

NEED TO KNOW COLUMN

Sunday, March 22

7:30 a.m. - Men's Council Breakfast
 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, March 24

7:15 p.m. - Stated Joint Officer Meeting in Wilbanks Hall side room

Wednesday, March 25

2:00 p.m. - Lenten Study "The Sounds of Lent" led by Rev. Doughton
 7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 29 Palm Sunday

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Wednesday, April 1

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. - Maundy Thursday in Wilbanks Hall
(Lord's Supper will be observed)

Friday, April 3 - Good Friday

7:00 p.m. - Good Friday Service in the sanctuary

Sunday, April 5 - Easter

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Monday, April 6

The Church Office will be closed

Tuesday, April 7

9:15 a.m. - Presbyterian Women's Morning Circle
 7:00 p.m. - Presbyterian Women's Night Circle
 7:00 p.m. - Christian Education Committee meets in the Crossroads Class

Wednesday, April 8

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 10 - Sunday, April 12

Women's Retreat at Prothro Center

Sunday, April 12

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, April 14 - Friday, April 17

Rev. Doughton will be away for continuing education

Tuesday, April 14

7:30 p.m. - Worship Committee Meeting in Youth Classroom

Wednesday, April 15

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 18

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Ladies Who Love the Lord in Wilbanks Hall

Sunday, April 19 - Youth Sunday

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages

Tuesday, April 21

7:15 p.m. - Stated Joint Officer Meeting in Wilbanks Hall side room

Wednesday, April 22

7:00 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THOSE WHO SERVE

Rev. Dr. E. Jones Doughton, Pastor
 Ryoji Shimpo, Director of Music Ministries/Organist & Pianist
 Renee Stormer, Administrative Assistant
 Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Wilbanks, Pastor Emeritus

Please join us for our ...

Retirement Party

We hope to see you there!

Clarence & Brenda Greer

Saturday, March 28, 2026
 at 2:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Mesquite, TX
 Wilbanks Hall

Everyone is invited to help us celebrate!

HOLY WEEK



Holy Week Schedule

March 29: Palm Sunday 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

April 2: Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.

April 3: Good Friday 7:00 p.m.

April 5: Easter 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



The Presbyterian Women with The Ladies Who Love The Lord will be collecting money for new shoes. We are accepting checks made out to Presbyterian Women.



Your donation will be coupled with others and sent to Buckner Shoes for Orphan Souls. Please put your donation check or cash into a pew envelope, label the envelope "PW," placing it in the offering plate before April 18, 2026. **Thank you for your generosity.**



THE CHALLENGE



The 100 Can Challenge continues as we collect can goods and other non-perishable items. The donated items will be given to Sharing Life, as they feed those in need in our community. Our total items collected thus far in March is **74 items.**

Thank you to all who contribute!

GUIDE TO WORSHIP

March 22, 2026

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

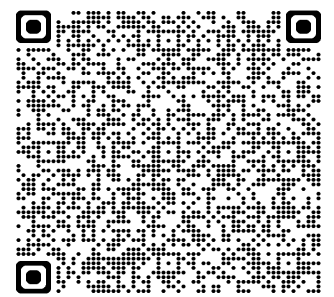
About the Cover Picture

Here one can see the Beatitudes presented in a variety of languages.



ONLINE GIVING OPTION

Have you ever thought of giving online? If you would like to give online you may scan the QR Code, this will take you to the giving button on our website.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1028 SOUTH BELT LINE RD

MESQUITE, TEXAS 75149

972-285-5602

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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

STRIKING OF THE HOUR FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Crown Him with Many Crowns* arr. Mark Hayes

INTROIT 166 (vs.1&2) *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*

Lord, Who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray,
teach us with You to mourn our sins and close by You to stay.
As You with Satan did contend and did the victory win,
O give us strength to persevere, in You to conquer sin.

CALL TO WORSHIP *Philippians 1:2;(Adapted from Joel 12:12-14)*
Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also to you.

Even now," declares the Lord, "return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord Your God, for the Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love." Come, let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN 268 *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty, Gracious, and Loving God; we have fallen short time and time again. You have given us Your word, both in scripture and in Your Son. You have promised us Your presence. You have graced us with Your Kingdom, both in teaching and in service. Even so, we neglect, ignore, and reject Your purposes for us. We do not love what You love. We do not embrace what You embrace. We do not defend what You have called us to defend. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Forgive us for what we do and what we fail to do. And with Your gifts, promises, and grace, continue working in our lives that we may live fully for Jesus Christ, now and forevermore. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE (Hymn 581)

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. A—men. A—men.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS #

MOMENT FOR MISSION P.C.H.A.S.
Diane Pennington

ANTHEM (11:00) *Lamb of God* Twila Paris
(with "Were You There?") arr. Larry Mayfield
Chancel Choir

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Your only Son, no sin to hide, but You have sent Him from Your side
to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.
Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God.
I love the Holy Lamb of God. O wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

(continued)

Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Your gift of love they crucified, they laughed and scorned Him as He died.
The humble King they named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God.

[Refrain]

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God. I love the Holy Lamb of God.
O wash me in His precious blood 'til I am just a lamb of God.
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Lamb of God. Lamb of God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #

God of all Wisdom and Glory, open us to the work of the Holy Spirit that we may hear Your Word with understanding, grace, and wisdom in this Season of Lent in Jesus' name, Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Matthew 7:24-27*

"Everyone then who hears these words of Mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it."

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON # *Matthew 5:7*

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MOMENT FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11:00)

The Children and Youth are asked to come forward at this time.

*HYMN 442 *Just as I Am, without One Plea*

SERMON *The Merciful* Rev. Doughton

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Lamb of God* arr. Lloyd Larson
Ryoji Shimpo, Pianist

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

**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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION †

*HYMN 216 *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE 166 (vs.3&4) *Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days*
And through those days of penitence, and through this Passiontide,
yes, evermore, in life and death, O Lord, with us abide.
Abide with us, till when this life of suffering shall be past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

POSTLUDE *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* arr. Mark Hayes
Please be seated for the Postlude.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Elders # - Brian Neece (8:45); Brenda Greer (11:00)

Deacon/Ushers † - Mike Lee, Robbie Lee,
and Sue Bohmer (8:45);

Paul Luce, Harriet Jones, Amanda Aynes,
and Adeline Aynes (11:00)



Living Word Church Mesquite



Facebook QR Code & Link

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1AvVwt8vbj/>

Soon we will be hosting Living Word Church as they gather for worship and ministry in our facilities. Living Word will worship in the Fellowship Hall and will use two Sunday School classrooms for children's ministry, with the possibility of a third classroom as their congregation grows. In this way, we are offering hospitality while stewarding our space for the work of the Gospel. The Living Word Church plans to hold their first service here in mid-April. "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:2).

This shared use of our campus will be thoughtfully coordinated through a Session-appointed liaison team, in cooperation with our Safety Team, and with Presbytery oversight. Clear communication, mutual respect, and accountability will guide this partnership so that both congregations may worship and serve faithfully. "For God is not a God of disorder but of peace." (1 Corinthians 14:33).

The congregation received an overview of this opportunity at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 8. Rev. Martinez spoke to our Men's Council on February 22. For those who would like the latest update, Rev. Doughton will remain in the sanctuary on Sunday, March 29 at the conclusion of the 8:45 AM Worship Service. This information meeting will last until 10:30 AM.