

Announcements

Easter Sunday | We will have a light brunch at 9:30 am on Easter Sunday (April 5) during the Sunday School hour. There is a card in your bulletin, and extras in the Fellowship Hall for you to invite friends and neighbors to join us.

VBS Applications are Open! | VBS will be June 1-5 from 9am-noon, for rising PreK-5th Grade. If you know that you'd like to attend, letting us know early helps us plan more effectively. Huge thanks to those of you who have already signed up! You can access applications for students and volunteers at fpcpooler.org/VBS2026

Women's Study Monday Meeting | Monday discussion leader meeting, open to anyone who is unable to come on Wed. Evenings or is curious about becoming a discussion leader. This group meets **Mon. at 1 pm**, at the church or via zoom. See Maggie Banks (admin@firstprespooler.com) with any questions or for a Zoom link.

Women's Study of Psalms | Meets next on **Wed evening**. There will be a **recorded teaching time at 6 pm**, or you can watch/listen to the lesson on your own and come at **6:30 for discussion**. We will be discussing Lesson 11 on Psalm 121. Childcare is provided.

VBS Skit Practice | **5pm** on Wednesday.

Youth Group | This Wednesday at 6pm. All 6th-12th grade students are invited to attend a study, as well as fellowship and dinner.

Young Adult Game Night | April 4th at 5pm at the Lamsons' home. If you can attend, please RSVP to Annie so she can have dinner ready. children@firstprespooler.com.

State of the Church Luncheon | Will be held on April 12th. There will be various ministry updates as well as a financial report. All members should make an effort to attend.

Women's Retreat | Registration is now open for our women's retreat, open to ladies 3rd grade and up. This year's topic is "Made for More" and is about our identity in Christ. We will learn, laugh, eat, and play together. You can register by scanning the QR code at the left.

Communicants Class | From April 12 to May 24 our 3rd - 5th grade will be going through the curriculum *Preparing for the Table*, during Sunday School in order to foster a conversation about church membership. If you have any questions, you can see our Children's Ministry director, Annie Lamson. We hope to also have a summer class for the youth, which will be announced once all the details are confirmed.

A Service of Praise and Worship of Almighty God on the Lord's Day
March 29, 2026

Call to Worship: Psalm 96:7-9

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!

Response of Praise: Rejoice, the Lord is King

Trinity Hymnal #310

Rejoice, the Lord is King:
your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore.

Refrain:

**Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

Jesus the Savior reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above. [Refrain]

His kingdom cannot fail,
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n. **[Refrain]**

Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home. **[Refrain]**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Trinity Hymnal #521

1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. **[Refrain]**

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood,
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay. **[Refrain]**

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found:
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. **[Refrain]**

Prayer of Invocation & 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.

Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Questions 31-32

Why is he called Christ, that is, Anointed?

Because he has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of his body has redeemed us, and who continually intercedes for us before the Father; and our eternal King, who governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.

Why are you called a Christian?

Because I am a member of Christ by faith and thus share in his anointing, so that I may as prophet confess his name, as priest present myself a living sacrifice of thankfulness to him, and as king fight with a free and good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and hereafter reign with him eternally over all creatures.

The 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.

Corporate Confession of Sin:

Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses.

You alone know how often we have sinned, in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, and in forgetting your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased you.

Teach us to hate our errors; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins, for the sake of your dear Son. And help us, we pray, to live in your light and walk in your ways; according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace: Romans 8:1-4

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Tithes and Offerings: Proverbs 11:24-25

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer;
another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want.
Whoever brings blessing will be enriched,
and one who waters will himself be watered.

Offertory: Psalm 100

All people that on Earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with Mirth; his praise forthtell;
Come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Within His courts your thanks proclaim
With grateful hearts your voices raise
To bless and magnify his name

Because The Lord our God is good;
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

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

Pastoral Prayer

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

(p. 8 of Pew Bible)

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. **2** And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. **3** I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. **5** And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, **6** Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. **7** Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. **8** From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. **9** And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks Be to God!*

Hymn of Preparation: He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail,
Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail,
He will hold me fast.

I could never keep my hold
Through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold;
He must hold me fast.

Those He saves are His delight,
Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight,
He will hold me fast.

He'll not let my soul be lost;
His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost,
He will hold me fast.

He will hold me fast,
He will hold me fast;
For my Saviour loves me so,
He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died,
Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied.
He will hold me fast.

Raised with Him to endless life,
He will hold me fast.
'Til our faith is turned to sight
When He comes at last!

He will hold me fast,
He will hold me fast;
For my Saviour loves me so,
He will hold me fast.

Preaching of God's Word: Ephesians 3:1-13

(Page 977 of the pew Bible)

1 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles—**2** assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, **3** how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. **4** When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5** which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. **6** This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. **8** To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, **9** and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, **10** so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. **11** This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, **12** in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. **13** So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

Closing Hymn: And Can it Be?

And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me?

Refrain:

**Amazing love! how can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me!**

2 'Tis mystery all! Th'Immortal dies!
Who can explore His strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries
To sound the depths of love divine!
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,
Let angel minds inquire no more. **[Refrain]**

3 He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace;
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race;
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me. **[Refrain]**

5 No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ my own. **[Refrain]**

Benediction

Sermon Notes

**And Now for Something Completely Different...
Ephesians 3:1-13**

The Big Idea: Paul defends his ministry by pointing us to “the mystery” and grace of God.

I. Solve “the mystery” (vv. 1-6).

- a. Prisoner and steward (vv. 1-2).

- b. Follow the clues (vv. 3-6).

II. The grace of God (vv. 7-13).

- a. Preaching ministers (vv. 7-9).

- b. The church (vv. 10-13).