

## The Worship of God

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – November 19, 2023 – 9:00 Morning Worship

**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!**

PRELUDE

“Be Thou My Vision”

John Eggert

WELCOME

### GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Running on empty.

Drained.

Overscheduled and over worked.

Listless.

Hopeless.

Just plain tired.

**When we can’t see another way, we come to worship.**

We come to be renewed and restored, to feel our attitude shift.

Together, we will find our way into joy.

**We will be filled with God’s love and grace.**

OPENING PRAYER

We joyfully receive your abundant gifts, God.

**We pause to feel the power of life within us,**

**the potential for compassion around us,**

**and your steady ground of hope beneath us.**

SING

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#12

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We come together, lifting our eyes to the One enthroned in the heavens,  
to find mercy and grace.

**Our souls have had more than their fill.**

We are weary from all that we are carrying.

**We come together to share in our burdens.**

*As sand is poured into a bowl, use these words to voice your prayer,*

*“I have had more than my/our fill of\_\_\_\_\_”*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

There is joy in knowing that we are not alone.

God hears our prayers and offers compassion and grace.

God offers us abundant life.

**Let us embrace it, celebrate it, multiply it, and rejoice.**

**For God’s investment in us never ends.**

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 LESSON

Judges 4:1-7

SECOND LESSON

I Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

#611

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#609

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you for this community and for the responsibility of being your people.  
Forgive us for the times when we have tucked away and hidden  
our gifts and talents from the world.

**As a community, help us support and encourage each other  
so we can share all of our gifts for and to your glory.**

**Bless these gifts, seen and unseen so that they might be a blessing to others.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT WINDOW

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

### SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

#377

SENDING

Susan leads

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers,  
half-truths, superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.  
May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people,  
so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.  
May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer  
from pain, rejection, starvation, and war,  
so that you may reach out to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.  
May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe  
that you can make a difference in this world,  
so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

POSTLUDE

"Canzona in F"

Heinrich Scheidemann