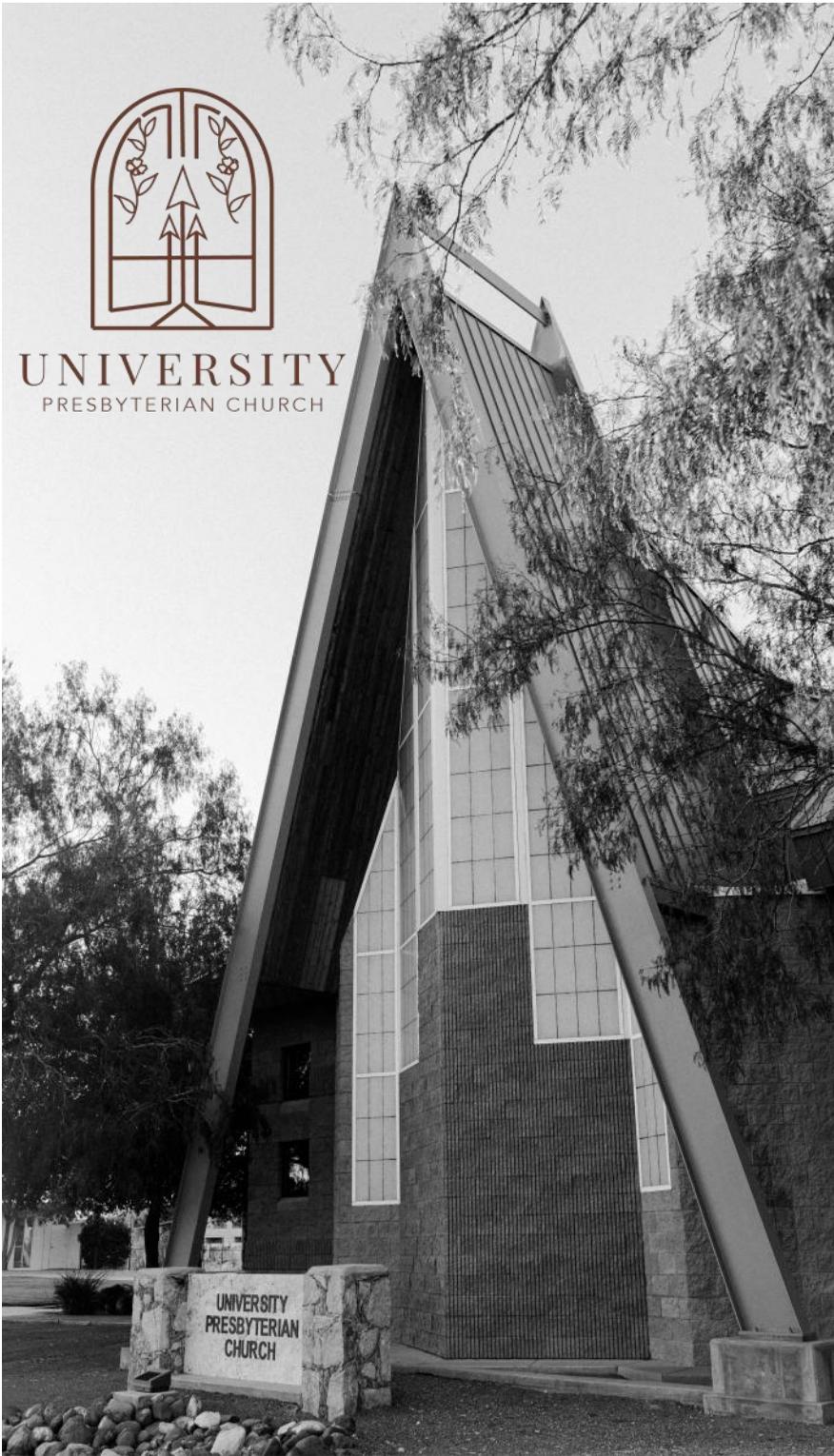




UNIVERSITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SUNDAY

WORSHIP

March 1, 2026

We aim to be a *hospitable* people rooted in the *Word*, in *worship*, and *prayer*—and we are *committed* to *cultivating disciples* in our homes, our church, and the world around us.

Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Amen

Welcome

We are so glad you're here today! Whether it's your first time at UPC or your first time at church altogether, we just want you to know that you're welcome here.

If you have any questions about what you are seeing today, becoming members, or life at UPC, we invite you to reach out. We invite you to connect with our Deacons at UPCdeacons@upcl.com.



Scan here to visit our website. Connect, watch live, and learn more about the life of

Preparing for worship

Jesus invites us to come as we are, knowing He will not leave us there. So, we invite you to take a few moments of quiet reflection before the service to prepare your heart for worship.

