

Community
Presbyterian
Church



Connected
Praying
Caring

Thursday, March 12, 2026

Newsletter

WORSHIP UPDATE

Sunday morning March 15th – Join us in person at church or online!

10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Lent

I Samuel 16

Ephesians 5: 1-14

Pastor Amy Kosari

“Therefore Followers of God”

[Community Presbyterian Church - Home \(cpcplainview.com\)](http://cpcplainview.com)

[Community Presbyterian Church - YouTube](#)

Coffee Fellowship served after church.

Server: Ralph & Betty Van Houten



Mission of the Month for March: Camp Clearwater Forest Scholarships

The Mission of the Month for March are Camp Clearwater Forest Scholarships. Every summer we can send youth to summer camp, where they can learn about God through nature and experience powerful worship with other youth from across the state. What a great time to learn about God, his faithfulness, and his Love.

Annual Meeting Report

A corrected copy of page 17 Annual Meeting Report is available in the office.

What is Lent?

Lent is a 40-day season in the Christian tradition devoted to prayer, fasting, reflection, and almsgiving as believers prepare for the celebration of Easter, which commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday, marking the start of the Easter Triduum.

The season echoes the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness, facing temptation before beginning public ministry—a story found in the Gospels. Christians observe Lent as a time of spiritual discipline, often giving up comforts, adding intentional practices, or deepening habits of prayer and service.

The word “Lent” comes from the Old English *lencten*, meaning spring, pointing to themes of renewal and preparation, and lengthening of daylight. While traditions differ among denominations, Lent is widely marked by simplicity, self-examination, and a turn toward growing closer to God.

Lent 4

Our scripture readings for this week work together, proclaiming that God sees more deeply than we do, Christ brings light where we were once blind, Lent is a season of awakening and re-orientation, and God’s grace reveals who we truly are and calls us forward.

In 1 Samuel, God sees the heart, the unlikely is chosen (David is chosen king), God’s Spirit comes upon David, and the Divine calling overturns appearances.

In Ephesians, Christ exposes what is hidden, the formerly “dark” are now light, Christ’s light transforms believers, and Christian life reflects awakened vision.

These two texts form a single proclamation: God’s way of seeing leads directly to a new way of living.

AL-ANON IS:

A fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who believe their lives have been affected by someone else’s drinking. Al-Anon is: a mutual support recovery program based on the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous. Al-Anon is: a nonprofessional fellowship is where members share their experience, strength, and hope to solve their common problems. Al-Anon meets weekly at the Plainview Church of Christ on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. 205 First Street NE (enter door #3 on 2nd Avenue).

PRAY FOR COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are trying to make this church a PRAYING church, where we rely on the power of prayer in complex decisions. A group of members have committed themselves to praying for the church at either 9am or 9pm, or both. Please feel free to join with the Lord in prayer at either or both of these times. There is great power in prayer, and praying together brings unity.



CHOIR SCHEDULE: *Choir has resumed! We will rehearse on March 18 and March 25 at 6:00 p.m. and our rehearsals run for about an hour. All are welcome to attend! We would love to have you with us!*

Per Capita 2026

Per Capita this year will be \$43.75 per person. **What does “Per Capita” Means in the Presbyterian Church (USA)?**

“Per Capita” is an annual *per-member apportionment* that every Presbyterian congregation pays to support the work of the denomination at all three governing levels:

1. **Presbytery** – \$26.99-- regional support for congregations, teaching elders, programs, and mission.
2. **Synod** – \$5.50--a larger regional body offering education programs (such as Synod School) and support services, including low-cost loans for churches.
3. **General Assembly** \$11.26– the national body providing leadership, disaster relief, peacemaking initiatives, youth programs (like Triennium), and work that serves the whole church.



PRAYER LIST

- Prayers for Gary Lee, Joan's husband, who is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.
- Prayers for Joe Flanagan, for good health. Prayers for Julie, for strength.
- Prayers for John Zabel for better health.
- Prayers for the family of Zac Zabel.
- Prayers for Ron Byler with his recent diagnosis.
- Prayers for Alyssa Kreofsky, who is in a lot of pain and has kidney disease.
- Prayers for Bonnie's niece Debra, with breast and bone cancer.
- Prayers for Tim's brother, Scott, with health problems.
- Prayers for peace in our own country.



