

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
CHRIST IS PREEMINENT

**March 22, 2026**

582 Southwood Drive, Eden, NC, 27288  
[www.fpceden.org](http://www.fpceden.org) | 336-623-3962

## IN PREPARATION OF WORSHIP

The seven signs of Jesus in John's Gospel reveal that He is the long-awaited Messiah, the true Son of God. In this specific sign, we see that Jesus has power over death. He speaks a word, and the child who was marching towards death is saved. There is also the responsibility of the royal official: to believe in Jesus and to obey His word. A desperate royal official seeks to save his son. Little does he, at first, know that he has come to the Savior of the world.

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP

### Welcome, Announcements, & Congregational Greeting

#### Gospel Greeting

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whoever will come – this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Scripture Meditation: *1 Corinthians 15:54-55*

*(Recite in Unison)*

"Death is swallowed up in victory." "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"

#### Introit & Silent Preparation

##### \* Call to Worship: *Psalms 106:1*

Leader: Praise the Lord!

All: Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

##### \* Prayer of Invocation

\* Please stand if you are able.

\* *O God Beyond All Praising* – Trinity Hymnal #660

*Unison*

1. O God be - yond all prais - ing, we wor - ship you to - day  
 2. Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, ac - cept the love we bring,

and sing the love a - maz - ing that songs can - not re - pay;  
 that we who know your fa - vor may serve you as our King;

for we can on - ly won - der at ev - ery gift you send,  
 and wheth - er our to - mor - rows be filled with good or ill,

at bless - ings with - out num - ber and mer - cies with - out end:  
 we'll tri - umph through our sor - rows and rise to bless you still:

we lift our hearts be - fore you and wait up - on your word,  
to mar - vel at your beau - ty and glo - ry in your ways,

we hon - or and a - dore you, our great and might - y Lord.  
and make a joy - ful du - ty our sac - ri - fice of praise.

Michael Perry, 1982

THAXTED 13.13.13.13.13.  
From Gustav Holst, *The Planets*, 1918

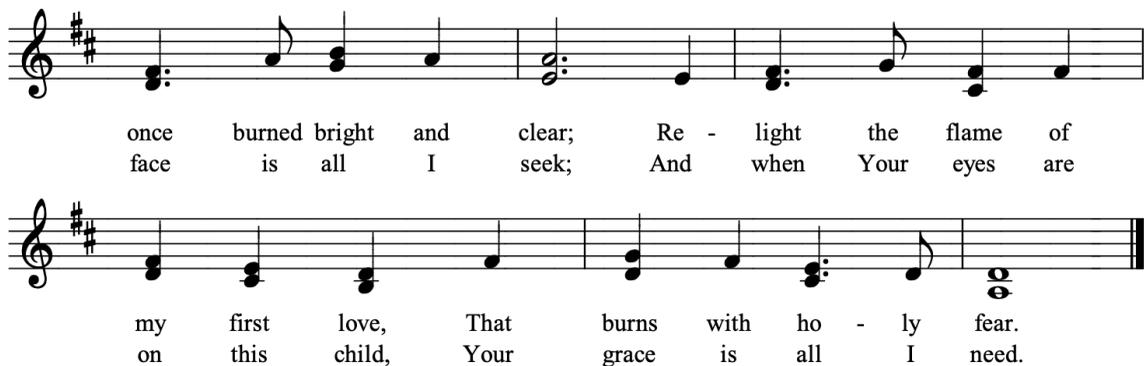
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*\* O Lord, You're Beautiful*

1..O Lord, You're beau - ti - ful; Your face is all I  
2..O Lord, You're won - der - ful; Your touch is all i

seek; And when Your eyes are on this child, Your  
need; And when Your hand is on this child, Your

grace a bounds to me. 3..O Lord, please send Your fire, that  
heal - ing I re - ceive. 4..O Lord, You're beau - ti - ful; Your



once burned bright and clear; Re - light the flame of  
face is all I seek; And when Your eyes are  
my first love, That burns with ho - ly fear.  
on this child, Your grace is all I need.

### Reading of Scripture: *Romans 1:8-15*

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed in all the world. For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will I may now at last succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to strengthen you—that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as well as among the rest of the Gentiles. I am under obligation both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish. So I am eager to preach the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

### Corporate and Personal Confession of Sin

*(Recite in Unison)*

Lord Jesus Christ, you carry the lost sheep back into the fold in your arms, and deign to hear the confession of the publican—graciously remit all my guilt and sin. Lord, you hear the penitent thief, you have set a heritage of mercy for your saints, and have not withheld pardon from the sinner—hear the prayers of your servants according to your mercy. Amen.

~ *Wilhelm Loehe*

### Assurance of Pardon: *Romans 4:4-5*

*(Recite in Unison)*

Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.

# Giving of Tithing & Offerings

*Choir: In the Name of the Lord*

## \* The Doxology

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.

## The Pastoral Prayer: *Isaiah 53:7*

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.

## The Lord's Prayer

*(Recite in Unison)*

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## The Children's Sermon

\*\*\* Children Dismissed for Children's Bible Study\*\*\*

## \* *Your Grace is Enough*

Great is Your faith-ful-ness, O God;                      You wres-tle with the sin-ner's heart.  
Great is Your love and jus-tice, God;                      You use the weak to lead the strong.

You lead us by still wa-ters in-to mer-cy,                      and noth-ing can keep us a -  
You lead us in the song of Your sal-va-tion,                      and all Your peo-ple sing a -

part.                      So, re-mem-ber Your peo-ple, re-mem-ber Your chil- dren, re - mem - ber Your  
long.

prom- ise, O God.                      Your grace is e - nough,                      Your grace is e - nough,                      Your

grace is e - nough for me.                      me Your grace is e - nough,                      Your  
 grace is e - nough,                      Your grace is e - nough for me.                      So, re - mem - ber                      Your  
 peo - ple, re - mem - ber                      Your chil - dren, re - mem - ber                      Your prom - ise, O God.                      Oh, Your  
 grace is e - nough, Heav-en reach-es out to us;                      Your grace is e - nough for me.  
 grace is e - nough, and I'm cov-ered in Your love.                      Your grace is e - nough (for me.)x3

**\* Prayer of Illumination & The Reading of God's Word**

**The Preaching of God's Word**

JOHN 4:43-53 – THE SECOND SIGN: CHRIST HAS POWER OVER DEATH

\* *O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus* – Trinity Psalter Hymnal #463

1. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Vast, un - mea - sured,  
 2. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Spread his praise from  
 3. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus! Love of ev - 'ry

bound - less, free, roll - ing as a might - y o - cean in its  
 shore to shore; how he lov - eth, ev - er lov - eth, chang - eth  
 love the best: 'tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing, 'tis a

full - ness o - ver me. Un - der - neath me, all a - round me,  
 nev - er, nev - er - more; how he watch - es o'er his loved ones,  
 ha - ven sweet of rest. O the deep, deep love of Je - sus!

is the cur - rent of thy love; lead - ing on - ward,  
died to call them all his own; how for them he  
'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me; and it lifts me

lead - ing home - ward, to thy glo - rious rest a - bove.  
in - ter - ced - eth, watch - eth o'er them from the throne.  
up to glo - ry, for it lifts me up to thee.

Samuel Trevor Francis, 1834–1925

EBENEZER (TON-Y-BOTEL) 8.7.8.7.D.  
Thomas John Williams, 1890

**\* Benediction: *Romans 8:38-39***

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**\* Gloria Patri**

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.

**\* Postlude & Dismissal**

While the gathering has ended, service to Christ continues; let us go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, serving our Lord as His ambassadors!

## PRAYER REQUESTS

*\*\*\*If you have a prayer request, please submit it to Jeni Hartley at [jbartley@jfbceden.org](mailto:jbartley@jfbceden.org)\*\*\**

### Our Congregation

- Frank Parker
- Stuart Peele
- Billy Shafer
- Jonathan Smith
- Rick & Debbie Taylor
- Tristen Wittman and the 109<sup>th</sup> MP Battalion

### Our Missionaries

- Stephanie Black – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Ben and Ellie Childs – Evangelical Presbyterian Church
- Al and Joy Doomy – Outreach to Asia Nationals
- Bradley and Jessica Long – Frontier Fellowship
- Brent and Marianne Pilson – Café 1040

### Operation World – Burkina Faso

The power of the spirit world has not been broken. Some people say that the population is “50% Muslim, 20% Christian, and 100% animist”! Idols, charms, and secret societies have more control in Burkina Faso than in most West African countries. The occult shows its power even in some churches. The strongest animist groups live in the west and southwest. Pray for the risen Christ to demonstrate His power and set many free. Pray for Christians to demonstrate the power and authority of the name of Jesus and to live out holy, blameless lives in His name.

