# March 15, 2026
# Fourth Sunday of Lent

**PRELUDE *(A Time for Quiet Meditation)***

*Prelude on Garden* *Robert W. Thygerson*

**WORDS OF WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #388**

*Come All You People* *Uyai Mose*

***Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come all you people, come and praise your Maker; come now and worship the Lord.***

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***RESPONSIVE OPENING SENTENCES (from Psalm 146)**

One: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**All: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.**

One: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord: Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them.

**All: Who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.**

One: The Lord sets the prisoner free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

**All: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

One: The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,

**All: The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!**

***GATHERING SONG #32**

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God* *Ellacombe*

*(verse 1)*

***I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day. The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.***

*(verse 2)*

***I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food. God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!***

*(verse 3)*

***There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known. And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne, while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care, and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.***

**CALL TO CONFESSION (from Psalm 103:8)**

One: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Confident of God's grace, let us confess our sins together so that we might receive healing and peace:

*Please stand as you are able.

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty and merciful God, we are blind to the blessings we possess and continue to want more. We are blind to the value of patience and hard work and want everything now. We are blind to people in need and instead take delight in our own accomplishments. Forgive us! Cleanse us of our anxiousness, pride, and feelings of entitlement. Help us see the world with your eyes so that we can be people of gratitude, courage, and compassion, because of what we see in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

*(Time of Silence)*

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (from Jeremiah 33:31-34)**

One: "The days are surely coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. I will put my law within them; I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people. I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more." Believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and our sins are remembered no more.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

***SONG OF RESPONSE #435**

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* *In Babilone*

*(verse 1)*

***There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.***

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: Because we have peace with God through Christ, let us share this peace together. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And, also, with you.**

**UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Luminous God, as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, allow us to see you clearly in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM READING**

*Psalm 145:1-2, 10-13*

One: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name for ever and ever.

**All: Every day I will bless you, and praise your name for ever and ever.**

One: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

**All: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,**

One: To make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

**All: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.**

*Please stand as you are able.

**CHORAL ANTHEM** *Carry Him Sweetly* *Schram & Cabaniss*

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** *John 18:28-40*

**28** Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in
the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid
ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover. **29** So Pilate went out to them
and said, 'What accusation do you bring against this man?' **30** They answered, 'If
this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you.' **31**
Pilate said to them, 'Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law.'
The Jews replied, 'We are not permitted to put anyone to death.' **32** (This was to
fulfil what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)
**33** Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked
him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' **34** Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on
your own, or did others tell you about me?' **35** Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew,
am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What
have you done?' **36** Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my
kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from
being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.'
**37** Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a
king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the
truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.' **38** Pilate asked
him, 'What is truth?'
After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, 'I find no
case against him. **39** But you have a custom that I release someone for you at
the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' **40** They
shouted in reply, 'Not this man, but Barabbas!' Now Barabbas was a bandit.

**THE MESSAGE** *"Jesus and Pilate"* *Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

**UNISON PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Merciful God, too often we bend the truth to fit our needs. Show us how to recognize and follow you in your path, shown to us by the love and life of your son, Jesus. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

*We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.*

**OFFERTORY** *A Sacred Contemplation* *David Paxton*

***DOXOLOGY #707**

*Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord* *Hall*

*(verse 4)*

***Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.***

*Please stand as you are able.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***SENDING SONG #722**

*Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* *Canonbury*

*(verse 1)*

***Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone. As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.***

*(verse 3)*

***O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart. And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.***

*(verse 5)*

***O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.***

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Come As You Are* *Rand & Rand*

***FINAL BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE** *Jubilee!* *Gilbert M. Martin*

*Please stand as you are able.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## College / Military Care Packages

The Deacons are gathering contributions to send gift cards to our college / military students over the next few weeks. If you have a loved one you would like included, please share their name and address with the office or Brenda Wahl.

## Knitting For Others

Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group.

**The group will meet Sunday, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.**:
**March 22, April 12 & 26**

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but have not used quite all the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. We are currently making items for babies and young children. If you have any size-3 or 4 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked "yarn" in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl 502-553-7255

Bev Keough 330-888-5385

## CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center:

**Ground beef, hard / soft tacos, taco seasoning, sour cream, shredded cheddar, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, refried beans, corn bread, anything for tacos, or anything you would like to donate. There will be a Taco Tuesday distribution on March 24th.**

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations. You can, also, leave them in the blue donation bin in the Narthex.

## Pass-it-on Resale Store

The **store will be open** on:
**Friday, April 17** (1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)
**Saturday, April 18** (10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at 440-829-7841 or passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com.

## Donations – Credit Card or Zelle

**Credit card** donations are available on-line at the Valley Presbyterian website below:

http://valleypresbychurch.org
Look for "Give Now" button. Can only be used for donations.
Can not pay for holiday flowers, VBS, books, etc. at this link.
Use the following QR Code to donate via **Zelle**:


**VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
**www.valleypresbychurch.org**
**VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345**

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