

MARCH 8, 2026



FANWOOD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

74 South Martine Avenue | Fanwood, NJ 07023

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Office hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday | 9 AM to 1 PM

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STAFF

Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith | Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Kenneth J. Macari | Volunteer Mission Pastor

Alexa Teebo | Director of Music Ministry

Luyang Liu | Organist and Pianist

Jason Curtis Rivera | AV Director and Musician

Kim Russo | Director of Westminster Preschool

Michelle Howell | Co-Director of Children's Ministry

Jessica Miller | Co-Director of Children's Ministry

Lindsay Clark | Church Administrator



Service of Worship for the
Third Sunday of Lent

FANWOOD
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOME TO WORSHIP at
FANWOOD

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Our usher team this morning is Barry Gustafson and Todd Moyle. Our music team is led each week by Alexa Teebo, Luyang Liu, and Jason Rivera, with guest musician Liz Smith and AV support from Chris Mallari. Our service is streamed at [Youtube.com/@FanwoodPresbyterianChurch](https://www.youtube.com/@FanwoodPresbyterianChurch).

AROUND THE CHURCH BUILDING

Restrooms are available on the ground floor of the sanctuary, and can be accessed using the staircases at the parking lot entrance or the back of the sanctuary. Sunday School is available for elementary-aged students, and meets on the ground floor of the church building. A nursery for small children or babies is available downstairs for parents.

WAYS TO GIVE

If you would like to make a monetary donation to Fanwood Church, you can use Zelle (fanwoodpcfinance@gmail.com) or the QR code to link to our online giving platform.



WHEN YOU ARE IN NEED

Our deacon ministry is available for prayer, hospital or home visitation, offering communion, and other care needs in our congregation and community. If you would like to request support or just speak with a deacon, email fanwooddeacons@gmail.com.

REFERENCES

Our music service is provided under the CCLI Copyright License 11039447, CCLI Streaming License 20099016 and CVLI Video License 504049131.

SCAM COMMUNICATIONS

Neither the Fanwood church office nor any Fanwood staff will ever ask for an urgent favor, the purchase of gift cards or other financial instruments.

** indicates that you are invited to stand in body or in spirit*

fanmania!
Saturday, March 14
at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York

THE MET

Feeling LUCKY
JOIN US! FOR YOUTH BINGO
(AND MULTIPLE CHANCES TO WIN PRIZES!)
Where: Fanwood Presbyterian Church
When: March 20th at 7:00pm
RSVP: FanwoodYouth@gmail.com
free admission; donations accepted

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

We're in Need!
What we're collecting for our March food distribution:

Rice	Peanut Butter
Coffee	Mac & Cheese
Jelly	Evaporated Milk

SOUP & DEVOTIONS
Tuesdays in Lent
beginning Feb. 24
from 6-7 PM in the Dining Hall

Join your friends and the Fellowship Committee as we explore in depth our theme for the season of Lent

Tell me something good

Grounding ourselves in the good news this Lent

GATHERING

PRELUDE "Be Still my Soul, Finlandia" by Sibelius

Luyang Liu

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG "Improbable" by Britt Kusserow

*Everything's possible for a love that's improbable
For a God that's unstoppable, are you ready to try?
When nothing is permanent, resurrection is imminent
For a Love that looks different than the fear in their eyes,
I am ready to shine.*

CHIMING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Tell me something good!

All: God loves you more than you could imagine.

One: Tell me something good!

All: God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

One: Tell me something good!

**All: God's love meets us in this service of worship.
We are not alone.**

One: This is good news indeed!

All: Let us worship our compassionate God.

* OPENING HYMN #391 "Take My Life" verses 1, 2 & 3

CALL TO CONFESSION

SUNG PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, did we see you hungry and give you something to eat? Did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? Did we see you alone and offer you compassion? Or did we cross the street? Did we avert our eyes? Did we come up with every excuse in the book?

God, we long to be people who love our neighbors with the same overwhelming love that you have for them. But we must admit, we have a long way to go.

**Forgive us for the times when we let bias, scarcity, or fear get in the way of love. Wash us clean and give us the courage to try again.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray, Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE "Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PROCLAMATION

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Come Alive (Dry Bones)" by L. Daigle Alexa Teebo

SCRIPTURE Luke 7:36-50

SERMON



Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith

the good news is...

great love for
God & neighbor

RESPONSE

OFFERTORY "Extravagant" by Bethel Music Liz Smith, Alexa Teebo

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from A Sanctified Art*

**I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
It sounds like welcome and feels like home.**

**It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy.
It sounds like love and feels like a seat at the table,
so I believe in the good news of Jesus Christ.
I have seen it alive in the world.**

**And even when my heart aches, even when wars rage,
even when mercy feels out of reach,
I remember the one who welcomed the children
and led with nonviolence.**

**I remember the one who cared for the vulnerable
and inspired those around him.**

**I remember that the good news really is good news,
for I have seen it alive in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

TELLING US SOMETHING GOOD *from Carol Thomson*

* DOXOLOGY #592 "Praise God Throughout These Forty Days"

*Praise God throughout these forty days;
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise;
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

* CLOSING HYMN #391 "Take My Life" *verses 4, 5 & 6*

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Gratitude"

Luyang Liu