



Northwest Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship

Making Disciples ● Making Friends ● Making a Difference

March 30, 2025

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:30AM

PRELUDE

"Cantabile"

Robert Speed

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 25)

Peggy Saucier

One: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. My God, in you I trust;

All: **Make us to know your ways, O Lord; teach us your paths.**

**Lead us in your truth, and teach us,
for you are the God of our salvation;
for you we wait all day long.**

One: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord,
and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

All: **Do not remember the sins of our youth or our transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember us,
for your goodness' sake, O Lord!**

One: Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
And God leads the humble in what is right.

All: **All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.**

* **HYMN OF PRAISE 39**

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

* **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

You are invited to share words and signs of greeting and reconciliation.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15:1-32

Pew Bible, pg. 78 NT

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

AJ Shortley

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION 649**

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON

“Temptations on the Way to Easter: Week 4”

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

* **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*from the Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA*)

AJ Shortley

We trust in God,

whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God’s image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God’s commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God’s condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses

*When the pastor prays, "In Jesus Christ our Lord,"
please respond with, "help us to be a new creation."*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Coming Home"

Joseph Martin

* **SUNG RESPONSE**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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. Amen.

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

* **HYMN OF SERVICE 774**

"There Is Now a New Creation"

* **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

"Requiem Aeternum"

Paul Fey

*The benediction concludes our worship service. During the music of the postlude,
please feel free to leave the sanctuary, talk to those around you, or stay and listen to the music, as you choose.*

* Please stand as you are able.

Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, **we welcome you to Northwest**, with the hope that this service of worship will be for you an experience of real communion with God and God's children. If you have not found a church home in Atlanta, we hope you will consider joining with us in worship, study, fellowship, and service. There is a place for you here in which you can both give and receive. ***Come join us!***

The Ministers

All of the Members of the Northwest Presbyterian Congregation

The Session

Class of 2025

Lisa Bacorn, *C*
Anne McClatchey, *C*
Kaye Mulkeen, *C*
Carol Rowland, *W*

C=Connections
W=Worship

Class of 2026

Jason Amos, *E*
Betty Bates, *Ca*
Craig Camp, *S*
Brian Moye, *S*

E=Education
Ca=Congregational Care

Class of 2027

Laura Blackburn, *E*
Cathy Ealick, *S*
Harriett Kelly, *W*
Rob Rankin, *W*

S=Stewardship & Mission
**=Team Leader*

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Alex Moses
Clerk: Ezra Jones
Treasurer: Karen Taylor

The Staff

Rev. Dr. Alex Moses, Pastor
A.J. Shortley, Director of Youth, Young Adult & Community Outreach
Dr. Clinton Smith, Director of Music & Organist
Scott Mize, Director of Operations

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Northwest Presbyterian Church
4300 Northside Drive, NW Atlanta, GA 30327
404-237-5539 • northwestpresbyterianchurch.org





Northwest Presbyterian Church

March 30, 2025

Weekly Schedule of Events

Sunday School—9:00am

Adult Bible Class—In the Session Room

Children’s Morning Fellowship—Children’s Building Room 2

Sunday Worship—10:30am

In person and available on our YouTube Channel

Chili Cook-Off for Youth Mission—after Worship

Women’s Bible Study—Wednesday at 9:30am

In person and on Zoom, meeting in the Conference Room.

Men’s Bible Study—Wednesday at 10:00am

In person and on Zoom, meeting in the Youth Lodge.

