

# First Presbyterian Church of Albert Lea

Lent

March 8, 2026

## Welcome and Prayer of Adoration

### \* Opening Worship

#### Prayer of Confession

**All:** Lord of freedom,  
you have set us free in Christ,  
yet we return to old yokes of slavery.

We use our freedom for ourselves  
instead of serving one another in love.  
We bite and devour  
rather than bear with one another.

Forgive us.  
Stand us firm in your grace,  
and teach us to live in the freedom of love.  
Amen.

*Please take a moment to personally confess your sins to God.*

#### Assurance of Forgiveness

##### Leader:

Hear the good news.

For freedom Christ has set us free.  
He has fulfilled the law in love  
and calls us to stand firm in his grace.

In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven  
and freed to love your neighbor.

Believe the gospel.  
Thanks be to God.

## Kids Church

*All kids kindergarten through 5th grade are invited out the Sanctuary's side door (near the elevator) for Kids Church. Staff and volunteers will lead them through worship, activities, and age-appropriate Bible lessons. They are welcome to make their own offering on their way downstairs.*

\* Hymn #201                      *Grace Greater Than Our Sin* (1 & 4)

### \* The Peace of Christ

*Because we have been granted peace with God, we extend that same peace to those around us with a warm greeting and welcome.*

### Offering and Musical Offertory

*As an act of worship, we invite you to give towards God's Kingdom work here.*

### \* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Scripture Readings              Galatians 5:1-15

*Next week's Scripture passage: Galatians 5:16-26*

Sermon                                      *Freedom for Love*  
Steve Piper

### Pastoral Prayer

\* Hymn #447                              *Freely, Freely* (1-2)

\* Benediction and Response                                      *Go Now In Peace*

*\* Please stand if you are able.*

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**Today's Scripture Passage: Galatians 5:1-15**

**Next Week's Scripture Passage: Galatians 5:16-26**

## THIS WEEK AND NEXT

### MONDAY MAR 9

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Hearthside Room*)

### TUESDAY MAR 10

10:00 am Women's Craft Group (*Library*)

### WEDNESDAY MAR 11

10:00 am Coed Bible Study (*Multipurpose Room*)

3:00 pm Kidzone (*Westminster Hall*)

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

6:30 pm Highlife (*Youth Room*)

### THURSDAY MAR 12

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Main Street Cafe*)

### SUNDAY MAR 15

9:00 am Faith Cafe (*Multipurpose Room*)

10:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary*)

11:00 am Coffee Fellowship (*Westminster Hall*)

### MONDAY MAR 16

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Hearthside Room*)

### TUESDAY MAR 17

10:00 am Women's Craft Group (*Library*)

6:30 pm Session (*Multipurpose Room*)

### WEDNESDAY MAR 18

10:00 am Coed Bible Study (*Multipurpose Room*)

**No Kidzone or Highlife - Spring Break!**

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

### THURSDAY MAR 19

9:00 am Men's Bible Study (*Main Street Cafe*)

9:00 am Days for Girls (*Multipurpose Room*)

### FRIDAY - SUNDAY MAR 20-22

**Mystery Trip!**

11:30 am departure (*church front entry*)

**Prayer List** - Please pray for: Haugen family, Ray Klapwyk, Carma Pederson, Linda Petersen, Nick Johanssen, Siglinda Kleih, Carol Jolly's grandson Ashton and Bill Sievers. **If you have a prayer concern**, fill out a prayer card from your pew-back and put it in the offertory box outside the office.

**Spring Calendar** - The 2026 spring events calendar is here! Copies are available on the sanctuary tables; they were also sent out digitally in the 2/24 news email. If you have been unable to obtain a copy and would still like one, please let the church office know!

**CO-ED Bible Study** - The 10am coed Bible study has started a new study on Angels! Happening every Wednesday in the Multipurpose Room. Come check it out!

**Easter Flowers** - This year, we are offering a few more flower options! Anyone interested in purchasing a flower in honor or memory of a loved one, order forms are out on the sanctuary entrance tables! There are 3 flower options to choose from! Please have your forms and payment into the church office by **Monday, March 23rd**.

**Mystery Trip - March 20-22** Calling all youth grades 6th-12th, registration forms and packing lists are out! Cost is \$75 per child. Please have your kiddo to the church by 11:30 am on Friday 3/20! See Steve Piper with any questions.

**Devoted Hearts Conference** - Ladies, mark your calendars for the annual women's conference in Rochester, MN. **April 24-25** with this year's theme "Be Still and Know". This event is supported by our PWSC. To register, you may go online [devotedheartsrochester.com](http://devotedheartsrochester.com) See flyers for more details!

**All Church Birthday** - Save the date for Sunday **April 12th**, for the All Church Birthday Party!. We celebrate every birthday month during our coffee fellowship hour that day! If you are interested in decorating a table or providing a dessert, please contact Nancy Goodwin.

**Food Pantry** -The needed item for the month of March is boxed mashed potatoes. Also in the month of March, any donations will be matched! As always, thank you for your continued support and generosity.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**- Paul Linnes (3/8), Karen Vanderploeg & Genevieve Olson (3/9), Dave Paulson, Steve Arneson & Clinton Hanson (3/12), Robyn Hendrickson, Marilyn Stegenga & Chelsea Janssen (3/13) and Neil Opstad (3/14)!

