

The Lord's Service

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2026



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PCA

Post Tenebras Lux

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION: Ephesians 2:14-17

For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

SILENT PRAYER

GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE

† SALUTATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord be with you!

Ruth 2:4

And also with you!

† CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 46:8-10

Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

†* HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 699: "Like a River Glorious"

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

† Congregation stands, if able | * Seating for latecomers at this time | All Scripture readings are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®). ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Assistive listening devices are available for use during worship services. Please inquire at the sound booth.

GOD CLEANSSES US OF OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION: James 4:1-3

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

CORPORATE CONFESSION: (kneel as able)

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

[Silent prayer of personal confession] **Amen.**

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

† **THE PEACE**

† **GLORIA PATRI** (with hands lifted)

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.

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 527: "The Beatitudes"** (vv. 5-8 only)

GOD CONSECRATES US BY HIS WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the Word of our God will stand forever!

Isaiah 40:8

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Peter 3:8-12

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

† **PSALM 103, NO. 6:** "O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord"

† **GOSPEL READING:** **Matthew 5:1-12** (sermon text)

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Praise be to you, O Christ!

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD:

Blessed Are the Peacemakers

1. Peacemakers

2. Sons of God

† **CONFESSION OF FAITH:** Romans 12

By the mercies of God, present your bodies as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God, which is our fitting service.

Do not be conformed to this age

but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

That by testing you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and acceptable and mature.

Let no one think of himself more highly than he ought,

but think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith God has provided.

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil;

Hold fast to what is good.

Love one another with brotherly affection.

Outdo one another in showing honor.

Do not be slothful in zeal.

Be fervent in the Spirit, serving the Lord.

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation.

Be constant in prayer.

Contribute to the needs of the saints,

and seek to show hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you.

Bless and do not curse them.

Rejoice with those who rejoice.

Weep with those who weep.

Live in harmony with one another; Do not be haughty,

but associate with the lowly and never be conceited.

Repay no one evil for evil,

but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

Beloved, never avenge yourselves,

but give place to the wrath of God.

For it stands written:

“Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.”

To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him;

If he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

For by doing so you will heap burning coals on his head.”

Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY (with hands lifted)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

GOD COMMUNES WITH US AT HIS TABLE

+ SURSUM CORDA

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and good, and a joyful thing, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and arch angels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing ...

+ SANCTUS

Sung in unison

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts Heav'n and earth are full_of your Glo - ry. Ho

san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he_ who_ comes_

in_ the name of the Lord our God. Ho - san - na, ho-san-na in the High - est.

† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND 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.**

EUCCHARISTIC MEDITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Distribution of the Bread and Communion in the Body of Christ

Communion Meditation Silence

Distribution of the Cup and Communion in the Blood of Christ

Communion Song, NO. 646: "Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts" (on back page)

PRAYER OF BLESSING

GOD COMMISSIONS US TO GO INTO THE WORLD

† **HYMN OF PRAISE, NO. 691 "It Is Well with My Soul"**

† **BENEDICTION: Romans 16:20**

The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

† **THREE-FOLD AMEN**

† **POSTLUDE**