

**First Presbyterian Church  
19 Seminary Street, Barre, Vermont**

***Welcomes You to Worship***



***Jesus being Anointed with Oil***

**March 22, 2026**

**Sunday Worship  
Year A, Fifth Sunday in Lent**

***Welcome!***

***Join us as we experience our spiritual journey through Christian community  
and by living God's love in word and deed.***

## GATHERING

*Today's hymns are from the purple "Glory to God" hymnal. This service is being recorded for viewing on Facebook and on our website. Please guard your privacy as best you see fit.*

### Gathering on Abenaki Lands and Welcome

#### Prelude

#### Call to Worship (Psalm 146)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!  
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.  
Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord:

**Congregation: Who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them.**

Leader: Who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.

**Congregation: The Lord sets the prisoner free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.**

Leader: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

**Congregation: The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,**

Leader: But the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**Congregation: The Lord will reign forever. Praise the Lord!**

★ **Opening Hymn No 187** Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care. In your pleasant pastures feed us; for our use your fold prepare. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us: we are yours.
  
2. We are yours: in love befriend us; be the guardian of our way. Keep your flock: from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear your children when we pray.
  
3. You have promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be; you have mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to you.
  
4. Early let us seek your favor; early let us do your will. Blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still. Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us; love us still.

**PRAYING for RECONCILIATION and FORGIVENESS**

**Call to Confession (from Psalm 103:8)**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Confident of God's character, let us confess our sins together so that we might receive healing and peace.

## Unison Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Almighty and merciful God, we continue to want more, blind to the blessings we already possess. We want everything now, blind to the value of patience and hard work. We take so much delight in our own accomplishments that we are blind to people in need. Forgive us! Cleanse us of our entitlement, anxiousness and pride. Help us see the world with your eyes so that we can be people of gratitude, courage and compassion, because of what we see in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Silent confession of individual sins*

## Assurance of Pardon (from Jeremiah 33:31-34)

Leader: "The days are surely coming," says the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel. I will put my law within them; I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God and they shall be my people. I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more."

Congregation: **We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and our sins are remembered no more.**

★**Passing of the Peace** - Now is the time we pass the peace saying "Peace be with you," responding with "And also with you." When we pass the peace of Christ, we affirm that the nature of our faith is founded in the love, grace, and peace Christ continually extends to us.

## LISTENING

**Scripture Lesson** Psalm 23; Matthew 26:6-13 Rev. Dwight

**Sermon** "Anointed with Oil" Rev. Dwight

**Reflection Music**

## RESPONDING

★ Hymn No. 161

Woman in the Night

*Refrain: Come and join the song, women, children, men.  
Jesus makes us free to live again!*

1. Woman in the night, spent from giving birth, guard our precious light; peace is on the earth. Woman in the crowd, creeping up behind, touching is allowed: seek and you will find. *Refrain*
2. Woman at the well, question the Messiah; find your friends and tell: drink your heart's desire! Woman at the feast, let the righteous stare; come and go in peace; love him with your hair! *Refrain*
3. Woman in the house, nurtured to be meek, leave your second place, listen, think, and speak! Women on the road, from your sickness freed, witness and provided, joining word and deed. *Refrain*
4. Women on the hill, stand when men have fled; Christ needs loving still, though your hope is dead. Women in the dawn, care and spices bring, earliest to mourn, earliest to sing! *Refrain*

*Call for the Offering (you may place your offering in the box just behind the last pew of the sanctuary or give online at [fpcbarre.org](http://fpcbarre.org). Click the green "Donate" button on the front page. You may also mail in your offering. Thank you for your generosity!)*

**Prayer of Dedication:** (in unison)

"Gracious and generous God, we bring our entire selves to you-offering our time, our talents, and our treasures-financial and otherwise. Please empower us to be as faithful as we can be in loving you, our neighbors, and ourselves. Please accept our offerings as our attempt to glorify you and serve you. In Jesus' name, Amen."

**Announcements, Joys, and Concerns**

## Prayers of the People

### Children's Sermon

★Closing Hymn No. 346 For the Healing of the Nations

1. For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord: for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords; to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release, that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace. Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.
3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned: pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan. In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.
4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind; for our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

## SENDING

### Benediction

### Postlude

★Please rise in body or spirit as you are able.

Thanks to Cathy Jamieson who is leading us in worship.

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE #734910-A

**Order Your Easter Flowers Now** - You can order Easter flowers to be placed in the church sanctuary in memory or in honor of your loved ones. This year the flowers are from Forget Me Not Flowers and Gifts in Barre. An order form is enclosed with the bulletin. Please note that orders must be received by Monday, March 23, 2026. Please send your check with your order, or leave it in the collection plate, made payable to Lee Aura Bonamico.

**Prayers** - Each week we pray for a different person or family in our church. This week please keep Cynthia Vanetti in your prayers. Gracious Lord, we give thanks for her. Hold her in the palm of your hand and let her feel your love. Give her the wisdom and strength to do your will and the faith and courage to face what challenges may arise.

As part of being the connectional Presbyterian Church, we keep in our prayers other ministries usually within the PNNE. This week our prayers are for New England GLOW and Jen Slater.

**Holy Week Services** - Below are listed Easter activities and services occurring during Holy Week. We encourage you to take advantage of these offerings as you observe Holy Week and Easter.

March 29 - Palm Sunday - 10 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Barre

April 2 - Maundy Thursday Service - 7 p.m., Hedding Methodist Church, Barre

April 3 - Good Friday Prayer Walk with Service to Follow - Noon - Gather on the Steps of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, Barre

April 5 - Easter Sunrise Service - 7:30 a.m., Graniteville Presbyterian Church, with breakfast to follow

April 5 - Easter Morning Service - 10 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, Barre

**Adult Worship Study** - "Lent in Plain Sight," Study will resume after worship today.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** - We continue our One Great Hour of Sharing offering through Easter. See envelope in bulletin to make a donation.

*First Presbyterian Church, Barre is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are members of the Presbytery of Northern New England.*

**Online Security** - If you change your screen name, please email Josh, [jman.laflower@gmail.com](mailto:jman.laflower@gmail.com) so he can admit you to the service.

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS:**

March 24<sup>th</sup> - Karen Hinsman

**UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES:** None

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