



Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind. Artist: Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity, PC (USA).

Service for the Lord's Day

**March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Gathering Around the Word of Worship

Gathering Music

Mike Kanan

Striking of the Hour

Prelude

Prelude in A minor, BWV 543

J. S. Bach

Welcome

We Rise in Spirit and in Body

Call to Worship (responsive)

Ephesians 5:8-9,14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light.

Live as children of the light

For the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Opening Hymn 803

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

RESIGNATION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Adoration and Confession (unison)

O God, in Christ you have made us lights. We praise you for shining in the dark places of our world and our hearts. As we stumble in the darkness this Lent, we are aware of our need for your guiding light. Forgive us when we choose to stumble alone instead of walking in the light of your Word. Forgive us for failing to see others who need your light and love. Give us true vision that sees you and sees the needs of the overlooked. Grant us your forgiveness and grace. Amen.

A Silence is observed for Personal Confession

Confessional Hymn 695 *Change My Heart, O God* **CHANGE MY HEART**

Refrain: *Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.*

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the Potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

to Refrain

Declaration of Good News (responsive)

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. Hear the good news: Christ has defeated all darkness so we may walk in his marvelous light.

Thanks be to God.

Passing the Peace (responsive)

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Children's Choir *Jesus Calms the Storm* Boswell, Getty, McCracken, Papa, Fowler

A Time with Young Christians (children welcomed to the front of the sanctuary)

Hearing the Word

All Sit

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Healing God, open the eyes of our hearts that we may truly see. Give us vision into your Word and illuminate your call for us to be light in dark places. Amen.

Old Testament Reading (responsive)

Psalm 23

The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For you *are* with me; Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil;

My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Anthem*The Grace Divine*

RESIGNATION/arr. Roger Price

Come let us use the grace divine, and all with one accord, in a perpetual covenant join ourselves to Christ the Lord. Give up ourselves, through Jesus' pow'r, His name to glorify; and promise, in this sacred hour, for God to live and die. The covenant we this moment make be ever kept in mind; We will no more our God forsake, or cast these words behind. We never will throw off the fear of God who hears our vow; and if Thou art well pleased to hear, come down and meet us now. Thee, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, let all our hearts receive; present with Thy celestial host the peaceful answer give; to each covenant the blood apply which takes our sins away, and register our names on high and keep us to that day!

Members of the Yale Spizzwinks

The Chancel Choir

Melissa Valone, flute

Gospel Reading

John 9:1-41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him. So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Sermon

True Sight

Lilly Hunter

Responding to the Word

All Stand

Response Hymn 314

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Affirmation of Faith (unison)

Confession of Belhar

We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

All Sit

Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory

Excerpts from *Chorale No. 3*

César Franck

All Stand

Doxology

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

God among us, thank you for healing and guiding us. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless them to do the work of healing and reconciliation in the world that you have called your people to. Amen.

All Sit

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

A Moment of Silence

*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.*

Bearing and Following the Word into the Created World

All Stand

Closing Hymn 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

AMAZING GRACE

Benediction

Postlude

Iste confessor, verse 1

Jehan Titelouze

Announcements

USHERS: Polen and Thomison families

COLLEGIATE ENSEMBLE Sammy Del Rey, Blake Miller, Keelin Murrell, Mack Overfelt, and Johnna Smith

LAY READER: Maddie Davenport

MEDIA PERSONNEL: Laura Parkerson

NURSERY: Yamilet Bruno Sanchez and Maya Swartz

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAY MARCH 22: Ezekiel 37:1–14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6–11; John 11:1–45

TODAY

DEACON OF THE WEEK this week will be Trudy Burkeen. Deacons assist the Pastor in caring for our congregation. You may contact them through the church office: 270-843-4707.

BUCK IN A BASKET for today will go to support PLC Scholarship Fund. Buck in a Basket Offering is a weekly opportunity to consider contributing during the offering for a particular mission not included in our regular budget.

THE AFTER CHURCH EATING OUT GROUP Tacos, Fajitas, Burritos, and Enchiladas! The After Church Eating Out Group will gather at Puerto Vallarta Mexican Restaurant, 1632 US-31W S. on March 15. They have great lunch specials! This group is for people who like to go out to eat after church and enjoy visiting with others. We hope you can join us for delicious food and great conversation!

