

AN ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

2nd Sunday in Lent March 1, 2026 8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Paraments – Purple

*Please stand as you are able. Please remember to turn off cell phones.

Vision Statement of First-Centenary United Methodist Church:
Build a healthy and diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ.

Gathering Music Mrs. Trish Foy

Invocation

Voluntary *Adagio* W.A. Mozart

***Call to Worship** (8:30) Mrs. Mimi Italia (10:45) Mrs. Cindy Stulce

Leader: Turn away from the calls of worldly success.

All: **Repent, and turn back to God.**

Leader: Turn away from the desire to have what everyone else has.

All: **Repent, and turn back to God.**

Leader: Turn away from greed and the race for power.

All: **Repent, and turn back to God.**

Leader: As we continue in Lent, may we turn back to God.

All: **May we seek forgiveness,
may we seek healing,
may we seek wholeness.
May our hearts be renewed in this time of worship.**

***Hymn 269** *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

Prayer

**Walk with us, O God,
as we journey with you through the season of Lent.
Help us overcome the temptations we face
each and every day.
Save us from the time of trial,
and send your angels to minister to us
in times of weakness.
Raise us to newness of life,
through the gift of your Spirit
and the love of your Son. Amen.**

Anthem (10:45) *God of Mercy, Lead Us Home* E. Rentz
The Chancel Choir; Kaitlyn Vest, cello

In the darkness of the Cross, we gather here.
In the sorrow of the soul, our God is near.
In the pain of shadowed love, for mercy we long.
In the night of darkened song, our God leads us home.

*(Refrain) God of mercy, lead us home, lead us home.
Give us comfort in this place, and return us to your grace.
Awaken, God of mercy, lead us home.*

My soul longs for light, when the darkness shall end,
and peace is the gift of your presence within.
Your light is our guide, your grace is our song.
Awaken, God of mercy, and lead us home.

(Refrain)

(Words: Greg Funderburk)

Ritual of Friendship Rev. Michelle Hunter

***Gratitude for Tithes and Offerings**

**Ever-present God, with our tithes and offerings
we present also ourselves,
all that we have been,
all that we are,
all that we shall become,
and our resolve to walk in your way.
Accept us and our gifts, we pray, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

***Doxology (# 95)**

Anthems (10:45) *Forty Days of Lent* B. Childers
JumpStart Children's Choir

*(Refrain) Lord, we come with humble hearts, forty days of Lent.
Lord, we come to do our part, help us to repent.
Fasting, praying, teach us to forgive.
Loving, caring, show us how to live. (Refrain)
Giving, listening, helping those in pain.
Our God in heaven, holy is your name! (Refrain)*

Feed My Lambs N. Sleeth

*(Refrain) Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, over all a vigil keep;
In my name lead them forth gently as a shepherd.*

When they wander when they stray, their protector be.
As ye do unto my flock, thus ye do to me. *(Refrain)*

Unto all who lose the way, hope and comfort be.
As ye do unto my flock, thus ye do to me. *(Refrain)*

(The children may leave for Children's Worship)

Concerns and Celebrations of the Congregation

The Pastoral Prayer

***Gospel Lesson** Matthew 4:1-11

Sermon *Internal Stillness* Dr. Will Lauderback

Invitation to the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession

**Holy One, we do not always face temptation well.
We settle for loaves of bread
when our soul longs for bread that does not perish.
We put you to the test, seeking signs of your favor,
when we should "be still"
and rest in the knowledge that you are God.
We place trust in leaders
who make promises they cannot deliver,
when we should be putting our faith in you.
Forgive us, O God,
and help us to be found worthy of your calling,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

Words of Assurance

Pastor: Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

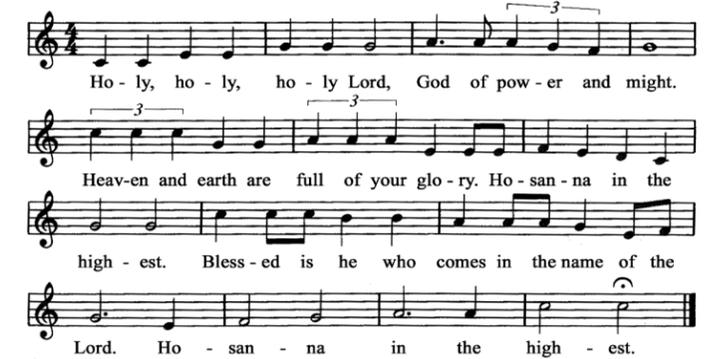
All: Glory to God. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

The Great 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. (the liturgy continues...)