2025 Giving Statements

Your 2025 giving statements are now available in the office. Just call Mark at 507-534-2298 or email at cpcoffice@hbc.com to request your giving statement. Giving statements are also available after church services in the office. Just find Mark and he can print it off for you right there. Thank you again for your continued support of our wonderful church!

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sharon Firzlaff

Mar. 11

Sue Ihrke

Mar. 11

Vivian Cranston

Mar. 12

Mattison Jensen

Mar. 22

Janice Jurgenson

Mar. 25

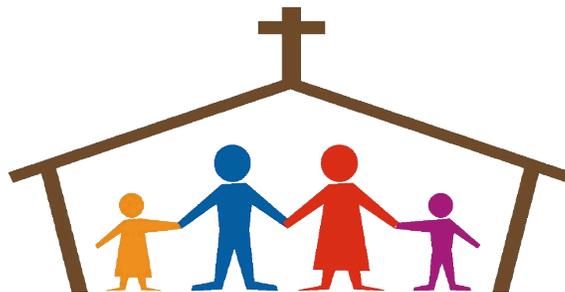
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



Volunteers needed to serve in April and May!

Is there a Sunday you would be interested in helping serve during worship?

We need greeters, coffee fellowship, and liturgist. Sign up on the deacon's sign up clipboard or email cpcoffice@hbcj.com.





Welcome to Community Presbyterian Church!

Sunday, March 15th, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Gathering

PRELUDE

Mark Rich, Organ

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bruce Firzlaff

Don't fret because of evildoers.

Don't be envious of the workers of iniquity.

For soon they are cut down like grass and wither like green herbs.

Trust in the Lord and do good, and in this way you will dwell in the land, and truly, you will be fed.

And delight yourself also in the Lord; and he will give you the desires of your heart.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

Bruce Firzlaff

Let us pray together:

In this Lenten season, most Holy God, remake us in the image of Jesus, that we might feed those who are hungry, claim as siblings those who are outcast, shelter those who are unhoused, heal those who are sick or injured, companion those who are abandoned, rebuke those who act unjustly, and work together with fierce purpose as your beloved community.

OPENING HYMN: "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners" See Bulletin Insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

Bruce Firzlaff

Arise O Lord; O God lift up your hand. Forget not the afflicted.

We call to you in our sorrow and frustration, Father, help us!

Why do you stand so far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

You are our God even if we have ignored you!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Bruce Firzlaff

Let us pray together:

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your Love, according to your mercy, blot out our transgressions! Sometimes we do not even know our sin. We go along, day to day, with frozen hearts and minds. Lord, take out the stone that is our heart and give us real hearts, hearts like yours. Break the dam and lead us by the Holy Spirit into all truth. We give you thanks for all your ways and we know that kneeling can stop the righteousness of God. You make right all that is wrong. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Amy

Our Lord said, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good.

Hear the Good News. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

GLORY TO GOD #581 "Glory Be to the Father" "Gloria Patri" found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian Hymnal.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Pastor Amy

A CIRCLE OF PRAYER FOR CPC

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bruce Firzlaff

Let us pray together:

God of heaven and earth, in a cloud of confusion, we seek revelation. In the face of manipulation, we seek truth. In the gloom of regret, we seek new life. Speak to us now;

grant us intention and tenderness, so that we may witness to your work in the world and in us, through Jesus the Christ, our healer and hope. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
I Samuel 16

Bruce Firzlaff

THE GOSPEL LESSON
Ephesians 5: 1-14

Bruce Firzlaff

SERMON "Therefore Followers of God"

Pastor Amy Kosari

Responding

HYMN #836 "Abide with Me"

(Verses 1, 3, & 5)

found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed)

I 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 Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO PRAYER #310 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" (Verse 1)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our 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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERINGS OF LOVE AND THANKSGIVING

March Mission of the Month: Camp Clearwater Forest Scholarships

DOXOLOGY: #606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us pray together:

We praise you, precious Jesus, for these offerings, the gifts of our hands and hearts. We pray that they may be used to find companionship for the lonely, hope for the disillusioned, and justice for those seeking the truth. Grant us calm and tenderness, falling on us like a blanket of fog, so we may minister the truth to those in this hurting world. Amen.

Sending

DEPARTING HYMN #744 "Arise, Your Light Is Come!"

(Verses 1, 3, & 4)

found in the purple *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal

BENEDICTION

Pastor Amy

BENEDICTION SONG #804 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" (Verse 1)

POSTLUDE

Mark Rich, Organ

GREETERS: Ralph & Betty Van Houten