Parents with small children

We understand parenting is challenging! In an effort to support you, we offer a staffed nursery for our youngest ones (ages 0-3) during each worship service. Our hope, however, is for our children to participate in corporate worship as soon as they are able.

Sharing a prayer request

Prayer is the communication of our desires to God our Father. Prayer is not simply thinking about God or having concerns. Rather, prayer is expressing need from the heart to God.



Scan to share a prayer request.

Order of Worship

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

1 Timothy 6:13–16

* PRAYER OF ADORATION

“The Lord’s Prayer”

Children of UPC

***“King of Love”**

Palmer/Smith

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.



Call to Worship

A formal invitation to the congregation to enter corporate worship. It is drawn from Scripture and unites the congregation in acknowledging God's presence and preparing their hearts for worship.

* Please stand if you're able.

[Chorus]

Never failing,
Ruler of my heart
Everlasting, Lover of my soul
On the mountain high or in the valley low
The King of Love my Shepherd is
The King of Love my Shepherd is

Lost and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

So through all the length of days,
Thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd may I sing Your praise,
Within Your house forever;
Within Your house forever.

Adam Palmer, Jonathan Smith, Matthew Hein, Stephanie Kulla, Stuart Garrard
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CALL TO CONFESSION

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today



Call to Confession

An invitation to bring our sins before The LORD. Because of Christ's work on the cross, we can confess freely, knowing that in Him, there is no condemnation, only grace and restoration.

* Please stand if you're able.

shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Deuteronomy 6:4–9

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,
unto whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden—
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
so that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer (1552)

*** WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30



Words of Assurance

These words are an invitation to rest in God’s grace. He declares that all who repent and believe in Jesus are completely forgiven from all of their sins, and their guilt wiped clean.

* Please stand if you’re able.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

Congregation: The Maker of heaven and earth.

Leader: O Lord, open our lips,

Congregation: and our mouths will sing your praise.

***“Laden With Guilt”**

Watts/McCracken

Laden with guilt and full of fears,
I fly to Thee, my Lord,
And not a glimpse of hope appears,
But in Thy written Word
The volumes of my Father’s grace
Does all my griefs assuage
Here I behold my Savior’s face
In every page.

This is the field where hidden, lies
The pearl of price unknown
That merchant is divinely wise
Who makes the pearl his own
Here consecrated water flows
To quench my thirst of sin
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,
No danger dwells within.

* Please stand
if you’re able.

This is the judge that ends the strife,
Where wit and reason fail
My guide to everlasting life
Through all this gloomy vale
Oh may Thy counsels, Mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.

*Oh may Thy counsels, Mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.*

Isaac Watts, Sandra McCracken
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TITHES AND OFFERINGS

***“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”**

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,
Live in me from day to day,
By His love and power controlling
All I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly
In my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph
Only through His power.



Tithes and Offerings

We give back to God the portion of our wealth and talents that he calls his in recognition that they all come from him. These gifts help support the mission and ministries of the church. Some of us choose to put an offering in the plate, while others give online.



Trinity 644

Scan to Give

* Please stand if you're able.

May the peace of God my Father
Rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort
Sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me
As the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing,
This is victory.

May His beauty rest upon me,
As I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel,
Seeing only Him.

Kate B. Wilkinson
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***“Doxology”**

Trinity 733

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below:
Allelulia, allelulia!
Praise him above, ye heavn’ly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Allelulia, allelulia,
Allelulia, allelulia, allelulia! Amen!

Thomas Ken
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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Samuel León Dávalos

* Please stand
if you’re able.

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Don Lenhart
John 18:28-40

Leader: If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come;
your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

SERMON: "Suffered under Pontius Pilate"

Rick Downs

CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only-begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 sits at the right hand of
God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the
living and the dead.

* Please stand
if you're able.

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

The Apostles Creed

THE LORD'S SUPPER

All those who have publicly professed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, are repentant of their sins, and are baptized members of a church where the gospel is loved and proclaimed are warmly invited to participate in the Lord's Supper with us. For those of you who have not yet trusted in Jesus, please let these elements pass by you. We would love to talk to you about your relationship with the Lord after the service.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND WINE

"Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing"
[Instrumental]

Ashley/Allen

Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross I spend,
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinner's dying Friend.



The Lord's Supper

We invite those seated closest to the pulpit to come to the table first. Please file through outer aisles and back up middle aisle.

Wine is in the clear cups;
juice is in the purple cups.

Please take the bread as you receive it.
Hold onto the cup, as we will drink it together signifying our unity in the body of Christ.

* Please stand if you're able.

