



The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
March 22, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Ordination and Installation of Officers

Gathering As a People of God

At PCO we strive to be a faithful, open, and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any age, ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

Preparation: “Our age has come to expect satisfaction. We have grown up in an absolutely unique period when having and possessing and accomplishing have been real options. They have given us an illusion of fulfillment—and fulfillment now—as long as we are clever enough, quick enough, and pray or work hard enough for our goals or rewards.” – Father Richard Rohr, Center for Action and Contemplation, January 13, 2023.

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Voluntary in a minor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Maurice Green

Choral Introit

Out of the Deep
Excerpt from *Requiem*
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

John Rutter

*** Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 130, CEB)

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

One: I hope, Lord. My whole being hopes, and I wait for God’s promise.

All: My whole being waits for my Lord—more than the night watch waits for morning; yes, more than the night watch waits for morning!

One: Israel, wait for the Lord! Because faithful love is with the Lord.

All: Because great redemption is with our God!

One: The Lord is the one who will redeem Israel from all its sin.

All: Let us worship the God who is faithful in love and mercy.

*** Hymn #744**

Arise, Your Light is Come!, vs. 1-4
[Festal Song]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: God longs to free us from the sins which bind us. So let us come with open hearts to share that which we need to confess to the one who promises mercy, forgiveness and restoration.

All: God of mercy, we confess that we do not always want our lives restored or renewed. We fear speaking truth to the things and the people who bind us. Our ‘burial bandages’ not only bind us tightly, they also keep us thinking we are secure, hidden away in our tombs.

And we confess that we too often are bound by our own egos, pride and arrogance, rather than living in God's grace. Call us forth to discover that freedom overcomes the oppression of sin, light overcomes darkness, and life overcomes death. Fill us with strength and hope to become beacons of light in our community. *Time of silence.* Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Spirit of the Lord has come upon us, bringing hope, life, and forgiveness for each person. Through this grace, we can live fully as God's children, sent to bring the good news to everyone we meet.

All: **Thanks be to God for the new creation we are in Christ.**

One: Friends, now that God has forgiven us, let us forgive one another with the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you!

All: **And also with you.** *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

*** Act of Praise #447**

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: "We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God." The chords indicated above the notes are: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, liturgist

O Lord, we wait for you, and in your Word we trust. By the power of your Spirit, set our hearts and minds on the source of life and peace: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Scripture Reading

John 11: 38-45

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Path to Repair and Restoration: Unbinding From the World's Priorities

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Responding to the Word

Special Music

Just As I Am
PCO Handbell Choir
Cari Cravotta, flute
Irene Shutt, director

arr. by Sandra Eithun

Minute for Engagement

Associate Pastor Nominating Committee

Laurin Gierman

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Steps on the Path to Repair and Restoration: Action Items for the Fifth Week of Lent
Returning to God a Portion of What God Has Given Us

Offertory

God So Loved the World
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

John Stainer

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

in unison

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.

Service of Ordination and Installation

(Please see bulletin insert)

Sent Out As a People of God

* Hymn #432

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord, vs. 1-4
[Repton]

* Charge and Benediction

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Fugue in D Major
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

William Selby

* Please rise in body or spirit

Ushers: David & Kathi Cook, Barbara & Ron Dorr

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Elliot Ryser for supplying our snacks for fellowship time and to Edward Ennen for making the coffee and washing the dishes.

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from words by the Rev. Earl Roberts, retired Minister of the Lattimer United Methodist Church. They can be found online at <https://worshipwords.co.uk/beacon-of-light-confession-earl-roberts-usa/>

Education this Morning:

Elementary Education in Room 116

Adult Ed: Sharing Your Financial Gifts. One of the ways we work toward repair and restoration is through our financial gifts. But the path to giving can often be complicated. Do all of the initials confuse you? What is the difference between a QCD and an RMD? How can you support the church and other organizations important to you in beneficial ways? Join us as we welcome Olivia Martin, Managing Director – Investments from Wells Fargo Advisors for an informational session.

Next Week: March 29, 2026; Sixth Sunday of Lent

Scripture: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 & Matthew 21:1-11

No Education Hour: Spring Break and preparation for the Path to Palm Sunday from 3 - 5 pm.

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Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager
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