

The Worship of God

Transfiguration of the Lord – March 3, 2025 – 9:00 Morning Worship

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

WELCOME

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come into this ordinary place expecting the extraordinary:
community in the hands and hearts of everyday people,
spirits lifted in the words and music of weekly worship,
and nourishment in broken bread and shared cup.

(sound chimes or singing bowl)

A way is made through the wilderness of our souls;
valleys lifted and mountains brought low,
for Spirit to come alive within us again.

(sound chimes or singing bowl)

A voice assures us, "You are my beloved ones" and we are called to be Christ's community,
proclaiming that now is the time of God's favor.

(sound chimes or singing bowl)

Let us worship in the glory of God.

OPENING PRAYER

Through clouds of wonderment, of uncertainty, of anxiety,
sometimes, we hear your voice, O God, proclaiming the presence of Spirit
in the midst of our day-to-day living.

We pause and become mindful. *(Pause)*

We pause and listen to the voice within and around. *(Pause)*

We pause and worship the astounding glory of your presence. *(Pause)*

SING

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

#667

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Listen, the voice within and around says:

You are my chosen ones.

My beloved.

You are filled with my Spirit.

Beloved.

I have chosen you to reflect my love.

Be love.

Be love.

Be love.

Filled with Spirit, we have the potential to shine as reflections of Christ,
revealing Love's presence in our world.

Be love.

Be love.

Be love.

But we can be afraid of who we are and our fear dims our inner glory.

We speak with you now of the ways we do not reflect our inner glory.

Silence

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Be love.

Be love.

Whenever we remember our Christ-like nature, the veil is removed
and we live in the freedom of the Spirit.

Shine out as people of the Spirit.

Shine out and reflect the love of Christ.

Shine out and be love in this world.

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE

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

REFLECTION

Reverend Susan Phillips

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"Spirit of the Living God"

#288

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#609

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is truly right to give our thanks and praise,

O God of mercy and might.

In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power.

You have called forth people in every age

to be your servants and speak your word.

When we rebelled against your call and turned from your ways,

in your love you called us back to you.
You delivered us from captivity, and made covenant to be our sovereign God.
You sent prophets to call us to justice and compassion.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven
and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name.
(Please sing back to me.)

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, are full of your glory.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.***

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation.
Baptized in Jordan's waters,
Jesus took his place with sinners
and your voice proclaimed him your beloved.
Your Spirit anointed him
to bring good news to the poor,
to proclaim release to the captives,
to restore sight to the blind,
to free the oppressed.
He lived among us in power and grace,
touching broken lives with your healing peace.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your church, and made with us a new covenant
by water and the Spirit.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.
With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

O God, as you once claimed us in the Spirit's waters
and number us among your own beloved,
give us power to do your work, to show your love,
and to live holy and joyful lives.
Keep us faithful in your service Christ comes in final victory
and we shall feast with all your saints
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING

"Be Thou My Vision"

#450

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

This season closes.

Another begins with its own journey,

leading to a cross, and through that cross to new life.

But there is much we must encounter before we reach that empty tomb.

**We take these hopes, birthed in the memory of God's tender, firm voice proclaiming that,
wherever we are, we are in the presence of the Christ.**

POSTLUDE