



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, with the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables.

John 2:14-15 (NRSVUE)

Sunday, March 15, 2026

*Please be seated, silence all devices, and prepare yourself for worship.
All are welcome in this sacred space, including the wiggles and giggles!*

◆ PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT

PRELUDE
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gather Us In

John A. Behnke
Pastor Murray

◆ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

~~~ GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE ~~~

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

Dave LM

*Come into this place with what you carry —  
your hopes, your questions, your carefully counted worries.*

**We come seeking God's presence among us.**

*Jesus once entered the temple  
and overturned tables, scattered coins, and disrupted business as usual.*

**Because God's house is not for sale,  
and God's grace cannot be bought.**

*Here we gather not to trade or earn,  
but to receive what we cannot purchase.*

**We worship the God who gives freely,  
and who calls us to live differently because of that gift.**

*Let us worship God, the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of all.*

**We will follow Jesus closely, trusting as we go.**

◆ HYMN 661

*His Eye Is on the Sparrow*

Congregation

***Children are invited forward as we sing the final verse***

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Winslow

~~~ LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD ~~~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dave LM

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 2:1-10 (NRSVUE)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we joyously come together to worship, realizing we need not summon You into this place, for You are here... Almighty God: You alone are good and holy. Purify our lives so nothing separates us from You.

**Deliver us, O God, from lack of reverence for truth and beauty;
from a calculating or sentimental mind;
from going along with mean and ugly things;**

*Almighty God, deliver us from cowardice that dares not face truth;
laziness content with half-truth; or arrogance that thinks we know it all;*

**Deliver us, O God, from artificial worship;
from all that is hollow and insincere;**

*Almighty God, deliver us from being dull, pompous, or rude;
from putting down our neighbors;
from cynicism about others;
from intolerance or cruel indifference;*

**Deliver us, O God, from being satisfied with things as they are,
in the church and in the world; from failing to seek justice;**

*Almighty God, deliver us from token concern for the poor who You said would
always be with us; save us from selfishness, self-indulgence, or self-pity;*

**Deliver us, O God, from everything in us that hides your light;
Almighty God, forgive us.**

~ In this time of silence, you are invited to confess your personal sin to God ~

...Amen

HYMN 575 LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US Congregation
*Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Dave LM

...Believe the Good News: With great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy made us alive with Christ, even when we were dead through our sin.

By grace we have been saved.

◆ HYMN 582 GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME Congregation

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

◆ GOSPEL READING JOHN 2:13-17 (NRSVUE) Pastor Murray  
*This is the Word of the Lord. God is still speaking.*

MESSAGE *Coins*  
Sermon Series *Lent in Plain Sight*

HYMN 761 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* Congregation

~~~ RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD ~~~

OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY *Invention 13 in Minor, BWV 785* J. S. Bach

◆ HYMN Doxology (Words for Lent) Congregation
**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit, who imparts,
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

◆ PRAYER OF DEDICATION Pastor Murray

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

(rewritten by The Reverend Jonathan Murray for "Lent in Plain Sight: Coins")

We believe in God, Creator of heaven and earth, whose abundance needs no exchange rate, whose mercy cannot be bought or sold, and whose love is never measured in profit or loss.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Lord, who entered the temple and overturned the tables, who scattered the coins that claimed to define worth, and who named zeal for God's house as love for people, not power. He was born into a world fluent in transaction and control yet lived a life of self-giving grace. He was crucified by systems that feared losing their hold, died under the weight of greed and violence, and was buried. On the third day he rose again, freeing us from the lie that our value must be earned. He reigns not from a ledger, but from love, calling us to worship in spirit and truth.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who loosens our grip on what we cling to, and who teaches us generosity of heart, life, and resources. We believe the holy catholic church, a community still learning to clear the temple, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life abundant and eternal — all given freely, by the God whose grace is richer than gold. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (page 35) Pastor Winslow

◆ HYMN 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This* Congregation

~~~ CARRYING GOD'S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD'S WORLD ~~~

◆ BENEDICTION Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing* David Johnson

Where do you notice yourself — or our culture — treating faith, worth, or success like a transaction rather than a gift? What helps you remember that grace is a gift, not something you have to earn?

