



A
Different
Kind
of
Kingdom

March 15, 2026

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

www.fpctopeka.org

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March 15, 2026

Order of Worship

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC — “Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ” (“I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ”)

— J. S. Bach

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

PRELUDE — “O Day of Peace” — Charles Callahan

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Early in the morning, still getting the story straight.

People: **Truth is elusive.**

Leader: In and out, back and forth,

People: **What is Truth?**

Leader: Religion and politics, questions without answers,

People: **Yet Truth is here, waiting to be heard.**

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #373** — “O Day of Peace”

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You are a God of justice, and we confess that our justice does not live up to yours. We look on in horror when the system is misused. Yet we also long for the easy way to get what we want. We confess our role in protecting systems that are unfair. In asking for forgiveness, we admit that we have sometimes bent the truth for our own ends. Even when we know better, we do not always do better. Forgive us and transform us, O God. Keep us from falling. We ask in the name of the One who is Truth, Jesus the Christ.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We do not sing the Gloria during Lent.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC — “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” — arr. Daniel Kallman

© 1999 MorningStar Music Publishers

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Psalm 145:10-13 — pg. 581 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — John 18:28-40 — pg. 112 in NT

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN #274 — “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd” (10:30 only)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (pg. 13 in the *Glory to God* hymnal)

OFFERING

Offertory (8:30) — “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd” — Gordon Young

© 1966 Harold Flammer, Inc.

(10:30) — “In My Father’s House” — Craig Courtney

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***Doxology — #675 (verse 4)**

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN #159 — “O Sing a Song of Bethlehem” (8:30 vv. 1 and 4)**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION — “Day by Day” — K. Lee Scott

© 1989 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

POSTLUDE — “Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ” (“I Call to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ”)

— J. L. Krebs

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Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgists:

Angie Varney (8:30)

Bob Baer (10:30)

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Jennifer Roth

Fellowship Host: Linda Mets

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Facilities Manager: Steve Johnson

Financial Secretary: Penny Allton

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen