

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN

March 8, 2026

Third Sunday in Lent



*Knowing that all community is a gift of God,
we affirm there can be no exclusiveness about the body of Christ.
We welcome into our community and membership all people of God,
regardless of ethnic heritage, national origin, age, gender,
marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing;
and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.*

Adopted by the session, March 9, 1995

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PHILIPSTOWN

*"The Church of the Open Door", where
All Are Welcome*

- *We seek to live out the truth of God's love*
- *Worship is inclusive and inventive*
- *Joy is found in nurturing one another*
- *We seek to bring comfort to all people*

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Ekama Eni

CHORAL INTROIT

"In These Days of Lenten Journey"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lynn Brown

One: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

All: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

One: For the Lord is a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are God's also.

All: The sea is the Lord's, for God made it, and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

One: O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

*OPENING HYMN 281 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CALL TO CONFESSION

As we wander through the wilderness of Lent, we come closer and closer to confronting human sin, both our own sin and our collective sin. It is with honesty about how we have hurt others, and hurt ourselves, that we can move closer to the healing that God wills for us. Confession allows us to exercise such honesty, knowing that the God who hears us is the God who already loves us. Therefore, we need not fear confession, but draw near to the love of God, in honesty and candor, first together, and then in silence...

CONFESSION

God of endless renewal, God who calls us to lives restored, God who rescues the lost and saves the afflicted, there are times when our way grows confused. We struggle to know what to do. Or worse, we know what needs to be done and find it easier to stay on the wrong path. Forgive us for failing to heed opportunities to follow a better way. Remind us that you stand more ready to forgive than we are to confess those aspects of our lives that stand in need of your grace. And thus forgiven, help us to lean into what you would teach us about how we are to be. We pray all these things in Jesus' name, and for his sake...Amen.

“The Church of the Open Door” makes every effort to use inclusive language. Realizing that words have power, we encourage substitution of words/images that are most comfortable for you during this time of worship.



Please note our new QR code: a direct way to donate to the church, pay your pledge, or make any other church-related payments. Thank you for contributing to our church and surrounding community!

THIS WEEK:

Monday, March 9

*Greg Smith Music Lessons 2:15 – 6:00 pm
Joining Forces Group Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, library*

Tuesday, March 10

*Greg Smith Music Lessons 2:15 – 4:00 pm
Tom McCoy Music Lessons 3:00 – 6:00 pm
AA Women’s Group Meeting, 7:30 pm, library*

Wednesday, March 11

*Prayer Group, 7:00 am, on zoom
Tom McCoy Music Lessons 3:00 – 6:00 pm
Lenten Practice Group, 5:30 – 6:30 pm, library*

Thursday, March 12

*Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 pm, back classroom
Yoga Class, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, social hall*

Friday, March 13

Food Pantry Setup 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Saturday, March 14

Food Pantry 8:30 – 10:00 am

WANT TO DONATE FLOWERS FOR A SUNDAY SERVICE? Please email or call the church.

PRAYER CHAIN for 2026 - Email prayerchain1presbyterian@gmail.com with a prayer request or to be part of the prayer chain to receive prayer requests.

*The First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown
10 Academy Street
Cold Spring, NY 10516
Telephone (845) 265-3220*

*The Reverend Ekama Eni, Pastor
Thomas E. McCoy, Director of Music
Diane Phillips, Office Administrator
Thomas Corless, Building Manager/Groundskeeper
Kirsti (Kiko) Lattu, Philipstown Food Pantry Coordinator*

*Pastor’s email: ekama@presbychurchcoldspring.org
Pastor’s cell phone: (240) 899-8386
Pastor’s Office Hours:
Tuesday 1:30 – 4:00 pm
Wednesday 10:00 am – 12:30 pm (or by appointment)*

Office Administrator email: lpresbyterian@gmail.com

*Philipstown Food Pantry email: ptfp2481f@gmail.com
Philipstown Food Pantry cell phone (845) 612-2040*

Visit us online for updates: www.presbychurchcoldspring.org

Like and follow us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ChurchOfTheOpenDoorColdSpring/

Follow us on Instagram at [first_presbyterian_philipstown](https://www.instagram.com/first_presbyterian_philipstown)

*First Presbyterian Church of Philipstown operates on the ancestral homelands
of the Lenape, Munsee, and Wappinger people.
We gratefully acknowledge their stewardship of this land, past and present.*