christy@oldfirstchurch.org) if you did not receive this and want to join the discussion.

**April 28 at 7:00 p.m.**

we will have author, David Powell, with us to talk about his recent book,

*Ninety Miles and A Lifetime Away: Memories of Early Cuban Exiles.*

Bringing together an unprecedented number of extensive personal stories, this book shares the triumphs and heartbreaking moments experienced by some of the first Cubans to come to the United States after Fidel Castro took power in 1959. It is a moving look inside fifteen years of migration that changed the two countries and transformed the lives of the people who found themselves separated from their homeland.

There are copies of both books at the church for borrowing – just email [Christy@oldfirstchurch.org](mailto:Christy@oldfirstchurch.org) for a time to pick one up. These books are also available at Midtown Reader with a 10% discount if you tell them you are a member of our Book Group. Midtown Reader has book group books in a special area of the store. Ask a clerk if you can't find them.



## Sunday Festival Readings

**APRIL 3, 2022**  
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

JOSHUA 5:9-12  
PSALM 32  
II CORINTHIANS 5:16-21  
LUKE 15:1-3, 11B-32



Holy scripture teaches us that God created humankind in god's own image. Christ calls us to love God, with all our mind, soul, and heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. With this comes the sacred responsibility to treat each human being with the love and respect due to a child of God.

We acknowledge the long history of systemic racism that, through violence, laws, policies, and their implementation, was intended to exclude persons who are not Caucasian from benefits and opportunities - from the first European settlers who considered themselves entitled to land and violently displaced indigenous people from their homes, to the equally long history of slavery which built the wealth of this country, to Jim Crow laws to current instances of police brutality and the overwhelming mass incarceration of people of color.

We declare ourselves utterly opposed to all forms of systemic racism. We are committed to standing with those who find themselves on the receiving end of any form of racism. We will seek out opportunities to oppose all forms of systematic racism and to ensure that black lives matter, as do those of indigenous, Asian, and Latinx people and persons of all colors or countries of origin.

Our faith tells us that we can do no less, if we truly affirm that all human beings are made in god's image.

We dream of a day in which all persons are treated as bearers of that image.





# DAILY LECTIONARY FOR MARCH 16-31, 2022

**Wednesday, March 16**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Gen. 42:18–28  
1 Cor. 5:9–6:11  
Mark 4:1–20

**Thursday, March 17**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Gen. 42:29–38  
1 Cor. 6:12–20  
Mark 4:21–34

**Friday, March 18**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Gen. 43:1–15  
1 Cor. 7:1–9  
Mark 4:35–41

**Saturday, March 19**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Gen. 43:16–34  
1 Cor. 7:10–24  
Mark 5:1–20

**Sunday, March 20****Third Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Gen. 44:1–17  
Rom. 8:1–10  
John 5:25–29

**Monday, March 21**

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;  
145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Gen. 44:18–34  
1 Cor. 7:25–31  
Mark 5:21–43

**Tuesday, March 22**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Gen. 45:1–15  
1 Cor. 7:32–40  
Mark 6:1–13

**Wednesday, March 23**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Gen. 45:16–28  
1 Cor. 8:1–13  
Mark 6:13–29

**Thursday, March 24**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Gen. 46:1–7, 28–34  
1 Cor. 9:1–15  
Mark 6:30–46

**Friday, March 25**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Gen. 47:1–26  
1 Cor. 9:16–27  
Mark 6:47–56

**Saturday, March 26**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Gen. 47:27–48:7  
1 Cor. 10:1–13  
Mark 7:1–23

**Sunday, March 27****Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Gen. 48:8–22  
Rom. 8:11–25  
John 6:27–40

**Monday, March 28**

Morning: Pss. 119:73–80;  
145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Gen. 49:1–28  
1 Cor. 10:14–11:1  
Mark 7:24–37

**Tuesday, March 29**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Gen. 49:29–50:14  
1 Cor. 11:2–34  
Mark 8:1–10

**Wednesday, March 30**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1–11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Gen. 50:15–26  
1 Cor. 12:1–11  
Mark 8:11–26

**Thursday, March 31**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12–20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Exod. 1:6–22  
1 Cor. 12:12–26  
Mark 8:27–9:1



# DAILY LECTIONARY FOR

## APRIL 1-14, 2022

### **Friday, April 1**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Exod. 2:1-22  
1 Cor. 12:27-13:3  
Mark 9:2-13

### **Saturday, April 2**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Exod. 2:23-3:15  
1 Cor. 13:1-13  
Mark 9:14-29

### **Sunday, April 3**

#### **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Exod. 3:16-4:12  
Rom. 12:1-21  
John 8:46-59

### **Monday, April 4**

Morning: Pss. 119:73-80;  
145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Exod. 4:10-20 (21-26) 27-31  
1 Cor. 14:1-19  
Mark 9:30-41

### **Tuesday, April 5**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Exod. 5:1-6:1  
1 Cor. 14:20-33a, 39-40  
Mark 9:42-50

### **Wednesday, April 6**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1-11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Exod. 7:8-24  
2 Cor. 2:14-3:6  
Mark 10:1-16

### **Thursday, April 7**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12-20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Exod. 7:25-8:19  
2 Cor. 3:7-18  
Mark 10:17-31

### **Friday, April 8**

Morning: Pss. 22; 148  
Evening: Pss. 105; 130  
Exod. 9:13-35  
2 Cor. 4:1-12  
Mark 10:32-45

### **Saturday, April 9**

Morning: Pss. 43; 149  
Evening: Pss. 31; 143  
Exod. 10:21-11:8  
2 Cor. 4:13-18  
Mark 10:46-52

### **Sunday, April 10**

#### **Palm/Passion Sunday**

Morning: Pss. 84; 150  
Evening: Pss. 42; 32  
Zech. 9:9-12  
1 Tim. 6:12-16 *or* Zech.  
12:9-11; 13:1, 7-9  
Luke 19:41-48

### **Monday, April 11**

#### **Monday of Holy Week**

Morning: Pss. 119:73-80;  
145  
Evening: Pss. 121; 6  
Lam. 1:1-2, 6-12  
2 Cor. 1:1-7  
Mark 11:12-25

### **Tuesday, April 12**

#### **Tuesday of Holy Week**

Morning: Pss. 34; 146  
Evening: Pss. 25; 91  
Lam. 1:17-22  
2 Cor. 1:8-22  
Mark 11:27-33

### **Wednesday, April 13**

#### **Wednesday of Holy Week**

Morning: Pss. 5; 147:1-11  
Evening: Pss. 27; 51  
Lam. 2:1-9  
2 Cor. 1:23-2:11  
Mark 12:1-11

### **Thursday, April 14**

#### **Maundy Thursday**

Morning: Pss. 27; 147:12-20  
Evening: Pss. 126; 102  
Lam. 2:10-18  
1 Cor. 10:14-17; 11:27-32  
Mark 14:12-25