*The flowers today in the Sanctuary were given by Kathy MD to her Church Family*

### Today's Service

|             |                             |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| Music       | Trey MD                     |
| Liturgist   | Dave LM                     |
| Trustee     | Roy Gibson                  |
| Ushers      | Kathy F, Diane C and Mary D |
| Cover Image | Dan Notti                   |



**Open Door Circle** will be meeting every 3rd Thursday, at 10:30. All women are welcome. Please call Hedy L with any questions.



Pastor Jonathan will be on vacation **March 16th through March 21st.**  
Any pastoral needs are to be directed to Pastor Blakeley or the Pastoral Response Line.



The mission committee will be holding its annual food drive for the Life Center during March. The Director said they could use any food, but they are always in need of foods with protein such as Spam, beans, tuna, salmon, peanut butter or any nut butter. We will be collecting food through March 29. There will be a container at the Windemere entrance and at the Littleton Boulevard entrance to place your donations. Thank you in advance.

### *March's RightNow Media selections*

If you have any trouble creating your account, or accessing content, please contact Pastor Blakeley for assistance!

For general audience: "**Holy Habits**": Pastor Derwin Gray guides you in this four-part series which will uncover four foundational behaviors for Christians. Seek a new way of living this Lenten season—one formed by the rhythms of holiness.

For youth and young adults: "**Jesus in our Generation**": Celebrated pastor and author Ben Stuart helps young people to explore some of the major areas in our lives that are impacted by modern culture. This study will help those in the next generation to better understand how to respond to cultural shifts in a way remains faithful to the unchanging truths of God's Word.

For general audience: "**The Narrow Path**". Author and pastor Rich Villodas leads a five-session series, ideal for Lent, which explores "how the subversive way of Jesus satisfies our souls." While the world offers a broad way leading to destruction, as Christ followers we can choose to take the Narrow Path of Jesus, leading to fullness, peace, and joy.

### **Sunday Bible Study Today**

Bible Study is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, following worship. Bring a 'brown bag' lunch and join us as we discuss God's Word to us. Both children and Adult Sunday Bible Study will meet, starting in Ficklin Hall for lunch.



## Tuesday Evening Shabby Sheep Women Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7pm

## Wednesday Morning Shabby Sheep Women Bible Study

New six-week study on *Acts*, starts April 8<sup>th</sup>



Articles for the First Word for April are due March 24th

**Office Hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-Thursday \*Appointments Encouraged**

**Office Phone Number 303-798-1389**

**Office Email [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)**

**Pastoral Care Emergency Line 720-662-7277**

### Staff Members

**Pastor Jonathan Murray**, Minister of Word and Sacrament

**Pastor Blakeley Winslow**, Pastor of Christian Discipleship

**Lydia Cooper**, Office Manager

**Mary Dailey**, Director of Worship Arts

**Karen A. Meersman**, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

**Joan Lund**, Financial Secretary

**Tracy Eidson**, Child Care

### *Worship Plans*

*Sermon Series for Lent:*

*Lent In Plain Sight*

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*March 22*

*Shoes*

*Exodus 3:1-15*

*March 29, Palm Sunday*

*Coats*

*Luke 19:29-40 BELLS*

*April 2, Maundy Thursday at 6pm*

*Towels*

*John 13:1-13*

*April 3, Good Friday at Noon*

*Thorns*

*John 19:1-11*

*April 5, Easter Sunday Worship Services at 8am and 10am*

*John 20:1-18*

*\*Pancake Breakfast 9am\**

Sermon Series for the Season of Easter: *New Life* (4/12-5/24)

**Our Mission:**

***We welcome all to love, share, serve, and grow in Christ.***

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**Church of Littleton** [www.littletonpresbyterian.org](http://www.littletonpresbyterian.org) » [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)