

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Second Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 1, 2026

Lent

A time to Prepare



First Evangelical & Holy Cross Churches
2740 Parker Ave.
West Palm Beach, FL 33405
www.felcwpb.com

“We are a community of churches and a church to the community.”

Welcome to worship with First Evangelical and Holy Cross churches. We come together for worship each Sunday to share in the ministry and mission of our Lord Jesus Christ with our own unique traditions and history. Seven other Christian ministries are located onsite with us.

If you are a guest or visitor and would like to know more about First Evangelical or Holy Cross, please reach out to one of our ushers, pastors, or fill out a welcome card and drop it in the offering boxes. Thank you for joining us in worship this morning. May God bless you.

WELCOME / INVOCATION

SONG: *My Testimony by Elevation Worship*

Verse 1

I saw Satan fall like lightning
I saw darkness run for cover
But the miracle that I just can't get over
My name is registered in Heaven

I believe in signs and wonders
I have resurrection power
Still, the miracle that I just can't get over
My name is registered in Heaven
Yeah, my praise belongs to You forever

Chorus

This is my testimony
From death to life
'Cause grace rewrote my story
I'll testify
By Jesus Christ, the righteous
I'm justified
This is my testimony
This is my testimony

Verse 2

Come together, sons and daughters
Bought with blood and washed in water
Sing the praises of the Spirit, Son, and Father
Our God will finish what He started
Yes, our God will finish what He started

Chorus

Bridge

If I'm not dead, You're not done
Greater things are still to come
Oh, I believe

Chorus

SONG: *Firm Foundation* by Cody Carnes

Chorus

Christ is my firm foundation
The Rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaking
I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus
'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations
So why would He fail now?
He won't

Verse

I've still got joy in chaos
I've got peace that makes no sense
So I won't be going under
I'm not held by my own strength
'Cause I build my life on Jesus
He's never let me down
He's faithful in every season
So why would He fail now?

Refrain

He won't
He won't
He won't fail
He won't fail

He won't
He won't
He won't fail
He won't fail

Chorus

Bridge

Rain came and wind blew
But my house was built on You
I'm safe with You
I'm gonna make it through

Rain came and wind blew
But my house was built on You
I'm safe with You
I'm gonna make it through

Oh, rain came and wind blew
But my house was built on You
And I'm safe with You
I'm gonna make it through

Yeah, I'm gonna make it through
'Cause I'm standing strong on You

Yeah, I'm gonna make it through
'Cause my house is built on You

Chorus

Christ is my firm foundation
The Rock on which I stand
When everything around me is
shaking
I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus
'Cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations
So why would He fail now?
He won't
He won't
He won't fail
He won't fail

SONG: *Great Are You Lord by All Sons & Daughters*

Verse

You give life, You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope, You restore
Every heart that is broken
Great are You, Lord

Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only
Great are You, Lord

Verse

Chorus (x2)

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

Bridge (x3)

All the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are You, Lord

Chorus (x2)

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. . .

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome** to worship with First and Holy Cross churches! Remember to join us for a delicious lunch today following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- Our continued sympathy and prayers go out to the family and friends of **Cyndy Sellari**. Cyndy went to be with the Lord on Valentine's Day, and her funeral service was held at church on Monday, February 23rd.
- Join us for our weekly Lenten study this Wednesday, with a soup supper beginning at 6:00 p.m. and study starts at 6:30 p.m. This week's topic is "**Jesus Heals A Woman and Raises Jairus' Daughter**" in Mark 5:21-43.
- Mark your calendars! Join us for a beautiful evening concert with the **Palm Beach Atlantic Symphony Band** on Thursday, March 5th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door.
- The **Church Choir** will rehearse after worship next Sunday, with First **Church Council** meeting after that in the Fellowship Hall.
- Everyone is invited to come to the annual **Passover Seder** held by Holy Cross and Tikvah Israel Churches on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There is a sign-up sheet and costs \$15.00/person. Come learn the meaning behind the Seder meal!

CHILDRENS MESSAGE - *The elementary-aged children are excused for Flame, our Sunday School class.*

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

God's call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

12:¹ The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.

² “I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;

I will make your name great,
and you will be a blessing.

³ I will bless those who bless you,
and whoever curses you I will curse;
and all peoples on earth
will be blessed through you.”

⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

In the person and example of Abraham we discover that a right relationship with God does not involve earning a reward from God but entails trusting God's promises. Abraham is the forebear and model for both Jews and Gentiles, because we too trust that ours is a God who gives life to the dead.