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST Today we are delighted to share that our congregation will be blessed with special musical guests, Nate Stein and several members of The Spizzwinks(?). They will be joining our choir in worship, offering their gifts of music and praise. We look forward to a joyful and uplifting service together.

OTHER NEWS

TRIVIA LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER EVENT FOR MONTREAT On Sunday, March 29, our Youth Group will be hosting a playful, family-friendly trivia day, and we'd love for members and friends to be part of it. So bring a friend or a whole team, and let's make this a day to remember. We need you to bring your best guesses, your brightest friends, and your biggest smiles. Whether you're a trivia pro or just here for the food, there's a place for you at the table. What can you expect? Lighthearted trivia for all ages, fellowship, laughter, a chance to support our Youth Group, and control of The Presbyterian Church—First Place 2026 Trivia Championship trophy. Luncheon will be a taco bar; donations will be accepted to cover the cost of the meal. The cost for to participate in trivia will be \$25 per person or \$150 per table. Teams of 4–6 are welcome, and we also offer table sponsorship opportunities. We look forward to see you there and spectators are welcomed.

YOUTH MEALS Are you interested in providing a home-cooked meal or purchasing a meal for our youth? We are seeking volunteers for meals for our youth during our Sunday group meeting. If you are interested in volunteering, a sign-up sheet is available in the church landing.

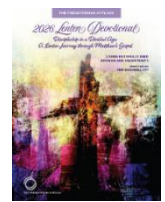
LENTEN DINNERS AND PROGRAM The church will present a Lenten program for Wednesday evenings in Fellowship Hall. On Wednesday, March 18, dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by the program in Fellowship Hall. The menu for this Wednesday's Lenten Dinner is ham and rice with raisin sauce, squash casserole, green salad, rolls and for dessert, blackberry pie and ice cream.

Lenten programs are designed to deepen spiritual growth, inspire encourage reflection, and aid in strengthening your relationship with God. Please RSVP with Robin in the church office by phone (270-843-4707) or email (officeasst24@bgpres.org) if you will attend dinner, so we may plan for numbers.

THE PRESBYTERIAN COOKING CLUB will again be preparing Wednesday dinners for the Lenten season. Join us each Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. in the church kitchen as we chop, stir, and simmer our way toward a delicious meal—enjoying plenty of good conversation along the way.

We'll gather on the following Wednesdays: March 18, and March 25. You're welcome to help for one, two, or join us for them all! If you're interested in joining the Cooking Club, please contact Mary Evans or Connie McGehan to express your interest. We look forward to cooking—and sharing fellowship—with you!

2026 LENTEN DEVOTION—You are invited to join us in a congregation-wide practice of Lenten devotion. Together we will read and pray our way through *Discipleship in a Divided Age: A Lenten Journey through Matthew's Gospel*, by the Rev. Teri McDowell Ott. Through this journey we will be invited to discover how Jesus leads us toward humility, courage, compassion, and faithful discipleship. Each Sunday in Lent we will send out the readings and prayers for the week. There will also be a link on our website.



OUR NEW DIRECTORY—You can now access our church directory through an app on your cell phone or tablet. Just scan the QR code to go directly to the app to download it on your phone or tablet. Once you download the app, you will be directed to search for the directory of The Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green. Just use your email address to gain entry to our directory (you must have your email address that is in the directory to gain access).



SAVE THE DATE!! THE SPIZZWINKS(?) Come out to see our very own, Yale Student-Musical Director, Nate Stein, performing with The Spizzwinks(?) on Monday, March 16 at 7:30 p.m. at The Capitol Art Center. The Spizzwinks(?) are composed entirely of full-time undergraduate students, performing concerts all over the world. Since being founded in 1914, the Spizzwinks(?) have released several dozen albums and performed around the globe, bringing their diverse repertoire of over 600 arrangements everywhere from local New Haven elementary schools, to concert halls, special events, businesses, and universities on their international tours.

Ticket prices (plus fees) range from \$19-\$39 for adults and \$13 for children.

Tickets are available now for pre-purchase through the Capitol's website, <https://capitolbg.org/event/the-yale-spizzwinks/the-capitol/> or you can purchase at the door.

UNITED WAY FEED THE NEED FOOD DRIVE Volunteers are needed for *the United Way Feed the Need Food Drive!* For Friday March 27 and 28th. Our food pantry has been selected to receive collected food IF we can provide a few hours of volunteers during the two days listed below. If you spare 2-3 hours of time, during any of the two days below please contact Fred Kernohan or the Church office. Ask a spouse or friend to come with you. More location details to come.

