

The Worship of God

Third Sunday of Easter, Sunday, May 4, 2025 – 9:00 Morning Worship

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

“Prelude in D Major”

Charles Wood

WELCOME

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the shores of our lives, Jesus calls us into the celebration of worship.

Let us worship our God.

From the edge of our worries and concerns, Jesus calls us into hope.

Let us claim the hope in Christ Jesus.

From the shallow places in our hearts, Jesus calls us into the depths of his love.

Let us celebrate the gift of his love.

From the breaking waves of sadness in our lives, Jesus calls us into joy.

Let us renew our spirits in his joy.

From the rising tides of our conflicts, Jesus calls us onto the shores of peace.

Let us rest in his peace.

Let us celebrate the love of God and receive the blessings of Christ Jesus.

Let us worship God!

SING

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

#662

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come before you, God, in search of courage.

Yet we can grow suspicious of our own movements and actions.

We notice ways we avoid confrontation and speak differently
before those we fear or do not understand.

Remove from our senses, our minds, and our hearts,
the things that keep us from loving, from trusting
and from getting to know those who we judge as different.

**Re-create us, O God, and fashion us to be free, in all times and places,
to live as you want us to live.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear this good news.

Because of divine grace we are forgiven, loved, and free.

We receive the gracious love of God.

We are made whole in God’s presence.

We welcome all into God’s community of 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

John 21:1-19

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Acts 9

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

REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

#240

CELEBRATING GENERATIONS BUILDING JOY

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

#591

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Good Friday is past, we celebrate on this side of the cross,
and we speak of life from death.

Come now to the feast of life that takes all our past and redeems it with life.

Come to the table for the host is waiting
with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Jesus – companion and Savior – unfolder of alleluias,
bread-breaker, life-giver, grave-dancer,
wine-sharer, stone-roller, gardener, returned.

Here is our thanksgiving gathering with all those
who have ever gathered round this tale
meeting your promise in this story that pulls death from the world
and redeems it with life.

May this bread break open your wondrous story.
As we share it, we give thanks for what has been done for us.
May this wine spill your promise into the world.
As we share it we give thanks for what you have done for us.

Great God of resurrection bringing life from death,
light from shadows, adventures from question,
authenticity from lies we sing with all the angels:

Holy, holy, holy
God of new and transforming life
heaven and earth are full of your glory hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name, O God:
Hosanna in the highest.

May our living be our thanksgiving retelling the story
in every moment of the night Jesus took bread and shared it
took wine and offered it saying, "eat, drink, all of you."
In our thanksgiving may we live as the Body of Christ
within the new covenant sealed for all for the forgiveness of sins.
We remember Jesus the Christ always.
Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION IS SHARED

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

#263

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

The Spirit of Christ says, "Get up and go."
Go and extend God's circle of love, go and offer a healing touch to the world,
go and celebrate Spirit's presence in all.
Our eyes have been opened, and we are filled with new visions of the way.
We will go where the Spirit of Christ leads.

POSTLUDE

"Basse De Trompette"

Louis Nicolas Clerambault