[Chorus]

O that near the cross abiding,
I may to the Savior cleave,
Naught with him my heart dividing,
All for him content to leave.

Here I rest, in wonder viewing
All my sins on Jesus laid,
Here I see redemption flowing
From the sacrifice he made.

Here I find the dawn of heaven,
While upon the cross I gaze,
See my trespasses forgiven,
And my songs of triumph raise.

All for him content to leave.

Eric Ashley, James Allen
© 2006 Eric Ashley Music
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*** MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH**

Congregation: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

*** PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Trinity 92

A mighty fortress is our God,
A bulwark never failing.

* Please stand
if you're able.

Our helper He amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great;
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus it is He,
Lord Sabaoth His name,
from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled
should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim,
we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure,
for lo! His doom is sure;
one little word shall fell Him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs,
no thanks to them, abideth;

* Please stand
if you're able.

the Spirit and the gifts are ours
through him who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;

The body they may kill:

God's truth abideth still;

His kingdom is forever

Martin Luther

Public Domain

* **BENEDICTION**



Benediction

A pronouncement
of God's blessing
and commission
upon His people
as they are sent
into the world.

It is more than a
closing prayer—

it is a declaration of
God's grace, peace,
and presence.

We depart with this
“**good Word**” as a
reassurance of His
faithfulness and a
charge to walk in
obedience and faith
throughout the
week.

* Please stand
if you're able.

Sermon Notes



Things to think about while listening to the sermon.

-What are the main points?

-What is the context of this passage?

-What are some repeated words and themes?

-How does this message point to Christ?

-How do we see God's grace, justice, mercy, or sovereignty in the text?

-How does this passage stir us to action?

Announcements

- Baptism Celebration Lunch today—We will celebrate the baptism of Leo Dávalos following Worship. A donor is providing pizza; bring a small side or dessert to share if you can, but regardless, come celebrate!
- A new Sunday School class starts next week on the book of Habakkuk. We will study this prophet's complaints to God, God's replies, and Habakkuk's final response. Warning: God may expand your faith.
- CANCELLED—the RUF lunch event next week is cancelled because their mission trip to Arizona is called off due to a family emergency with the trip's host. Please be in prayer for the Henry family in this season.
- Volunteers for Kairos—Kairos, a local prison ministry, is looking for volunteers to support an event at UPC for the prisoners they serve May 14-17 (new dates). Training for volunteers will be in the Great Room starting Saturday, March 7, from 9:00 to 3:00. Contact John Shipp for more details at 915-526-4618.
- Save the date! On Saturday, March 14, we will host a farewell event for Pastor Rick and T Downs. Come wish them well and extend a hearty thanks for their time and labors with us. Details to follow.
- RUF Freshman Bible Study Meals—RUF is hosting new students Thursday nights for fellowship, a home-cooked meal, and time in Scripture. A link to sign up to provide a meal is in Wednesday's CrossTalk Notes.
- Maddox Hechler interns this summer with Serge to spread the gospel in London! He seeks financial and prayer support. Text or call him at 575-202-4664 to assist or to ask him more about this opportunity.
- Samaritan's Purse is helping homeowners in hard-hit areas in the South from the recent storm. Visit samaritanaspurse.org under "What We Do" to donate, volunteer, or learn more.
- Prayer requested—Please stop by the table in the foyer after worship to pick up an Open Doors magazine. They ask for prayer over our Christian brothers and sisters in those countries most resistant to the Gospel.

This Week at UPC

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|---|
| Mon (3/2): | •Elder/Deacon Meeting, 7:00pm | Sat (3/7): | •Kairos Training, 9:00am |
| Tues (3/3): | •Women's Prayer Group, 10:00am
•Women's Bible Study, 6:45pm | Sun (3/8): | •Prayers from the Boiler Room, 8:15am
•Adult Education/Youth-Children Sunday School, 9:00am
•Worship Service, 10:00am
•All Church Prayer, 6:00pm |
| Wed (3/4): | •Midweek Fellowship Dinner, 5:00pm
•KFC/Youth Group, 6:30pm
•Men's Bible Study, 6:30pm | | |
| Thurs (3/5): | •Women's Bible Study, 9:00am
•Worship Team Practice, 6:00pm | | |



Pastoral Staff

Dan Smith, **Pastor**

Rick Downs, **Interim Pastor**

Daniel Dávalos, **RUF Campus Minister**

Church Staff

Tessa Kennedy, **Ministry Coordinator**

Jon Cheney, **Office Manager**

Samantha Lish, **Bookkeeper**

Elders

Richard Heerema

Chris Hoxworth

David Moon

Simon Rawson

Robin Rose

Deacons

Luke Biel

Chris Kennedy

Eric Tessier

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