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



... all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
now and for ever.



The Lord's Prayer (#895)

**Breaking the Bread and Blessing the Cup
Sharing in Communion**

Today's bread was baked by Mitch Baldree and Mark Malone.
The Communion Offering is for Mustard Tree Ministry.

Prayer after Receiving

**Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people,
we give ourselves to you.
Take us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the living bread
and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us, expect much from us,
enable much by us, encourage many through us.
So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.**

***Hymn 377** *It Is Well with My Soul*

***Benediction**

Voluntary *Ave Verum* W.A. Mozart

The Call to Worship ~ written by Rev Mindi, and posted on *Rev-o-Lution*. <http://rev-o-lution.org/>.
The Prayer and the **Prayer of Confession** are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026 Edition*.
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WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

Please register your attendance on the Ritual of Friendship pad.

 ASSISTIVE LISTENING AVAILABLE - ASK USHERS FOR ASSISTANCE.

NURSERY & FIRST KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Check-in is in the Children's hallway.

WORSHIP INFORMATION:

THE VINE WORSHIP SERVICE (10:45 A.M.): REV. JASON GATTIS

SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE (5:00 P.M.): REV. BARRY KIDWELL

- 10:45 a.m. service telecast on Channel 12, WDEF-TV: 11:30 a.m. Sundays & 12:35 a.m. Mondays
- Visitors please stop by the Visitor Information Desk in the Narthex.

WITHIN THE CHURCH FAMILY

AS OF NOON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

IN MEMORIAM: Gary Paul, February 25, 2026.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST

8:30 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship
9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
9:30 a.m. - Confirmation Classes
10:45 a.m. - Sanctuary Worship
10:45 a.m. - The Vine Worship
5:00 p.m. - PCS Walk at Northgate Mall
5:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Worship
6:00 p.m. - Sunday Night Meal

MONDAY, MARCH 2ND

3:00 p.m. - The Centenary After-School
7:00 p.m. - Wesley Center Worship

TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD

7:30 a.m. - Breakfast with the Beth
10:00 a.m. - Church Staff Meeting
10:00 a.m. - Crafty Capers
10:00 a.m. - PCS Charley's Coffee Talk
3:00 p.m. - The Centenary After-School
7:00 p.m. - College Small Group

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4TH

10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry
3:00 p.m. - The Centenary After-School
4:45 p.m. - Youth Program
5:00 p.m. - College Program
5:00 p.m. - PCS Movie Night
5:15 p.m. - Prime Time Meal
6:00 p.m. - Children's Program
6:00 p.m. - Chancel Ringers
6:30 p.m. - Prime Time Classes
7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 5TH

10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Respite Ministry
10:00 a.m. - ABIDE Caregivers Support
12:00 p.m. - Wesley's Table: Free Lunch
1:30 p.m. - Aldersgate Vibrations
3:00 p.m. - The Centenary After-School

FRIDAY, MARCH 6TH

3:00 p.m. - The Centenary After-School

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH

10:30 a.m. - Forward Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. - Devotional Hike
11:00 a.m. - PCS Lunch at McAlister's



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First-Centenary is a member of the Scenic South District of the Holston Conference
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ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICES:

Acolytes: Norah Shears, Caroline Culbertson, Oliver Harr and Cornelius Kandakai

Pew Volunteers:

8:30: David Hudson

10:45: Pete Palmer

Welcome Desk Volunteers:

8:30: Laurie & Steve Ziegler

10:45: Melinda and Bill Thompson

ANNOUNCEMENTS



LENT DEVOTIONAL

This year's Lenten devotional *A Different Kind of Fast* is available for purchase (\$10) in the Narthex and in the lobby by the 2nd floor elevator. You can leave a check or cash in the envelope or use the QR code to pay for your book and the accompanying journal.

PREPARING FOR THE 3RD SUNDAY IN LENT

March 8th Verse: John 4:5-42

Be Still: Silence the Outside Noise

Sometimes the noise in our lives is outside of our control. The choices of our parents or children. Pressures from work. Expectations from others. Political or social tension. Intentionally name that noise and hand it over to God. Ask God to open your eyes to the next faithful step towards peace in that situation.



VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School will be **June 22nd – 26th**, and it's going to be an exciting week filled with faith, fun, music, and so much more. **Registration opens TODAY!** To sign up, visit our **website's announcements page:** firstcentenary.com/announcements

WAYS TO GIVE:

GIVING KIOSK
MAIL

SUNDAY OFFERING
BANK DRAFT

ONLINE



MARCH 1, 2026

8:30 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

SECOND SUNDAY IN
LENT