



Prayer Requests

HOMEBOUND

Please send a card (or visit) our homebound family and friends.
Connection is a necessity for good health.

Harry and Mary Franz 1337 Farrington Dr. Knoxville, TN 37923

Suzanne Levering Lyons View H&R Rm #316 5837 Lyons View Pike 37919

Bill Brazelton NHC Farragut 120 Cavette Hill Ln. #340 Farragut, TN 37934

OUR CONGREGATION

The Sarles Family

Don Quinley

Tammy Murphy

Joy Catron

The Leckies

Gabby Denny

The Lambs

Suzanne Levering

Harry and Mary Franz

Harter & Hayden Crisp

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OUR CONGREGATION

Randy Pennington (brother of Gary Pennington)

Gynnae Lamb (daughter of Tony Denny)

Family of Eliana Jacks (member of Sonshine Co.)

Neal Campbell (father of April Cyr)

Linda McCune (sister of Cynthia House)

Delaney Nicaud (member of J7)

Mary Bryan (daughter of Allyson Streckfuss)

Amelia Brooke (our Nursery Worker)

Seth Turnbow (son of Cynthia and John House)

Brian Leckie (son of Dave and Sara Leckie)

Noel Marcus (niece of April Cyr)

Michelle (cousin of Kelli Canan-Denny)

COLLEGE STUDENTS

Ella Levering

Effie Fellers

Anna Bornhoeft

Kenleigh Pennington

Kathryn Bornhoeft

Amelia Brooke

Hallie Fellers

MILITARY

Zach and Noah Enix (Nicole Waters)

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 8, 2026

LENT 3



“WISDOM’S DESIRE”

Rev. Joseph W. Taber IV, Pastor

April Cyr: Office Administrator

Joy Bornhoeft: Family Ministry Dir.

Joseph Jaynes: Choir Director & AV

Nancy Berry: Organist

Chloe Levering: Youth Director

Amelia Brooke: Nursery

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

9:30am Sunday School
 11am Worship Service
 11:15am Planet Worship
 12pm Outreach
 12pm Youth Group
 5pm Praise Band
 7pm AA Book Study

MONDAY, MARCH 9

7:30pm Men's AA

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7pm Property Team

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

6:30pm Handbells
 7:30pm Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

10am Women's AM Bible Study
 7pm Women's PM Bible Study
 7pm Worship Team

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

8pm AA

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

9am Men's Breakfast

 Erin Presbyterian Church Community

 @erinpreschurch

 Erin Presbyterian Church

OFFICE HOURS

9am to 3pm Mon-Thurs
 Work from home Friday,
 available by phone:
 865-588-5350

FLOWERS

Today's flowers are shared in loving memory of my brother, Joseph D. Leggette Jr. who recently passed away.

- Janice James

DEAR VISITORS

We're so happy you're here with us! We offer a Nursery if you need one. Ask an usher, or follow the signs, to find it. Use the blue card in the pew to share your contact info and any prayer concerns. It would be an honor to get to know you and pray for you. Just place the blue card in the offering plate.

PASTORAL CARE

If you have an emergency, call Pastor Joseph at 828-443-4757
 You can email him at: pastor@erinpresbyterian.org

WE LIVESTREAM OUR SERVICE

If you're new to Erin Church, we want to make sure you know that we livestream our Sunday morning service, along with others at times. If you want to be out of view, please ask an usher to help you find a good spot to sit.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Human Wisdom has its limits, and even the furthest reaches of human wisdom cannot fully shield us from sorrow and grief. Are there times when it's better to say nothing than allow words to increase? How have grief and sadness helped you to grow in faith and wisdom?

MONDAY Song of Songs 8:1-7

TUESDAY Matthew 25:1-13

WEDNESDAY Isaiah 53:1-8

THURSDAY I Kings 9:1-9

FRIDAY Proverbs 26:4,5

SATURDAY Matthew 20:17-23

SUNDAY Ecclesiastes 6:10-7:4

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

	MARCH 8	MARCH 15	MARCH 22
COFFEE	Mary Nelle Cate	Suzanne L.	David Eggers
BELL	Will McCallum	Luna Wiggins	Lucas Barber
GREETERS	Pat Wallin Tony Denny	Kathy Boyd Jim Montgomery	Dave and Sara Leckie
GUIDE	Diana Brandon	Kellan Sarles	Asa Deakins -Sohn
READER	Erin McCallum	David Eggers	John House
USHERS	Gary and Dusty Pennington Erin McCallum	Mike Cate Brooks and David Eggers	Tony Denny Robbie and Kelcey Levering
COUNTERS	Rickey McCallum Andy Sarles	Craig Strand Ann Snodgrass	David Eggers John House
LIGHTS	Neill Murphy		
SOUND	David Snodgrass		Kevin Griffin
STREAM	Phil Watkins	Kevin Griffin	
SLIDES	Joe Jaynes	Anna McKay	

***CLOSING HYMN** #543 “God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

***BENEDICTION** Pastor Joseph

For the benediction, please turn toward the center aisle and face one another as we prepare to go out into the world.

