

**WELCOME TO
THE PREAKNESS REFORMED CHURCH**

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
March 15, 2026 at 10:00 AM**



"As always in John its central character is God and God's gift of life through the invitation to live in the holy space of love, the true worship in the Spirit, which is also the living space of the Father and the Son. That love, embodied, cuts across racial and cultural prejudice, affirms women, engages and loves sinners."

-Professor and Pastor William Loader

 Congregation standing, as able

GATHERING FOR THE LENTEN JOURNEY

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

 CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, sing praises to God! Let us rejoice in God's presence!

**For our God is good, the One who sustains and strengthens us,
day after day!**

We will tell of the Lord's unfailing love and all the many acts of faithful love offered to us.

**The Lord is compassionate and merciful, the Lord forgives our sins, and
heals us from within. The Lord surrounds us with love and mercy and
fills our lives with good things!**

The time and place of worship is not important. What is important is the work of the Spirit and offering our hearts truthfully before God.

Let us worship in Spirit and in truth!

 OPENING SONG OF PRAISE **142** "We Are People on a Journey"

DEEPER JOURNEY

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(The children are invited to Sunday School at this time.)

INTRODUCTION TO THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION **627**

"Just as I Am, Without One Plea"
(verses 1 and 4)

WOODWORTH

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FOR RENEWAL **627**

(continue with silent prayers of confession)

WORDS OF GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

(Please share the peace of Christ with one another.)

ANTHEM

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus"

KINGSFOLD, Arr. Molly Ijames

GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO US

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING John 4

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

MESSAGE "Unlikely Saints: Testify despite your bad reputation!"

A PRAYER OF PRAISE **686**

GOD LEADS AND GUIDES US

SONG OF RESPONSE **689** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" CIVILITY

PRAYERS AROUND THE TABLE...concluding with the 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.

 CLOSING SONG **946** "Go, My Children, with My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

 BENEDICTION

*Assisting God's people in worship are Pastor Eric Nichols, worship leader;
Dave Parish, liturgist; Holly Ryan, worship host; Tech Team;
Chancel Choir; Kevin Lynch, accompanist; Dan King, Director of Music Ministry.*

🌀 Calendar and Notices 🌀

- Sun, Mar 15 9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room)
10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
10:10 am Sunday School
5:30 pm Lenten Dinner and Movie (Berdan Hall)
5:30 pm Youth Group Game Night
- Mon, Mar 16 7:30 pm Consistory Meeting (Nan's Room)
- Tue, Mar 17 9:00 am Helping Hands
- Wed, Mar 18 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- Thu, Mar 19 12:00 pm Brown Bags and Bibles
- Sun, Mar 22 9:15 am Sunday Scripture (Nan's Room)
10:00 am High School Sunday School (Oxbow)
10:00 am Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
10:10 am Sunday School

Please include in your prayers of intercession: *Jannie van Drimmelen (Corine Miller's mother), David Terpstra, Dave Vanderbush, Christina Gaboda, Priscilla Durkin, Jac Young (Glenn O'Connell's uncle), Skip Dahl, Frank Minutolo, Domenick Carofine, Mary Tielve, Janet Wright, Peggy Carroll, Cindy Van Lunen, June Jesch, James M. (friend of Kim Goerg), Donald Nix (brother of Tiffany Nix), and those awaiting diagnosis or undergoing treatments.*

The **Easter Flower envelopes** are out! If you would like to make a contribution, please fill out an envelope and place it in the offering plate or the basket on the office door **no later than Sun, March 29**. Suggested donation is \$30. Thank you so much for making our sanctuary beautiful as we celebrate the joy of Easter!

Join us at our next book club on Tuesday, April 7 at 7:00 PM in Nan's Room as we discuss *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. Ove is a curmudgeon - set in his routines and grumpy ways - until unexpected friendship begin to soften his heart and reveal the quiet ways he touches the lives of those around him (which ties in well with our Lenten sermon series, *Unlikely Saints!*), reminding us that God often works through the most unexpected people to bring love, grace, and hope into the world. Please reach out to Pastor Kim with any questions.

Everyone deserves a happy birthday, especially during tough times.

The Sunday School is collecting items for birthday cake kits to be delivered to the WIN food pantry. Each kit makes a complete cake!

- Boxed cake mix
- Can of frosting
- One can Sprite soda (this takes the place of the eggs and oil so they don't need any extra ingredients!)
- Candles
- 9" x 13" disposable pan with lid
- A note explaining the Sprite



Some extra items might be:

- Party plates
- A small bag of balloons
- Decorations (like a gift bow or banner)
- Birthday card

.....

Please join us for our last Sunday evening in Lent on March 15 at 5:30pm in Berdan Hall. Adults will watch *Saint Vincent*, and the Youth will break off and enjoy Game Night. Pizza will be served (no cooking this week!). Please use the link in the weekly eblast to sign up for drinks/desserts that are needed. Contact Annie McKay, Jennie Franklyn, or Carol Huff with any questions.

Applications for the 2026 PRC Memorial Scholarship Awards are now available electronically on the PRC website, paper copies in the church office, or from Joan Vanderbush at djvander90@gmail.com. Applicants may attend or plan to attend a two-year vocational college, a four-year academic college, graduate school, or be enrolled in courses which help the individual progress toward his or her educational goals. **The firm deadline this year is Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10, 2026.** Please adhere to all directions and timeline. Any questions, please call or text Joan at 201-245-9844. *Parents, if your children do not receive emails from PRC, please pass along this information.*

✧ **Assisting in Worship** ✧

	<u>Mar 15</u>	<u>Mar 22</u>
Flowers	Christina Gaboda	Ken De Berry
Counter	Rich Ullman	Ken Tanis
Ushers	Kathy Curtin	Charles Schmitt
	Ted Curtin	Laura O'Connell
	Dave Parish	Dan O'Connell

✧ **Consistory** ✧

Elders		Deacons	
Amanda Deplet	Hannah Kudrik	Ken De Berry	Jessica Amato
Priscilla Durkin	Donna McKeon	Jennifer Graf	Gaye Servideo
Jennie Franklyn	Glenn O'Connell	Tom Powers	Vicki Lefelar
Bill Weston	Heather Kroll	Tim Coyne	Christina Gaboda
		Martin McKay	

☞ **Preakness Reformed Church Staff** ☞

Rev. Eric Nichols, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kim Pavlovich, Associate Pastor
Daniel King, Director of Music Ministries
Kevin Lynch, Accompanist
Christina Collucci, Office Manager
Rev. Mary Marcus, Minister Emerita



Preakness Reformed Church
131 Church Lane, Wayne, NJ 07470
973.694.5481
CCLI#11100448
www.preaknessreformed.org