4:¹ What then shall we say that Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh, discovered in this matter? ² If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. ³ What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

⁴ Now to the one who works, wages are not credited as a gift but as an obligation. ⁵ However, to the one who does not work but trusts God who justifies the ungodly, their faith is credited as righteousness.

¹³ It was not through the law that Abraham and his offspring received the promise that he would be heir of the world, but through the righteousness that comes by faith. ¹⁴ For if those who depend on the law are heirs, faith means nothing and the promise is worthless, ¹⁵ because the law brings wrath. And where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶ Therefore, the promise comes by faith, so that it may be by grace and may be guaranteed to all Abraham's offspring—not only to those who are of the law but also to those who have the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷ As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.” He is our father in the sight of God, in whom he believed—the God who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that were not.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God

GOSPEL READING: John 3:1-17

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

3:¹ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

³ Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.”

⁴ “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!”

⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.”

⁹ “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰ “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Michael Breznen

VIDEO ANTHEM

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Father of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and are not worthy to be called your children. Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways. Bring us back to you as those who were once dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in love. Through the Holy Spirit God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live and walk in the newness of life.

C: Amen.

THE OFFERING

*Your OFFERING is received in the back of the church.
Separate BOXES are available for both Holy Cross & First Evangelical churches.*

**For First Evangelical only, you can give online at www.felcwpb.com or TEXT2GIVE 844-504-1678
Or Scan QR Code.**



THE PRAYERS

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and Praise.

SONG: *“Holy, Holy, Holy”*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of Hosts

Heaven and Earth Are full of Your Glory!

Hosanna! (Hosanna!) In the Highest

Blessed is he who comes In the name of the Lord!

Hosanna! (Hosanna!) In the Highest

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD’S PRAYER

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION – CONTINUOUS FORMAT *(Silence is appreciated)*

We practice Open Communion at Holy Cross and First Evangelical. If you believe that the Holy Sacrament carries with it the promises of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life and are a **baptized Christian** – you are welcome to receive. We do ask, however, that younger children who have not yet been instructed in the meaning of the sacrament - please come to the chancel for a blessing but refrain from receiving. Grape juice is in the center of the communion trays.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BLESSING

P: Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:

God, who calls all things into existence,

Jesus Christ, who redeems us,

and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,

✠ bless you now and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Believe the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

WELCOME to all and thank you for joining us in worship today as we give thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We pray that the service will be meaningful and uplifting for you. If you are a first-time visitor, please sign the Guest Register. You are invited to stay for coffee and refreshments following the service. We very much would like to greet you and hope to make you feel welcome.

Serving in Worship

- Pastors** - Rev. Daniel D. Baker & Rev. Dr. Michael Breznen
- Crucifers** - Tom Kalorgis, Hilka Schroderus-Rowe
- Liturgists** - Dianne Breznen
- Communion Assistants** - Dianne Breznen, Hilka Schroderus-Rowe
- Sound/Live Stream** - Ken Burton
- Video** - Sera Butz, Scot Alexander

	This Week	Next Week
Musicians / Singers	CAC-WPB	Sandra Baran, Emily Rowan
Lector	Judith Miller	Susan Moncher
Ushers	Katherine S., Judith M.	Katherine S., Judith M.
Greeters	Bob S. & Susan M.	Bob S. & Susan M.

Remember in Prayer

We pray for peace between nations and peoples and for just resolutions to the conflicts throughout the world – especially the people of Israel and fellow believers facing life-threatening persecution; those in war-torn countries; for all members of our armed services and law enforcement personnel; for our country and our nation’s leaders; for the Church, Church leaders, for **Youth for Christ**, and all faithful witnesses to the Gospel; for our missionaries – **Anthony** and **Soyoung Sellari** and their work in Egypt.

We pray for God’s healing presence to be with: **Cyndy Sellari’s Family, Kenny M., Debbie Ann, Luis & Foil, Saul & Martha, Carol & Darryl, Dennis, Bill, Cynthia, Dylan, John, Lisa & Don, Raj, Sandy, Carl, Trish, Lou, Allan, Carson, David, Gertrude, Holly, Katie, Linda, Marilynn & Patrick, Lesley, Linda, Joan** and members of the **Holy Cross and First Evangelical Church families** who are at home and unable to attend.

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Church Office Hours
 Monday – Wednesday – Friday
 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.