***DOXOLOGY** (in unison) #606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

POSTLUDE “Thy Strong Word” Paul Manz



Erin Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship



*those able, please stand. Prayers written by Kim Jaynes.

**congregation reads aloud verses in bold italics.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Aria” Paul Manz

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We gather to worship the only true God, who gave us breath and life and being.

People: We come with expectation on this third Sunday of Lent, continuing this journey together.

Pastor: Let us worship God, our creator, the source of all wisdom.

***HYMN** #175 “Seek Ye First”

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Guide: You are holy, Lord. You are perfect, without a single fault. As flawed and imperfect people, we can hardly imagine what that means. We face constant temptation from all sides. We’re pretty good at avoiding the most obvious ones. It’s the subtle ones that sneak up on us: thinking we matter more, expecting everything to go our way, failing to see the needs all around us; or even worse, noticing the needs and deciding our priorities are more important.

People: Show us, Lord. Help us see people as you see them. Help us recognize when our view of a situation is incomplete or biased. Convict us of our self-centered decisions, our uncaring thoughts and words, and our hurtful actions. Hear us as we confess them now.

- Silent Confessions -

Guide: Forgive us, Lord. May we be true disciples, not just relying on familiar phrases or shallow beliefs but living our whole lives as You taught us: ***“The Lord’s Prayer” (debts/debtors) p. 35 in hymnal***

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Guide: Without Christ we would be far from God, bound by selfish impulses and narrow views of the world. But Christ has shown us how to live generously, and He opened our minds to God’s eternal truth.

ERIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

Unified in Christ, we actively seek to create harmony in a diverse community through compassion, mutual respect, and love.

***CHORAL RESPONSE (in unison)**

#223 “When I survey the Wondrous Cross

ANTHEM “A Lenten Meditation” by Larry Fleming

FAMILY SERMON Joy Bornhoeft

(Parents and all children, including elementary school students, come forward)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: Lord, yours is the only wisdom, and we can find it in your Word. Reveal your truth as we hear these sacred scriptures. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 26:6-13

6-7 When Jesus was at Bethany visiting the house of Simon, who had a skin disease, a woman came to him with a vase made of alabaster containing very expensive perfume. She poured it on Jesus’ head while he was sitting at dinner.

8-9 Now when the disciples saw it they were angry and said, “Why this waste? This perfume could have been sold for a lot of money and given to the poor.”

10 But Jesus knew what they were thinking. He said, “Why do you make trouble for the woman? She’s done a good thing for me.

11-12 You always have the poor with you, but you won’t always have me. By pouring this perfume over my body she’s prepared me to be buried.

13 I tell you the truth that wherever in the whole world this good news is announced, what she’s done will also be told in memory of her.”

All: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.

Song of Songs 3:1-5

1 Upon my bed, night after night, I looked for the one whom I love with all my heart. I looked for him but couldn’t find him.

2 “I will rise now and go all around the city, through the streets and the squares. I will look for the one whom I love with all my heart.” I looked for him but couldn’t find him.

3 The guards found me, those who make their rounds in the city. “The one whom I love with all my heart - have you seen him?”

4 No sooner did I depart from them than I found the one whom I love with all my heart. I held on to him and now I won’t let him go, until I’ve

brought him to my mother’s house, to the chamber of the one who conceived me.

5 I place you under oath, daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the wild deer: don’t rouse, don’t arouse love until it desires.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SERMON “Wisdom’s Desire” Pastor Joseph

***HYMN** #736 “I Want to Be As Close to You” to the tune of #629

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: God, sometimes we’re overwhelmed by trouble that seems insurmountable. We and the people close to us suffer loss, disappointment, frustration, and doubt. In our community and in the wider world, people are threatened by war, injustice, and oppression. We try to push back, to be positive, to deal with things the best we can, but our efforts seem small and ineffective. Even our prayers can feel inadequate.

People: Lord, you control the future. You don’t ask us to ignore the painful, scary realities of life, but you promise to meet us there. Hear our prayers for strength, for comfort, and for peace.

— We light a candle as we pray for others and for ourselves —

Pastor: Grant us wisdom to know when to fight and when to rest. Shown us how to face our challenges with courage, confident in your unconquerable and unending love. Amen.

OFFERTORY “Now Thank We All Our God” Georg Kaufmann

***OFFERING (in unison)** “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”
**God, Whose giving knows no ending, from Your rich and endless store,
Nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, Costly cross, grave’s shattered door:
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ’s ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving You by loving all.**

***DEDICATION** (unison)

Thank you, God, for creating and sustaining us. We bring these gifts for your kingdom, and we dedicate ourselves to your purpose in our community and the world. Amen.