



# **Wake Up...** **and Christ will shine on you.**

Matthew 1:105

**WORSHIP OF GOD | MARCH 15, 2026**

**First Rochester | An American Baptist Church**

**175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | [rochesterfbc.org](http://rochesterfbc.org)**

**Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor**

**Doleen Hood, interim music director | Samuel Baker, organist**

**Naomi Chad, soprano | Liyao Yu, mezzo | Zachary Thompson, tenor | Ashton Rapp, baritone**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.*

Prelude *Prelude* Gerald Finzi

Chiming of the Hour

For Meditation *How shall we thirst after righteousness?*

Music For Meditation *God So Loved the World* John Stainer

Welcome and Invocation Marcia McCarthy

Invitation To Worship

One: Now let us Sing!

**All: Now let us Praise!**

One: Now let us Pray!

**All: Let us with one accord, worship God.**

\*Hymn *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want* #86

Responsive Scripture Reading *Psalms 23* led by Marcia McCarthy  
(Adapted from a song by Cliff Richards)

One: Because the Lord is my shepherd, I have everything that I need.

**All: God lets me rest in meadows green and leads me beside the quiet stream.**

One: God keeps on giving life to me and helps me to do what honors God the most.

**All: Even when walking through the dark valley of death, I will never be afraid as God is close beside me.**

One: Guiding, guarding all the way, God spreads a feast before me,  
in the presence of my enemies. God welcomes me as a special guest.

**All: With blessing overflowing, God's goodness and unfailing kindness will be with me all of my life.**

One: And afterwards, I will live with God, forever in God's home.

**All: Forever in God's home.**

Special Music *Nocturne in B major, Op. 9, No. 3* Frederic Chopin  
Cooper Labinger, piano

Children's Time

Unison Scripture Reading

*Ephesians 5:8-14, NIV*

**<sup>8</sup> For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light <sup>9</sup> (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) <sup>10</sup> and find out what pleases the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. <sup>12</sup> It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. <sup>13</sup> But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. <sup>14</sup> This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”**

Sermon

*Waking Up*

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Giving our Gifts to God and Dedication

Music for Response *Humoresque in G-flat major, Op. 101, No. 7*

Antonin Dvořák

Cooper Labinger, piano

Doxology

*Give Thanks*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,  
give thanks because God’s given Jesus Christ, The Son.  
And now let the weak say “I am strong”; let the poor say “I am rich”  
because of what the Lord has done for us. Give Thanks.**

Invitation to Mission and Ministry

\*Closing Hymn

*Trees of the Field (2x)*

#710

Unison Benediction

**May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy, go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness. May the Son who teaches us to care for stranger and foreigner, go with us as we try to be good neighbors in our communities. May the Spirit who breaks down barriers and celebrates community, go with us as we serve with courage and act in love. Amen.**

Postlude

*Étude-tableau in E-flat major, Op. 33, No. 6,*

Sergei Rachmaninoff

*Allegro con fuoco*

Cooper Labinger, piano

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## INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

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*We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!*

### TODAY:

- The children will be excused following Children's Time for Sunday School and Children's Choir returning for Fellowship around 11:15 AM.
- The Mission Team will meet in the library today following a brief time at Fellowship.
- Thank you to the numerous volunteers who make Sunday worship and programs work. Special thanks to pianist Cooper Labinger for sharing his musical gifts with us today.

### THIS WEEK:

- **The Beatitudes** Lenten Bible Study continues this Wednesday in the library and every Wednesday in March at 6 PM. We are asked to read Matthew 5:3-11 daily from any version of the bible and reflect on these "Be-attitudes," jotting down any thoughts we have along the way. The focus will be on *Matthew 5:7-8*.
- OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) will meet on March 19, when we play *Board Games* with help from Betsy Vipperman and Laurie Harrington. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP to kandeetabor@gmail.com.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Interfaith Unity Forum**, Second Hour, March 22, for discussion and collaboration. Pastor Joanne will share with the congregation information about the interfaith event held at the First Unitarian Church on Tuesday evening, February 24. Around 200 participants came to listen, share, and discuss in small groups how, as a unified interfaith community, we can learn, act, and live the love taught in our various faiths to bring hope to those in need.
- FBCR Book Club will meet on March 24 at 11:30 AM for a BYO Lunch and Fellowship. At noon we will discuss this month's book, *The Elegance of the Hedgehog*, by Muriel Barbery. All are welcome.
- OWL invites any interested people from the congregation who would like a bus ride to Cartwright's Maple Tree Inn on March 26, leaving at 11 AM for a 1 PM meal, to sign up in the Garden Room.

### GIVING:

- Great Job Congregation! **NEW TOTAL!** Someone snuck in 8 more Chef-Boyardee cans before we delivered them. This raises our total collected to 79 Items for the Center for Youth this month, which is the largest total received in one collection to date. We not only exceeded our goal of 500 items since July, but we reached 555 items donated. Now the question is... Can we donate more than 45 items to reach or exceed 600 in April? It will be Easter, so I think we can. Don't you?

### SIGN-UPS IN THE GARDEN ROOM:

- On the sign-up table there are ways to volunteer and participate: **Readers** in worship for March and April, including next Sunday; **Ushers**; and **Fellowship Time**.
- **Shared Information Sign-ups** for *Emailed Notifications of: Church Information, Weekly Prayer Request, and In the Know* (time-sensitive news and events for advocacy). We also offer *Text Notifications* for cancellations and urgent news.

### MEETINGS:

- Mission Meeting: Second Hour today in the Library; Trustees Meeting: March 16 on Zoom 6 PM; and Council Meeting: Tuesday, March 17 on campus at 6 PM.