

First Presbyterian Church



February 28, 2021
9:30 a.m. In-Person & Live Streaming

525 North Broadway • Wichita, Kansas 67214 • (316) 263-0248
www.firstchurchwichita.org

February 28, 2021	<i>Second Sunday in Lent</i>	9:30 a.m.
Prelude	<i>Have Mercy on Me, Oh Lord</i>	J. S. Bach

Greetings

*Call to Worship - Excerpt from Psalm 22:27-31

Leader: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
and all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

People: For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

Leader: To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for him.

People: Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord,

Leader: and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.

People: Let us worship God.

*Prayer of the Day

God of Sarah and Abraham, long ago you embraced your people in covenant and promised them your blessing. Strengthen us in faith, that, with your disciples of every age, we may proclaim your deliverance in Jesus Christ to generations yet unborn. **Amen.**

*Hymn *The God of Abraham Praise* (Vs. 1, 3) No. 488

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Silence

Choral Response

Assurance of Pardon

*The Peace

Leader: As God's own people, be merciful in action, kindly in heart, humble in mind. Be always ready to forgive as freely as God has forgiven you. And, above everything else, be loving, and never forget to be thankful for what Christ has done for you. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Kids Connection (pre-recorded)

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Anthem

Just As I Am, Lord
Jesse Warkentin, Piano

Nancy Price & Don Besig

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

Sermon

"The Faith of Abraham"
Rev. Dr. Brent O. Johnston

*Affirmation of Faith - Excerpt from *Brief Statement of Faith*

People: We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen

Calendar

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, February 28</p> <p>9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live</p> <p>10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)</p> <p>10:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45 Journey's Class -Agape (Zoom)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, March 2</p> <p>2:00 Pastoral Staff Mtg (MS Teams)</p> <p>4:30 Camp Comm. Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p>5:30 CE Comm. Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p>5:30 Facilities Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, March 3</p> <p>9:00 Dorcas (Rm C105)</p> <p>6:00 Youth Club (YL)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, March 4</p> <p>7:00 Evangelism & Hospitality Mtg (Zoom)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, March 6</p> <p>8:00 Community Breakfast (WDR, KIT)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, March 7</p> <p>9:30 Worship (Sanctuary) In-Person, Live Streaming, & Facebook Live</p> <p>10:00 Refugee Worship (Rm 204)</p> <p>10:30 Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)</p> <p>10:45 Durfee 360 Class (Zoom)</p>
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**The Durfee 360 Series Presents
The Breadth of Salvation by Tom Greggs, PhD.**

Do You Have Questions About Your Salvation?

"Are our imaginations of salvation too narrow, self-obsessed, and self-justifying for the nature of the gospel?"

"We should dare to hope that salvation is wider and broader and higher and deeper than we ever might imagine."

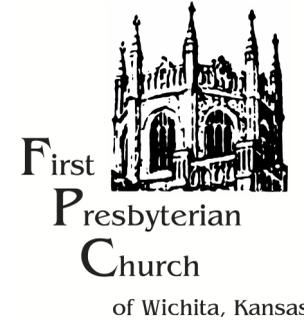
These are the words of Tom Greggs, PhD. called one of today's leading Christian theologians, and author of the recent book *The Breadth of Salvation*.

Through the generosity of the Durfee 360 Lecture Series, **Dr. Greggs will be at our church (virtually) to present four lectures during March.** Dr. Greggs, FRSE, holds the Marischal Chair at the University of Aberdeen, where he also serves as the Head of Divinity.

There will be two opportunities to hear Dr. Greggs:

- **Sunday mornings, 10:45 am (March 7, 14, 21, and 28)**
 - Lectures with "live" discussion sessions with Dr. Greggs
- **Wednesday evenings, 6:30pm (March 10, 17, 24, 31)**
 - Lecture with discussion session led by Pastor Brent

Classes will be held via Zoom, pending any changes regarding COVID-19.



Welcome, Visitors!

We extend a special welcome to those who are visiting First Presbyterian Church this morning. We are glad you are here! If you recently had a change in address, e-mail, or phone number, please feel free to contact the office on Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. so that we may update your information.

Please remember to turn off your cell phone before worship this morning.

