



## Week of March 2 – March 7

### Scripture of the Week:

<sup>4</sup> While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; <sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." - Acts 1:4-8 NRSV

### March 2, 2026

As a person who has no musical training, I listen for God's voice in others. Whether that voice is small and still, or large and loud, I hear the Holy Spirit in the choirs that fill our sanctuary. Thus, I hear God's voice and welcome the coming of the Holy Spirit when I hear the Stillman Choir sing, "In this very room..." or hear our choir sing "The Summons" by John Bell:

"Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around  
through my sight and touch and sound in you,  
and you in me?"

(Elder James Tucker)

### March 3, 2026

It was almost 4 years ago when the Holy Spirit intervened in my life. I needed a job change. I had quit my job and did not know what I was going to do. It was coming up on a month without a job when I made a phone call and that call had to be the Holy Spirit intervening. That call was the best decision for me. I love the job that I am doing now and cannot see me doing anything else. (Elder Lillian Beavers)

### March 4, 2026

Tuscaloosa, Perry County, North Carolina, Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar - these are just a few of the places the Holy Spirit has worked through members of FPC to help God's children in recent years. In just a few weeks, our Youth will add Puerto Rico to the list. The Holy Spirit has truly been present during the many moments when members have fed, labored, loved, listened to and worshipped alongside His children, both at home and abroad, bridging gaps of language and culture and proving how God's love can heal a broken world. May we kindle the fire of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, so that we can spread the warmth of God's love to His children everywhere. (Elder Gaines Brake)

### **March 5, 2026**

My mother died at 48 of cancer the night that I got home from taking my final college exam. As a 22-year-old boy, it was devastating to lose my mother. However, during her funeral service a light seemed to fill the sanctuary, and the weight of her death was lifted off my shoulders. I was smiling at the end of the service, feeling at peace with her death. (Elder John Summerford)

### **March 6, 2026**

In 1945 Alma Bazel Androzzo wrote the song, "If I Can Help Somebody." The lyrics begin with a purpose, "If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain." Ms. Androzzo had no idea that 80 years later I would search for my purpose as a retired educator. These words spoke to me when I heard a Memphis high school choir sing this anthem, and later our choir performed this piece with Dee Hamner as the soloist. God spoke to me and gave me a purpose. I decided to volunteer in schools and church, and I love it! (Elder Kristi Thomson)

### **March 7, 2026**

"In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit," said the minister as he placed the water on baby Haynes Donaldson's forehead accented by the sign of the cross. This sacred moment was followed by joy as the babe's cousins all reached to touch his Baptismal garment. Tears of love dripped from the parent's cheeks, smiles of joy from the grandparents, and the Holy Spirit warmed the hearts of the congregation. Come Holy Spirit! (Cal Holt)