



Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Ocala



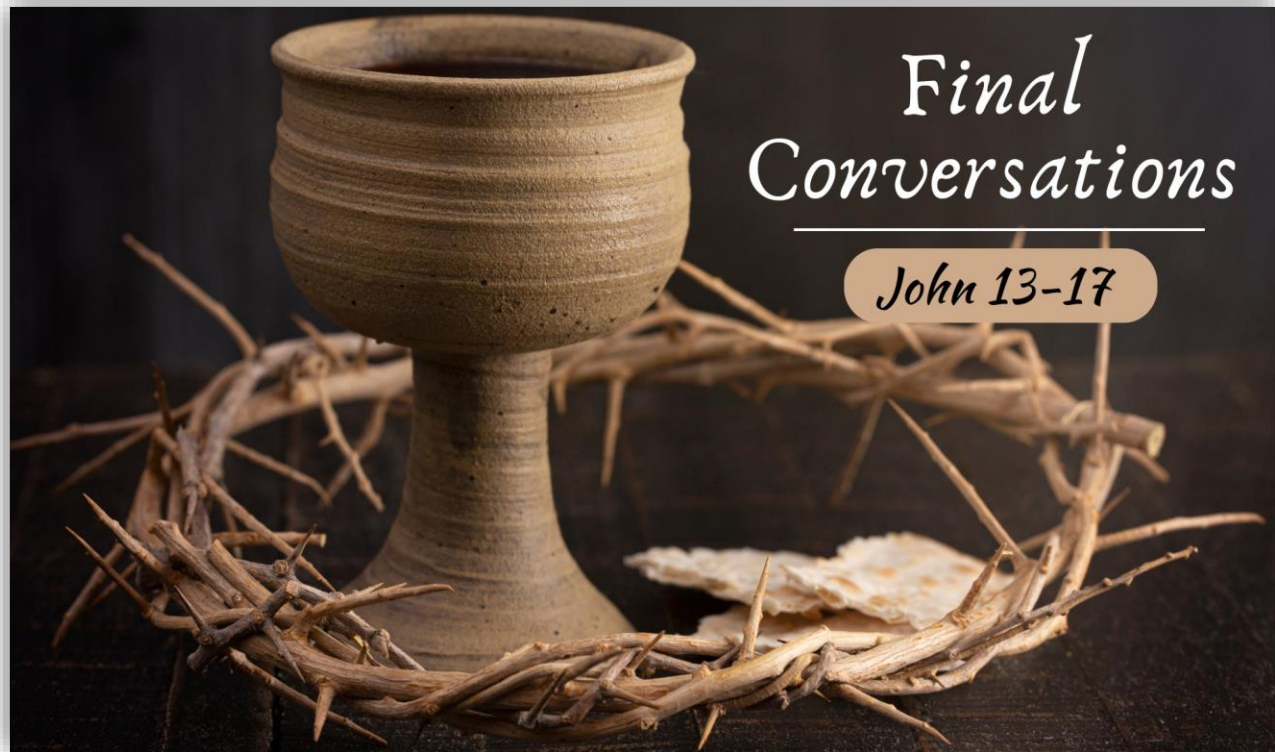
Our Vision

To be a church that shares God's love through Jesus Christ with everyone.

Our Mission

We are an inclusive historic downtown community of Christian faith.

We seek to welcome all people through prayer, meaningful worship, and supportive groups while sharing our talents and resources with those in need.



March 9, 2025

“The Connected Life”

Pastor Kenneth Ellis
Dr. Kosumo Morishita, Organist
Phyllis Von Ebers, Choir Director
Leslie Athanason, Vocalist

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www.fpcocala.org

[Facebook.com/fpcocala](https://www.facebook.com/fpcocala) [Instagram.com/fpcocalafl](https://www.instagram.com/fpcocalafl) [YouTube.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchOcalaFL](https://www.youtube.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchOcalaFL)

SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

March 9, 2025

10:00 a.m.

We Gather to Offer God our Wholehearted Worship

Words of Welcome

Pastor Kenny

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds for Worship

Prelude

“Remembering”
Handbell Choir

John A. Behnke

We Give Praise and Adoration to God

Call to Worship

Bill Tucker, Liturgist

Leader: This is the day that you have made, Lord. Help us to rejoice in it and be glad!
Remind us of the privileges we enjoy as your people to come to you in these moments

People: to confess our sins, to receive forgiveness and give it, to pray and sing and listen, to renew our fainting spirits, to rest in all your promises.

Leader: Open our eyes to see you, Lord. Open our ears to hear your Word.

