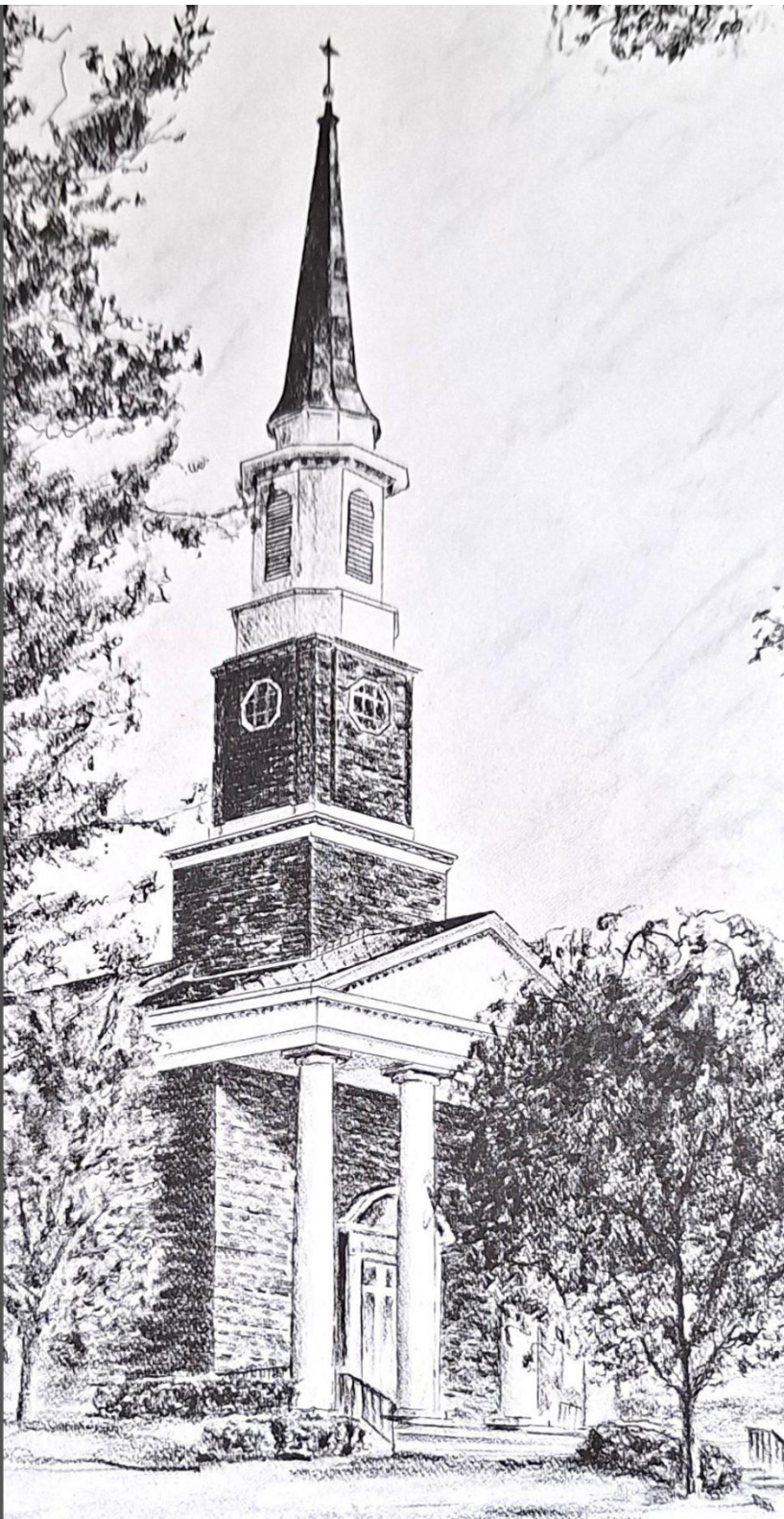


# Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025  
10:30 A.M.

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH



# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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## THE GATHERING

### GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

### INTROIT

*To My Precious Lord*  
*The text for this hymn can be found at Hymn 704*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

BASED ON PSALM 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dreamed.  
Our mouths were filled with laughter, our tongues with songs of joy.

**It was said among the nations, The Lord has done great things for them.**

The Lord has done great things for us,

**And we are filled with joy. Let us worship God.**

### OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you alone bring order to the unruly wills of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and to desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

\*HYMN 463

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We come to connect with Jesus, longing for his love, kneeling before him, and believing that we can be better people. Let us come before our Lord now with our prayers of confession.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ever-Present God, you want to restore us to wholeness, but we resist. You want to draw us closer, but we remain distant. We confess: we would rather remain as we are than risk being changed by your presence in our lives. In this season of Lent, help us to reflect and see: how much we love you and depend on you. Reorient our lives towards you, we pray. Let us rest in your goodness and your joy. **Amen**

*A brief silence is kept for personal prayer.*

## PRAYER RESPONSE

*Bless The Lord, O My Soul*

## POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We should always live as those who belong to Christ. Remember your baptism and be at peace. Amen.

