



edgewood

presbyterian church (PCUSA)

Our Mission

We joyfully proclaim the gospel of God's love. As a diverse and inclusive community of believers, we celebrate our unity in Christ. We believe we are called to compassionate service in our congregation, in our community and in the world. We invite all who want to explore the great mystery of faith and paths of discipleship to join us.

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Joe Genau

Director of Music

Amanda Klimko

Accompanist

Marsha Alexander

Office Manager

Kathy Tracey

Nursery Director

Rose Finkelstein

Youth Leaders

Rev. Joe Genau

Grace Burgess

Amy Crowe

Rosemary Leach

Fran Woodruff

Audio / Video

Cellina Miller



"All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!"
– Psalm 32:11

Photo by Amy Crowe

LARGE
PRINT



Second Sunday in Lent

MARCH 1, 2026

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

850 Oxmoor Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35209
www.edgewoodpc.org • 205-871-4302
205-718-9832 < pastor's cell phone >

1 YEAR TOGETHER, ROOTED IN 252 YEARS OF SERVICE

*Please text any prayer requests to 205-924-5080 before the Sharing of the Peace. Please include your name unless you wish the request to be anonymous.

Prayer of Preparation *(Silent Prayer)*

Holy One, renew my vision, my heart, and my life. Amen.

Chiming of the Trinity

Preparing the Light *All children are invited to gather at the baptismal font.*

Prelude *Aria Cantabile* Mercia B. Schaeffer

***Welcome**

***Call to Worship** Lois Daniels, Liturgist

Christ is our light and our salvation

Whom shall we fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of our life;

Of whom shall we be afraid?

*God says, "Return to me with all your hearts,
with fasting, with weeping, and with sorrow;
tear your hearts and not your clothing."*

*Return to the LORD your God,
**for God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.***

***Prayer of the Day**

***Hymn 53**

O God, Who Gives Us Life

NOEL

1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb, who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb: deliver us from fears that kill the life we have from you. Help us to know your Spirit still is making all things new.

2 O God, who calls your people out to venture and to dare, to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt and find you even there: when we despair in wandering through wastes of empty lies, refresh us with the living spring of hope that never dies.

3 O God of covenant and law, revealed in cloud and flame, your mighty deeds evoke our awe; we dare not speak your name. Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your people prove, as on our hearts you write anew the covenant of love.

Invitation to Reconciliation

Prayer of Brokenness

**O God, we struggle to understand your ways.
Even when we see your love poured out,
we are unable to fit such tenderness
into the world we know.
Open our hearts, our minds, our souls.
Show us your better way of water
and spirit and bread and life.
Speak to our hearts through your Spirit
and strengthen us to follow Christ,
to whom we open our hearts now in silence...**

(silent confession)

Lenten Prayer Response (Hymn 851)

Come Bring Your Burdens to God

WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The tempo is marked 'All'. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with 'Come, bring your bur-dens to God;'. The second staff continues with 'come, bring your bur - dens to God;'. The third staff concludes with 'Je - sus will nev - er say no.' The music is written in a simple, accessible style with many chords.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, and restored to new life!

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Genesis 12: 1-4a

(pew Bible page 10)

The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Psalter

Psalm 32

¹*The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven,
whose sin is covered over, is truly happy!*

²**The one the Lord does not consider guilty -
in whose spirit there is no dishonesty -
that one is truly happy!**

³*When I kept silent, my bones wore out;
I was groaning all day long - every day, every night! –*
⁴*because your hand was heavy upon me.*

My strength was sapped as if in a summer drought.

⁵*So I acknowledged my sin to you; I did not conceal my guilt.
“I will confess my sins to the LORD,” is what I said.*

Then you removed the guilt of my sin.

⁶*Therefore let all the faithful pray to you during troubled times,
so that the rush of water will not reach them.*

⁷You are a hiding place for me.

You protect me from trouble.

You surround me with songs of deliverance!

⁸*I will instruct you and teach you
about the direction you should go.*

I will advise you and keep my eye on you.

⁹*Do not be like some senseless horse or mule, whose movement
must be controlled with a bit and a bridle, else it will not stay near.*

**¹⁰The pain of the wicked is severe,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trust the LORD.**

¹¹*You who are righteous, rejoice in the LORD and be glad!*

All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

John 3: 1-17

(pew Bible pages 93-94)

El Evangelio del Señor. Te alabamos, Cristo Señor.

Sermon

“What We Do in the Shadows ”

Reverend Joe Genau

***Hymn 209**

My Song Is Love Unknown

LOVE UNKNOWN

1 My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.
O who am I that for my sake
my Lord should take frail flesh, and die?

2 He came from heaven's
throne salvation to bestow;
the world that was his own
would not its Savior know.
But O my Friend, my Friend
indeed, who at my need
his life did spend!

3 Sometimes we strew his
way, and his sweet praises
sing, resounding all the day
hosannas to our King. Then
"Crucify!" is all our breath,
and for his death
we thirst and cry.

4 Unheeding, we will have
our dear Lord made away,
a murderer to save, the prince
of life to slay. Yet steadfast he
to suffering goes, that he his
foes from thence might free.

5 Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine: never was
love, dear King, never was
grief like thine. This is my
Friend, in whose sweet
praise I all my days could
gladly spend.

***Sharing of the Peace**

Announcements for the Community of Faith

Call to Offering

Anthem

Holy Darkness

Dan Schutte

*Refrain: Holy darkness, blessed night, heaven's answer hidden from our sight.
As we await you, O God of silence, we embrace your holy night.*

*I have tried you in fires of affliction; I have taught your soul to grieve.
In the barren soil of your loneliness, there I will plant my seed. R
I have taught you the price of compassion; you have stood before the grave.
Though my love can seem like a raging storm, this is the love that saves. R
Were you there when I raised up the mountains? Can you guide the morning star?
Does the hawk take flight when you give command? Why do you doubt my power? R
In your deepest hour of darkness I will give you wealth untold.
When the silence stills your spirit, will my riches fill your soul. R
As the watchman waits for morning, and the bride awaits her groom,
so we wait to hear your footsteps as we rest beneath your moon. R*

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

*Doxology Hymn 607

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Invitation to the Lord's Table

Servers: Stacey Waites, Lois Daniels, Amy Crowe

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...we join our voices ...

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...we are bold to lift our voices praying the prayer Jesus taught his disciples: ***The Lord's Prayer**

***Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup**

***Communion of the People**

Music at Communion *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*

Georg Neumark, 1640; arr. Roger C. Wilson

Concerns of the Church & Prayers of the People

***Hymn 645** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*
MIT FREUDEN ZART

Words are on Insert

Charge from the Steps

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Joe Genau

Postlude *Built on the Rock*

Tune: "Kirken" by Ludwig M. Lindeman; arr. John M. Rasley

† *All In:* Prayer of the Day © 2025 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission.

***Hymn 645**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur
stilled: to God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty power has made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen
band: to God all praise and glory!

4 Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!