

SUNDAY – March 9

10:00 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary/Online)

MONDAY – March 10

7:00 p.m. Deacons (Fitch Parlor)

WEDNESDAY – March 12

10:00 a.m. Women of the Word [WOW] (Fitch Parlor)

12:00 p.m. Charity Knitters (Discipleship)

5:30 p.m. Bell Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

6:30 p.m. Pickleball (Large Fellowship Hall)

THURSDAY – March 13

10:00am Library Team (Fitch Parlor)

In Our Prayers ✠

We pray for Don Nead, Nancy Fitzsimons, and Carol Davis for health reasons. We pray for the family of Terry West as he enters the Church Triumphant. We also pray for our Special Care friends, Kitty Mills and Hal Lefever.

Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Cover Image: “Neighbors” by Steve Prince. Inspired by Luke 10:25-37. Ink on paper. We have an individual & collective responsibility to be good stewards of our bodies, neighbors and communities, rooted in love. See the artist’s statement on the back wall of the sanctuary.

In our effort to be inclusive of those who are unable to be with us in person, we live stream our worship services online. For those who are camera-shy, seating is available in the back two rows of the main floor or anywhere in the balcony.

Pastor: Wil Reinowski
Adult Handbells: Janice Spitalniak
Director of Contemporary Music: Paul Foster
Organist: Doug Fletcher
Custodian: Bob Hill

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Central Presbyterian Church

The First Sunday in Lent

everything [in] between: stranger & neighbor

March 9, 2025

Welcome
Prelude "O Worship the King" (arr. Hurlbutt)
***Call to Worship** Harriet Smith

Leader: Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**People: Who is my neighbor? How can I help? What do I have to learn?
Where is God in it all?**

Leader: Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

**People: So may we listen. May we learn. May we stay curious, and may we
look for God.**

Leader: This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

***Hymn** "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" 12

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we get
tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our neighbor? Do we
have to love the stranger? Must we have compassion for our enemy.
Forgive our human tendency to create exceptions in the face of love.
Rewire our hearts so that we might see the face of a neighbor in every
stranger we pass. With hope we pray, Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Leader: Family of faith, when we set limits on love, God loves extravagantly.
When we forget that we are neighbors, God claims us as God's own.
When we judge, hold back, or harm, God surrounds us with grace.
There is nothing we can do or leave undone that could separate us
from the love of God. This is the good news of the gospel.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Congregational Response** "Glory to God" (back cover Hymnal)

*Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

Second Reading Luke 10:25-37

** Please stand as you are able.*

Message "crossing [into] kindness" Rev. Wil Reinowski
***Hymn** "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" 62

*Affirmation of Faith

**Church, if God asked you, "Who is your neighbor?" what would you say? We
would say, every child, every person, every weeping willow, and every
morning lark. Every freckled face, every wrinkled pair of hands, every tail-
wagging dog, and every crisp ripe apple. We would say, we are connected— to
one another, to all of God's creation. There are no strangers in God's house.
We are all family here. I think God would delight in that answer. For it is said,
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with
all your strength, with all your mind, and you shall love your neighbor as
yourself." We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.**

***Congregational Response** "Gloria Patri" (back cover Hymnal)

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Offering

*The offering basket is located at the back of the west aisle of the sanctuary. Feel
free to leave your offering at any time.*

Offertory "On the Cross of Calvary" (Gerig)

***Doxology** 606

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

**Gracious and Generous God, we are amazed by the good gifts you bestow
in abundance. Thank you for food that sustains us on our journey. Thank
you for the company of saints to whom we are joined. Thank you for giving
us your work to do on earth. We offer back to you a portion of all that we
have received, setting down our baskets in celebration of your greatest
gift, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

***Hymn** "O for a Closer Walk with God" 739

*Benediction

Postlude "Lift High the Cross" (arr. Young)