## \*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

GREATOREX

**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.**

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

## \*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 629)

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee* (stanzas 1, 3, &5)

ST. AGNES

## TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Diane Bowers

May God be with you in worship here.

**May God be with you in worship there.**

*Children may depart the sanctuary for Kids' Kirk. They will return before communion.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, you spoke at the dawn of creation and called all things into being at your Word. We come to your Word expectantly and gladly. Be with us in our listening, in our understanding, and in our responding. Amen.

### READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalms 126 (O.T., p. 572.)

The Psalms are Israel's songbook.  
**Hear us, O God, as we rejoice and sing!**

\*John 12:1-8 (N.T., p. 106)      The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised**

### SERMON

Rev. Matthew Covington

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN 201

*A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar*

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From Brief Statement of Faith

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice before God. Let us come before God with our tithes and our offerings.

## MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

GILBERT MARTIN

*The text for this hymn can be found at Hymn 223*

## \*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

## SEALING THE WORD WITH THE SACRAMENT

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

## THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

*Sung by all: (Hymn 552)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

*The prayer continues.*

## 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.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. Ushers will guide you forward to partake by taking a piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**As you came to dinner with Lazarus and his sisters, you have also joined us in this holy meal. Move us to respond with love, and help us carry our deep connections beyond this sanctuary. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## BEARING THE WORD INTO THE CREATED ORDER

\*HYMN 697

*Take My Life*

HENDON

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Improvisation on Hamburg*

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*\*Rise in body or spirit*

## LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington*

Liturgist: *Debbie McCoy*

Communion Servers: *Pat Corkran & Marilyn Ericksen*

Kids' Kirk: *Stephanie Dube*

**You are invited to make a gift to support our church's ministry of sharing God's love:**

- As the offering plate is passed
- By scanning the QR code to the right
- Online at [fpcobky.com/give](http://fpcobky.com/give)
- Or by contacting the church office to set up automatic withdrawal



## The Life of the Church

**The Easter Egg Hunt** will be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00. We are asking for candy and plastic egg donations.

**Wednesday evening Meal & Bible Study for Lent** takes place each Wednesday evening through April 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We are studying “Why Presbyterians Are Like That”.

We are looking for volunteers to help answer the phones on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00-2:00. A sign-up sheet is on the **Helping Hands** table

**FPC Educational Scholarship Applications** are now open. The deadline will be Sunday, April 13, 2025. Scholarships are for undergraduate students who are active in the life of First Presbyterian Church and enrolled full-time in any accredited college or university. The application is available in Presbynotes or you may email [office@fpcobky.com](mailto:office@fpcobky.com) to learn more.

**As we wrap up the first quarter of 2025**, we would like to take a moment to celebrate our improved financial position! Our giving is up, and our expenses are down compared to the first quarter of 2024. Your support and dedication is truly appreciated. Please see Presbynotes for a more detailed comparison. Lets keep up the hard work!

**Financial Update** Our ministry is funded by the giving of members and friends. Thank you for your generosity.

<b>Year-To-Date (Thru Mar.)</b>	<b>Month of Mar.</b>	<b>Week of Mar. 30</b>
Income: \$ 122,732.42	Income: \$ 39,253.60	Income: \$ 5,705.00
<u>Expense: \$ 113,453.20</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 36,247.41</u>	<u>Expense: \$ 3,529.48</u>
Balance: \$ 9,279.22	Balance: \$ 3,006.19	Balance: \$ 2,175.52

**For the first quarter of 2025, there are no minus signs!!**

**Want to help?** If you are writing or renewing your will, please remember the church.



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.

1328 Griffith Avenue | Owensboro, Kentucky | 270.684.1467



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FPCOwensboro



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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### SESSION

Debbie McCoy, Clerk  
Allison Bates  
Pat Corkran  
Marilyn Ericksen  
Tom Furlong  
Debbie Hutchinson  
Don Preuss  
Jerry Price  
Patti Price  
CeCe Robinson  
Mary Lou Taylor

### DEACONS

Marilyn Baker  
Rayma Bramschreiber  
Judy Hughes  
Linda Kabalen  
Karen Taylor  
Patti Burns Taylor

### STAFF

Rev. Dr. Matthew Covington  
Interim Pastor

Stephanie Dube  
Director of Children's &  
Youth Ministriest

Sasha O'Bryan  
Office Manager &  
Pastoral Assistant

Patrick Ritsch  
Director of Music

Candice Baize  
Custodian

Debbie Hutchinson  
Bookkeeper