All persons must sign in upon entry of the building at this time for safety reasons due to COVID-19.

Children's Information-Children are welcome in worship. We do not mind a little fidgeting and fussing in the pew. And, finally, we encourage you to consider the Nursery, which is located in the south end of the Case Building, where we have trained Staff to look after and engage your child from birth to Kindergarten. If we need to contact you during worship, just give us your cell number and we will text you. You and your child's (spiritual, emotional, and social) needs are important to us. (Liz Norris-Director of Children's Ministry)

A quick reminder: Under the Child Protection Policy children are not allowed to leave the Sanctuary without an adult escort. In addition, all children and youth group activities including children in the Nursery must be supervised by a minimum of 2 authorized staff or volunteers.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sunday Kids Connection-Kids Connection is prerecorded as part of the live stream worship service at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you have questions on how to find the group, please call Liz at (316) 214-4318.

Praying for the Church Family-As a congregation we weekly focus our personal and corporate prayers upon a selection of church members and friends. Let us remember in prayer this week the following: Emily Haltom, Roseann & Howard Waller, Marilyn Kuhns, Donna & Wade Brodin, and Steve & Elizabeth Wilkes.

Upcoming Events & News

CHURCH SESSION MOTIONS APPROVED

There will only be one Worship service each week at 9:30 a.m. both in-person and live streaming through May 2021.

(In order to maintain social distancing during worship, please do not sit in the pews that are roped off.)

- **The Session voted on February 16, 2021 to reopen the church for internal FPC groups of no more than 20 participants on February 17, 2021.**
 - Requirements for the meetings: no shared food, practice social distancing and face masks are required. In addition, due to the cleaning/sanitizing that will be necessary after a meeting, meetings must be scheduled through the office at least 2 days in advance of desired the date/time.
- Sunday Worship and the Community Breakfast (as limited below).
 - The volunteers who make the Community Breakfast possible will be allowed to operate inside the building.
 - The Community Breakfast guests will continue to be served outside of the building.
- Member key cards will be active only during office hours from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday. If you need access at some other time, please call or text our Facilities Manager, Roy Yarbrough at 516-4772.
- Sunday worship services continue to require the following protocols be adhered to: face masks are required, maintain social distancing, the west entrance is the only open entrance to the building, temperatures of all participants will be taken, the collection plates will NOT be passed but instead will be placed at the doors, and there will be no congregational singing during services.
- The Session will continue to evaluate the situation and act accordingly each month.

News & Events

YOUR LEADERSHIP EDGE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The next sessions of the Kansas Leadership Center's Your Leadership Edge class will be held on March 3-4, April 14-15, and May 5-6. Courses are held online using Zoom. Sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. and end by 2 p.m. with generous breaks built into each day.

To enroll in a class:

1. Go to the Kansas Leadership Center's Your Leadership Edge page (www.kansasleadershipcenter.org/yourleadershipedge)
2. Look for a blue box that says, "Create Account Here to Register." Click on that box to start your registration, then select the option to create your account.
3. Toward the end of the registration, there will be an option to enter a promo code. Be sure to enter FirstPrez2020 to waive the registration fee.
4. Watch for an email confirmation of your class registration.

The two books used in the class are available at no charge in the church office. These are *Your Leadership Edge: Lead Anytime, Anywhere* and the *KLC Guidebook*.

If you have questions about the training or need assistance with your registration, contact Cynthia Berner, facilitator of our Core Transformation Team, at 641-7587 or ictbooks@gmail.com.

THE JOURNEY TO AGAPE

Come join us as Alice Price leads us in learning more about the type of love called Agape. The Journeys Class for February 14, 21, and 28 will discuss agape from different angles as well as how to practice it.

We will be reading "Agape; God's Persona: It's a Book Without Life Unless with Love We Write" (Ron Swingle) as well as touching on other writings. There will be a few copies in the office for \$10 each, or you may order one from Amazon.

Look for an e-mail invitation from Pastor Brent or Jeff Van Sickle with the code to enter the Zoom meeting. Class will begin at 10:45 a.m. and conclude at 11:45 a.m. The syllabus will be attached to the invitation and each week a reminder link will be sent.