Choir Rehearsal—Wednesday at 7:00pm

Prayers

For those in need of healing:

Sean Amos
Warren Wick
Ellen Carrington
Nola Hawkinson
Jeff Upchurch
Virginia McClatchey
Lonnie Lamb
Frank J. André, III
David Wang

John Nixon
Jamie Kaplin
Ronald Bushrod, III
Becky Roberson
Kathy Taulman Vaughan
Philip Mowris
Dee Dee Teel
Charlotte Roland
Betzi Allsop

For those in need of strength:

The people of Palestine & Israel
The people of Ukraine
Rev. Gamble & This Child Here
The Rev. Farouk Hammo &
Baghdad Presbyterian Church
Elmarie & Scott Parker

*To have a name placed on the prayer list, please contact the church office,
admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org or 404-237-5539.*

April Birthdays

1st	Susan Brown	17th	Laura Blackburn
2nd	Brian Moye	19th	Addison Moses
3rd	Wade Sanders	20th	Harper Glass
4th	Gail Logue	22nd	Ed Milton
	Mike McMackin	23rd	Warren Wick
5th	Anne McClatchey	29th	Claire Compton
	Anneke Woodward		Christopher Wilbanks
12th	Charlie Fleming		
	AJ Shortley		

Submit Announcements to admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org

*Submissions are due by noon on Thursday the week before publication of the newsletters. Submissions received after the deadline will be included in the following week’s publications.

Youth Mission Trip Fundraisers

Join us after Worship in Thorington Hall for a fiery **Chili Cook-Off!** Come taste an array of chili creations and vote for your favorite(s) by donation. The chili that raises the most funds wins, and all proceeds go towards the Youth Mission Trip. Donations can be made with cash, check or Square.

Everyone is welcome!

Last Sunday you helped the youth to raise over \$700 toward the Summer Youth Mission Trip during the **Bicycle Safety Rodeo!** Thank you, so much for your support!

Northwest Youth Mission Trip 2025

Our Northwest Youth will be heading to Charlotte, NC from June 15–20 to serve with CROSS Missions. This powerful week-long experience allows students to partner with local service agencies, build relationships across communities, and explore what it means to live out Christ's call to love our neighbors.

Northwest Easter Egg Project

Last year, the Christian Education Team invited the congregation to paint environmentally sustainable wooden eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt. Thanks to your enthusiastic support, we now have many beautifully decorated eggs!

A few plain wooden eggs remain, and we need your help again. Please pick up a bag of eggs and decorating supplies from the Narthex. Return them by next Sunday, April 13, so we can seal-coat them in time for this year's hunt.

Sample decorated eggs are on the supply table—grab your supplies and get creative! And don't forget to sign your eggs!

Contact Laura Blackburn, lwb444@aol.com, if you have any questions.

Sanctuary Flowers

A gift of flowers is a wonderful way to commemorate a birthday, wedding, anniversary, memorial, or any other occasion. Each week there is an opportunity to honor or give thanks for a loved one with flowers. We invite you to make a donation to decorate our worship space. To reserve your dedication email admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org, or call 404-237-5539.

Northwest Missions

Minute for Mission: Today, Heather Franklin from Buckhead Christian Ministries visits us to share about BCM and an amazing event Northwest is hosting after worship on April 13!

Sunday, April 13, 12:30 to 3pm: Join us at for an interactive experience to explore the impact of poverty. An optional lunch will be served at noon. The **Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE)** is a 2.5 hour simulation that explores the lived experience of poverty firsthand through the eyes of real families. The experiential nature of this training helps organizations and communities more deeply understand the human and systemic impacts of poverty.

For years, many top down or well-intentioned approaches to poverty have left out the wisdom and leadership of those closest to the challenges. Created with the input of individuals with personal experience in poverty, COPE sheds light on these challenges and catalyzes meaningful dialogue and action. This experience challenges participants to rethink poverty, respond effectively, and partner with those affected for change.

Open to ages middle school and up. To sign up: Scan the QR code below, or

Visit <https://events.humanitix.com/northwest-presbyterian-church-cope-general-admission>

Email HeatherFranklin@bcmgeorgia.org

***Get ready to engage, learn, and be inspired.
See you there!***



Be A Greeter



Be the first to say hello to friends and greet visitors arriving for worship. Greeters play an important part in welcoming newcomers and helping them get to where they need to be. Reserve your spot on SignUp Genius using the QR Code.

For more information contact a member of the Worship Team: Harriett Kelly, Rob Rankin, or Carol Rowland.

