

**The Worship of God**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany, January 18, 2026 – 9:00 Morning Worship  
**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!**

PRELUDE

“Flute Solo and Gigue”

George Frederic Handel

WELCOME

**GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Grace and peace to you from God, our Mother  
and Father, and from Jesus, the Christ.

**Amen.**

Friends, in God we have been graced with wisdom and knowledge,  
we are not lacking in any spiritual gift.

**We are continually encouraged and strengthened,  
called as partners in Christ's mission of love and service to the world.**

We gather in hope.

**We worship with the Spirit at play in our hearts.**

Praise be to the God of goodness and light!

**Amen.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

You who gives all, holding back nothing for the sake of fuller,  
wider expressions of love, move us this day to take similar risks.

**Grace us with renewed confidence, and inspire us with an inviting,  
touchable vision for life, work, and service in your name.**

**Amen.**

SING

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

#39

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

O Holy One, who wondrously calls us into being,  
calling us also into ways and being for life,  
we admit before you and to those around us,  
that at times it all seems too hard;  
when we see little fruit for our labors,  
receive ingratitude for honest endeavors, or feel self-belittlement  
after daring to express a still latent or developing gift.

**Forgive us, not just for a lack of belief in you, but a lack of belief in who we are.**

**Forgive us for negative conclusions and false humilities**

**that would have us hide away and not hear the calls for creative love  
and justice that you place ever before us.**

Self-giving God, restore in us the undying courage of Christ  
and the ennobling presence of the Holy Spirit.

*(Silence is kept.)*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Before you were born, you were named with love and grace.  
God is listening now and paying attention to each honest confession.  
You are forgiven.  
You are redeemed.  
You are loved.  
Dare to grow into this affirmation of God's love.

## SHARING GOD'S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:  
You're invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

### **LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD**

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## FIRST SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:1-11

## SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 1:29-42

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

## REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

## SING

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

#649

## GIVING OUR GIFTS

## DOXOLOGY

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All that we are, O God, and all we are called to be,  
we bring to this special moment of offering and hope.  
**May our gifts be used imaginatively for the well-being of all.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

### **SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD**

## SING

"Siyahamba"

#853

## BENEDICTION

Let us go out into God's world in peace;  
have courage; hold on to what is good;  
return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;  
support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;  
love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## SENDING

Go now, beloved, to follow the love of God

to be surprised by God's wonder to lift your voice for love and compassion.

Dare to believe that you are people on a mission of healing and grace.

Feel God's encouragement to be a blessing

as you offer blessings with your heart and hands

and know that you never, ever go alone.

Amen? **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

"Canzona"

Girolamo Frescobaldi