People: Visit us through your Holy Spirit, and help us to celebrate our faith. Amen

*Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision”

#450

*Confession of Sin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. We have failed to love you with the wholehearted devotion you deserve. We have thought mostly of our own needs and overlooked the needs of others. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Hear our silent prayers of confession...

*Assurance of Pardon

*Extending the Welcome and Love of God to One Another

*Gloria Patri

“Glory Be to the Father”

#581

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-4 (OT Page 776)

Children's Sermon

Pastor Kenny

Song

"10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)"
Leslie Athanason, vocalist

Chorus:

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

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Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Anthem

"O Dearest Lord, Thy Sacred Head"
Chancel Choir with Cindy Andrews, soloist

arr. David N. Johnson

Sermon

"Final Conversations: The Connected Life"

Pastor Kenny

Responding to God's Word

We invite you to take a few moments in silent prayers to respond to God's Word

We Depart to Live and Love as Followers of Jesus

*Hymn

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

#475

Closing Prayer

Postlude

"Processional in G Major"

Phil Lehenbauer



The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and to the Girl Scouts of America

*If able, please stand

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Here? We are so thrilled that you have joined us today for worship. Please review the information below and our website for other ways to connect to the FPC family. If you have tiny ones (birth-4yrs), we have a Nursery in Room 23 of the Education building with an amazing staff ready to care for them before or at any time during the service. If you have older children (K-5th) they will be invited down for a Children's Sermon in the service and then invited to Sunday School (Room 26). We love little ones and they are always welcome in worship, but we want to provide options that might benefit you and them. Welcome!

GriefShare Sundays through May 4, 2025. 3:30-5:00 p.m. in Room 1.

Barbara Parks service will be this Saturday, March 15th at 11:00 a.m.

Lenten Bible Study led by Kenny, *The Person of Jesus, A Study of Love*, will be held Tuesdays at Noon -1:00 p.m. and again at 6:00-7:00 pm (with childcare available) in Fellowship Hall.

Office Volunteers Needed Our office is supported by a great team of volunteers who answer phones and greet visitors. We need to add a few more volunteers to our team. We have openings on Wednesday mornings from 9-12 and Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1-3 PM. If you're interested, check the "Other" box on the Connect Card and write in Office Volunteer and we will follow up with you.

Men's Breakfast will be this **Tuesday the 11th**, at 7:30 a.m. at Wolfy's Restaurant.

Church Lunch And Fun Day Come join us today, March 9th, for our All-Church Lunch which will include a delicious Italian lunch and activities for all ages (we will have crafts and chalk art for the little ones), corn hole and outdoor games and Bingo. This will be an enjoyable event for us, but also a perfect opportunity to invite a friend or neighborhood family.

SAVE THE DATE Saturday, March 29th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Casey and Cody Miller's Baby Shower in Fellowship Hall. Boy or Girl, it is a surprise but they need diapers. Hosted by Jackie Albright and Amy Schlenker. RSVP to Jackie Albright 352-812-0868.

PRAYER LIST

Esther Arango-Palencia
Sadia Corral Benkhalek
Pat Bishop
Bill Blackwell (brother of Mary Kauffman)
June Bradbury (sister of Bill Dolin)
Jo Ann Brandt
Ella Charnley
Billy Davis (grandson-in-law of David Demarest)
Mina DiGeronimo
Terry and Rhonda Fowler (brother and sister-in-law of Teresa Poteet)
Ruth Fraser
Gabby Gates (friend of Dave Bice)
Joe Glenn (friend of Mary Kauffman)
Dorothy Halliwell
(sister-in-law of Pat Interdonato)
Bill and Barbara Harrel
Mark Jank
Lloyd Kauffman (husband of Mary)
Jose Kornmann (friend of Julia Wirono)
Lanier Lance (sister of Bill Tucker)

Chris Longo (cardiac issues)
Lukas Martin (grandson of Judith Martin)
Gloria Miller
Jodi Miller (daughter-in-law of Ginny Miller)
Bruce Moore (hip surgery)
Kathy Mortenson (sister of Sharon Shirley)
Susan Mulligan (friend of Mary Kauffman)
Anna Phelan (granddaughter of Dude & Stephanie Phelan)
Tony Porter
Fritz Rain (friend of Marybeth Olson)
Ruthanne and John Reiss
Raul Roman, Jr. (son of Raul)
Michael Rou (cousin of Dr. David Albright)
Lisa Sherman (daughter of Donna and Nathan Sherman)
Bill Tucker
Ann VanDenburgh
Jeanne Vincent
Judy Weese (friend of Lannie Mercer)
Bert Yancey (brother of Jim)