*Father, help us to be a God-glorifying, Christ-exalting, Spirit-led, Bible-saturated, Mission-driven, and Fellowship-focused people.*

## LIFE OF THE CONGREGATION

### The Lord's Supper

Our next celebration of the Lord's Supper will be on April 5, 2025.

#### Session

Paul Sasser (2026)  
Bruce Nooe – Stated Clerk (2027)  
Kenny Mabe (2028)  
Everall Peele (2028)  
Bill Robertson (2028)  
Pastor Brad Milks

#### Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bradley Milks  
Pastor's Email: [brad@fpceden.org](mailto:brad@fpceden.org)  
Treasurer's Email: [beth@fpceden.org](mailto:beth@fpceden.org)  
Church Admin Email: [office@fpceden.org](mailto:office@fpceden.org)

#### Contact Information

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[www.facebook.com/FPCEden](https://www.facebook.com/FPCEden)  
[www.youtube.com/@FPCEden](https://www.youtube.com/@FPCEden)

#### Sign Up for Our Emails

Scan the code with your phone and sign up to receive our emails.



#### Ministries

Sunday School | Sunday 9:00am  
Public Worship | Sunday 10:00am  
The Pastor's Study | Wednesday 10:00am  
Church Prayer | Wednesday 6:30pm  
Choir Practice | Wednesday 7:00pm  
Puritan Fellowship | Thursday 7:00am  
Women Bible Study | Thursday 6:45pm  
Romans Bible Study | Saturday 7:15am

#### Stewardship – January 30, 2026

##### Operational Budget

YTD Received \$17,896  
YTD Expenses \$25,060  
Budget YTD -\$7,164

##### Building Fund

Building Need: \$15,131  
Building Received: \$22,599  
Building YTD \$7,468

##### Pennies for Hunger Offering (Missions/Outreach)

Sunday, April 5, 2025

## NEW TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

We are thankful you have gathered with us this morning as we worship the living triune God! We pray you encounter the Lord's presence and glory through singing, the fellowship of God's people, and the preaching of His Word.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Super Senior Sunday.** On Sunday, March 29, we will celebrate our "Super Seniors." We will have a covered-dish lunch immediately following worship to show our appreciation for you. Those 78 or older do not need to bring anything. We are thankful for these individuals and their service over the years at FPC.

**Bingo Night.** Come enjoy a wonderful night of fun and fellowship on Sunday, March 22, at 5:00pm in the Gathering Area. We will have a hot-dog meal, followed by a rousing game of Bingo. There will be a signup sheet next Sunday with all pertinent information. We have some great prizes, but could also use a few more. If you'd like to donate, gift cards or gift baskets are always welcome. Be sure to sign up today if you intend to attend! Cost for Meal and Bingo: Family \$25, Couples \$20, Individuals \$15. Just meal: \$7, Just Bingo: \$8.

**Easter Lilies.** For a donation of \$15 per flower, Easter Lilies will be placed in the sanctuary in honor or memory of remarkable individuals. A list of those being honored and remembered will be included in our worship folder on Sunday, April 5, 2025. Signup sheets [for the lilies](#) are on the table near the entrance.

**Nancy and Bill Putnam's 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.** To the friends of Nancy and Bill Putnam: On April 2, 2026, Nancy and Bill will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary. There will be a gathering at the church on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm for a light lunch. Please come and join the celebration of this wonderful event. Please RSVP by April 6th with the number of people attending and any questions to: [putnam.60th.anniversary@gmail.com](mailto:putnam.60th.anniversary@gmail.com), or call Laura Putnam at 781-248-1340, or speak with Bill and Nancy. The RSVP is for food-ordering estimates; if you don't RSVP, you can still come to the party.

**Holy Week will be upon us shortly.** Please join us during the following services:

- Palm Sunday – March 29 | 10:00am
- Maundy Thursday – April 2 | 6:00pm
- Cindy Gauldin's Good Friday Meditations – April 3 | 5:00pm
- Easter Sunrise Service – April 5 | 7:00am
- Easter Service – April 5 | 10:00am

**To parents with children:** We are glad you, your family, and your children are here this morning. Children are a blessing from the Lord. Sometimes they wiggle and squirm throughout the service. Children are not a distraction to the church. They are a gift from the Lord.

**To children:** If you want to doodle all over this bulletin – go for it! We are glad you are with us.