

Announcements

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

March 2 nd	Linda Beck
March 3 rd	Linda Bolton
March 16 th	Tom Klomprens
March 17 th	Colt Phillips-Gogan, Anna Reed
March 21 st	Cathy Aardema
March 25 th	Deb Mrozinsky
March 27 th	Patty Brus, Karen Samuels
March 28 th	Paula Dimler
March 29 th	Alaine Phillips
March 30 th	Bonnie Capron
March 31 st	Michael McCarty

Christian Education – Children’s Sunday School

TODAY in the Basement Youth Room 10:45am



Christian Education – Adult/Teen Study

TODAY!

Meeting in the Sanctuary from
11:00am to 12:00pm.

Presbyterian Women

PW Scholarship

Presbyterian Women are accepting applications for their 2025 scholarship. Any Presbyterian graduating high school senior or college student may apply. Applications are available in the church office and are due by March 31.

World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 7, 2025

12:00pm

Christ Episcopal Church



Mark Your Calendar - PW Garage Sale

Plan to attend the PW Garage Sale:

SATURDAY. APRIL 12, 8:00 - 12:00

Lots of bargains & treasures with some free stuff.

Proceeds benefit local missions.

If you're spring cleaning PW is accepting donations

(no books or clothing, please).



Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, March 5th at 5:30 PM.

Immediately following the service, grab-and-go snacks will be available so committee meetings can begin without delay.

We look forward to gathering together for this meaningful time of reflection and preparation.



March 2nd, 2025

*Please fill out attendance form
and pass it along your row*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Call to Worship

God is ready for us to seek what is eternal.

God wants us to find the truth beyond ourselves.

Our spirits long for god, as a deer longs for water.

We cry out for some evidence of God's presence.

God seldom comes as earthquake, wind or fire.

Rather, in moments of sheer silence, God is revealed.

We come in quiet expectation to this holy place.

We approach the altar of God, hungry to be fed.

All are welcome here as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Here is a place to find healing and promise.

Our hope is in God, who gives us life and identity.

Our help is from God, who is in covenant with us.

Invocation

God, our refuge and our hope, come among us today to give us energy and purpose. Move us beyond the discipline of the law to the discipleship of faith. Free us from the shackles of fear and a sense of failure that keep us from stepping bravely into your future. Grant us the sense that we are not alone but are part of a great company of your faithful people of every nation and tongue. Amen.

Hymn "Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove" *Hymnal #126*

Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty and sovereign God, we confess that we have broken covenant with you, despised some of your children, and accused you of forgetting us. Our lives do not praise you, our actions deny you, and our work is carried out without reference to your will. We draw lines of distinction among ourselves rather than celebrating our common humanity. When we are zealous for the faith, we trample on others rather than learning to know and appreciate them. O God, forgive us and change us. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen

Gloria Patri

Offertory "Come to the Table of the Lord" *Choir*

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Children's Time *Judith Spargur*

Hymn "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" *Hymn #357*

Scripture Micah 6:6-8 Esther 3-5

Message "Keeping My Brother" *Judith Spargur*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Order of Communion

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn "Give Thanks" *Onscreen Only*

Ushers: Cathy Aardema & Patti Smith
Accompanist/Choir Director: Tim Schoessler
Worship Director: Wendy Corr
Message: Judith Spargur

Responsive Blessing

God has come quickly to aid and instruct us.

Now we depart to help others and to listen to them.

We will share our stories with the congregation.

We will witness in God's name to one another.

God's family includes those outside the church.

With God, there are no outsiders or insiders.

We will carry the grace of God without distinction.

God's abundant steadfast love will sustain us.

Daily God asks, "What are you doing here?"

Moment by moment, God is with us to help us.

We will hope in God and sing God's praises.

We will look up with hope and confidence.

Amen.

Postlude

Micah 6:6-8 NIV

⁶With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow down before the exalted God?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?

Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

⁸He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.

And what does the LORD require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.

Esther 3: 8-13 NIV

⁸ Then Haman said to King Xerxes, "There is a certain people dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom who keep themselves separate. Their customs are different from those of all other people, and they do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them." ⁹ If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will give ten thousand talents of silver to the king's administrators for the royal treasury." ¹⁰ So the king took his signet ring from his finger and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of the Jews. ¹³ Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews—young and old, women and children—on a single day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods.

Esther 4:5-17 NIV

⁵ When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly. ⁶ So Hathak went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate. ⁷ Mordecai told him everything that had happened to him, including the exact amount of money Haman had promised to pay into the royal treasury for the destruction of the Jews. ⁸ He also gave him a copy of the text of the edict for their annihilation, which had been published in Susa, to show to Esther and explain it to her, and he told him to instruct her to go into the king's presence to beg for mercy and plead with him for her people. ⁹ Hathak went back and reported to Esther what Mordecai had said. ¹⁰ Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, ¹¹ "All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king." ¹² When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, ¹³ he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. ¹⁴ For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?" ¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish." ¹⁷ So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

Esther 5:1-5 NIV

¹ On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the palace, in front of the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance. ² When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. ³ Then the king asked, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you." ⁴ Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favor with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life—this is my petition. And spare my people—this is my request. ⁵ For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated. If we had merely been sold as male and female slaves, I would have kept quiet, because no such distress would justify disturbing the king."