Northwest Youth

Sunday, March 30: Chili Cook-off

Sunday, April 6: Break

Sunday, April 13: Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE) - Church-wide Event

An up-to-date schedule of activities is always available at www.northwestpresbyterianchurch.org/northwest-youth.

Contact AJ at aj@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org

52 Club - Support Northwest Youth Mission

Please support the mission outreach of the Northwest Youth by donating \$1 per week, or \$52 annually, designated for the "52 Club." Even with this small individual amount, if everyone contributes our youth can do amazing things in our community!

Learn to Follow Jesus!

Reading through Luke! This week (March 30-April 5) read Luke 24:1-12 as our congregation continues to read through this gospel together. Alex's reflection on Wednesday will be related to this passage, with some included questions to think about.

Sunday School

The Adult Bible Study Class meets in the Session Room at 9:00am.

Adult Discussions for Lent (Mar 9 – Apr 13)

during the Sunday School hour (9:00-10:00)

in the Session Room

Donuts, Muffins, and Coffee provided

Over the weeks of Lent we think about growing in our faith in Christ.

We will consider the topic of living thankfully, guided by the book "**Grateful: The Subversive Practice of Giving Thanks**" by Diana Butler Bass. (book not required)

Topics will include:

- Feeling Grateful
- Habits of Gratitude
- Intentional Practice of Gratitude
- Being Grateful Together
- A Society Guided by Gratefulness Instead of Fear or Scarcity
- Circles of Gratitude Expanding Outward

Nursery Childcare

Nursery care is provided in Room 1 of the Children's Building, and is available from 9:00-11:45am, or at the conclusion of any after-church event. Children who are newborn through age 3 are welcome. Parents, please bring diapers, a change of clothes, and any medications or other needed items. Please do not bring food containing nuts.

Children's Programs

Children's Morning Fellowship – this is a time of fun, games, crafts, etc. during the Adult Sunday School hour. Meeting in the Children's Building, Room 2.

Children & Worship – following the Time with Young Disciples during worship, children ages 4 years to 5th grade are invited to follow Marina Greiner and Maryam Sanders upstairs to the Upper Room above the Narthex. Children will engage in a simplified and age-appropriate order of worship that includes liturgical greetings, songs of praise, and a sensorimotor style of storytelling that follows the Bible passages of the church year calendar. On communion Sundays, children will rejoin their parents for the communion portion of the service. Other Sundays, please pick up your children upstairs after the service.

Wednesday Bible Studies

Women's Bible Study 9:30am in the conference room.

Men's Bible Study 10am in the Youth Lodge.

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study is discussing the Holy Spirit using the following book (available on Amazon): **Help is Here: Finding Fresh Strength and Purpose in the Power of the Holy Spirit** (March 12, 2024) by Max Lucado. (The study will use the paperback by that title, not the separate video-streaming + study guide.)
Come join the discussion!

Coming Home

Joseph Martin

I've wandered far away from God,
now I am coming, I'm coming home.

The paths of sin too long I've trod,
Lord I am coming, I'm coming home.

I've wasted many precious years,
but now I am coming, I'm coming home.

I now repent with bitter tears,
I am coming, I'm coming home.

Coming home, Lord nevermore to roam,
open wide your arms, your arms of love,
Lord I am coming home.

My soul is sick, my heart is sore,
now I am coming, I'm coming home.
My strength renew, my hope restore,
now I am coming, I'm coming home.

Easter Lilies

Remember your family and friends with the dedication of an Easter Lily on **Easter Sunday, April 20.**

A fixed number of lilies have been ordered. All proceeds beyond the cost of the plants will be used to support special Worship programs.

Lilies are \$20 each. Please make your reservation by:

- filling out a card (on the table in the Narthex) and placing it in the offering plate
- calling the church office at 404-237-5539
- emailing admin@northwestpresbyterianchurch.org

The deadline for placing orders is Tuesday, April 15.

Checks should be made payable to **Northwest Presbyterian Church**
with **Easter Lilies 2025** on the memo line,

or you may pay via the QR code,
select **"Lilies/Poinsettias"** from the drop down menu.