Store hours: Friday, March 27th from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday March 28 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sorting site hours: Friday, March 27 from 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and Saturday March 28 from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT will be Saturday March 28 at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Fred and Debbie Trickey (807 Highland Way). All children up through 5th grade welcome! Separate hunting areas for Preschool and Elementary. We will have a cake walk, games, crafts and more! Invite your friends with children/grandchildren to join us! Rainy weather will move us to the church. If you would like to donate individually wrapped candy for our eggs or items for the cake walk, please bring it to the church office. For more information speak to Lilly Hunter or Mary Evans.

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE is Tuesday March 31, our collaborative all-community worship service will begin at 12:00 p.m. and will be held here at The Presbyterian Church. The Pastor of First Christian Church will bring the message, and communion will be served as part of our shared worship. Immediately after the service, everyone is invited to join us for a community lunch in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to worship, share a meal, and enjoy fellowship together.

EASTER LILIES will be available for purchase to honor or to remember loved ones on Easter Sunday. A form is available inside today's bulletin and outside of the church office doors. To reserve a lily or make a donation in honor of those special people, complete the form and return it to the church office by Monday, March 30.

LAY READERS NEEDED FOR MARCH/APRIL A signup page is online for lay readers in the coming weeks. If you are willing to serve one Sunday, please scan the QR code to visit this link and sign up for a date. Lay reader information will be emailed on the Friday prior to the date. Thank You!



WELCOME VISITORS!

We invite you to pick up visitor's information on your way out, either in the narthex or on the table on the right in the downstairs entrance hall. Ushers will be standing by to help you find them. Always know that a cordial greeting is extended by the minister, officers, and congregation.

Clerk of Session: Debbie Trickey **Treasurer:** Steve Moore

Elders: Class of 2026- Pam Bratcher, Rachel Crocker, Claire Ellington, J.B. Hines, Susan Howard, Mike Kanan; Class of 2027-Sam Evans, Nathan Love, Susan Thomison, Debbie Trickey, Larry Warden; Class of 2028-Clark Carthrae, Buzz English, Julia Roberts, Julie Wedge; **Deacons:** Class of 2026-Phil Burkeen, Kim Ferguson, Kathy Higgins, Laura Parkerson, Dan Stelling, Brianna Trickey; Class of 2027-Trudy Burkeen, Georgeanna Capito, Sally Calkins, Nancy Carwell, Evan Goad, Frederica Kernohan; Class of 2028-Nancy English, Sharon Hendrix, Jan Morgan, and Margaret Stein.

The Presbyterian Church Staff

Transitional Pastor
Director of Student Ministries
Director of Music/Chancel Choir Director
Children's Music Director
Organist
Financial Administrator
Treasurer
Office Coordinator
Director, Preschool Learning Center
Custodian
Clerk of Session
Sound Attendant/Sunday Sexton

Rev. Kyle Otterbein
Mrs. Lilly Hunter
Dr. Wayne Pope
Mrs. Beth Pope
Dr. Nathaniel Brown
Mrs. Terry Johnson
Mr. Steve Moore
Mrs. Robin Watkins Tolbert
Ms. Kimberly Watkins
Mr. Cedric Whitney
Mrs. Debbie Trickey
Ms. Laura Parkerson

Visit Our Church Website: <https://bgpres.org>



Donate Online: The church website, <https://bgpres.org/give>, accepts online donations. Just go to our website, <https://bgpres.org/give>, and fill out the simple form. Donations can also be made from your smart phone. You may also scan this QR code:



Calendar

Sunday, March 15

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Gathering
9:15 a.m. Children's Music
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts
9:45 a.m. Godly Play
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. After Church Eating Out Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, March 16

9:00 a.m. GOD/DOG is Love
5:30 p.m. Christian Ed. Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, March 17

11:00 a.m. Special Care
12:00 p.m. Inspirational Meditation

Wednesday, March 18

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
9:30 a.m. **NO** Crisis and New Creation Class (reconvenes-March 25)
5:00 p.m. Chancel Choir
6:00 p.m. Lenten Dinner & Program

Friday, March 20

7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast Group

Saturday, March 21

10:00 a.m. Session and Deacons Meeting

The Presbyterian Church, 1003 State Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

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