



Fairfield  
Presbyterian  
Church  
PCA

*For I am not ashamed of the Gospel...Romans 1:16*

# Celebration of Worship

March 2, 2025

## Prelude

*The Prelude is a time to begin transitioning from fellowshiping with our neighbors to preparing our hearts to worship God.*

*Please adjust all electronic devices so as not to interrupt the service.*

## Welcome and Announcements

*Welcome to all our visitors. Please fill out the guest registration to let us know of your visit.*

## Silent Prayer of Preparation for Worship

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### Call to Worship

from Psalm 86

**Pastor:** Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name.

**People:** *For you are great and do marvelous deeds; You alone are God.*

**Pastor:** Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

**People:** *I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love*

*toward me; You have delivered me from the depths of the grave.*

## **\*Invocation and Adoration**

### **\*Worship in Song**

**53**

#### ***Praise to the Lord, the Almighty***

*(Based on Psalm 103)*

### **Public Confession of Sin**

All: O Lord, you are our Father, and we are but earth and mire;  
You are our Creator, and we are the work of your hands;  
You are our Shepherd, and we are your flock; You are our  
Redeemer, and we are the people you have bought back;  
You are our God, and we are your inheritance.

Therefore, do not be angry against us, to correct us in your wrath.  
Do not recall our sin, to punish it, But chastise us gently in  
your kindness. Be mindful that your name is upon us, That  
we bear your mark and badge. Undertake the work you  
have already begun in us by your grace, That the whole  
earth may recognize that you are our God and Savior. In  
Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Silent Prayer of Confession**

#### **Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel**

*Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its  
shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ~Heb.  
12.2*

### **Corporate Confession of Faith – Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived  
by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he  
descended into hell.\* The third day he rose again from the

\* Indicates please stand if able.

dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\*\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*Some versions of the Creed omit this phrase; it was inserted to affirm the reality of Christ's physical death;

\*\*or universal; this phrase simply refers to the fact that the Church is made up of believers of all times in all nations.

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## **PETITIONING GOD'S PROVIDENCE**

### **Prayers of God's People**

*(The pastor will lead us in prayer, reading submitted praises and requests)*

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## **ADORING GOD'S GLORY**

### **Public Reading of Scripture**

### **Judges 7:1-8**

*(Lectio Continua – the practice of reading Scripture in sequence)*

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Scripture Contest:

God reassured Gideon that Israel would be delivered by his hand. So that there would be no mistake of who gave the victory, God reduced the size of Gideon's army.

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Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him rose early and encamped beside the spring of Harod. And the camp of Midian was north of them, by the hill of Moreh, in the valley.<sup>2</sup> The LORD said to Gideon, "The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.'<sup>3</sup> Now therefore proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home and hurry away from Mount Gilead.'" Then 22,000 of the people returned, and 10,000 remained.<sup>4</sup> And the LORD said to Gideon, "The people are still too many. Take them down to the water, and I will test them for you there, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' shall go with you, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one

\* Indicates please stand if able.

shall not go with you,' shall not go." <sup>5</sup> So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, "Every one who laps the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set by himself. Likewise, every one who knelt down to drink." <sup>6</sup> And the number of those who lapped, putting their hands to their mouths, was 300 men, but all the rest of the people knelt down to drink water. <sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Gideon, "With the 300 men who lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let all the others go every man to his home." <sup>8</sup> So the people took provisions in their hands, and their trumpets. And he sent all the rest of Israel every man to his tent, but retained the 300 men. And the camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

**All:** *Thanks be to God.*

## **The Giving of First Fruits**

*Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce;<sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. ~Proverbs 3:9-10*

### **\*The Doxology**

**Tune: As the Hart**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

### **\*Prayer of Thanks and Dedication**

### **\*Worship in Song**

*Here is Love*

Verse 1

Here is love, vast as the ocean, Lovingkindness as the flood,  
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom,  
Shed for us His precious blood.  
Who His love will not remember?

\* Indicates please stand if able.

Who can cease to sing His praise?  
He can never be forgotten, Throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

Verse 2

On the mount of crucifixion, Fountains opened deep and wide;  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.  
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, Poured incessant from above,  
Heaven's peace and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Verse 3

Let me all Thy love accepting, Love Thee, ever all my days;  
Let me seek Thy kingdom only And my life be to Thy praise;  
Thou alone shalt be my glory, Nothing in the world I see.  
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me, Thou Thyself hast set me  
free.

Verse 4

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;  
And Thy grace my need is meeting, As I trust in Thee, my Lord.  
Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring Thy great love and power on me,  
Without measure, full and boundless, Drawing out my heart to  
Thee.

***Come Behold The Wondrous Mystery***

Verse 1

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
In the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises  
Robed in frail humanity  
In our longing in our darkness  
Now the light of life has come

Look to Christ who condescended  
Took on flesh to ransom us

Verse 2

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
He the perfect Son of Man  
In His living in His suff'ring  
Never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam  
Come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
Of the law in Him we stand

Verse 3

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
Hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption  
See the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory  
Grace unmeasured love untold

Verse 4

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry  
Slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him  
Praise the Lord He is alive  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance  
How unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected  
As we will be when He comes

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## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: John 1:14-18

Preaching of the Word

*The Uniqueness of the Son*

\*Hymn of Response and Preparation 179

*Hallelujah! Thine the Glory*

(vss. 1 & 2)

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## COMING TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### Invitation to the Table

Fairfield Presbyterian Church welcomes all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin, and who are members of congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive the Holy Communion with us. **If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers in the bulletin below.**

### Prayer of Consecration and Confession of Sin

### Distribution of the Elements

**PLEASE NOTE:** The cups in the outer ring contain wine; all other cups *inside* contain *grape juice*.

Please **hold the bread** and we will partake together signifying our unity in one Body; please **drink the cup upon receiving it** in acknowledgment of your personal union to Christ in His shed blood.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

\* Closing Hymn 179

*Hallelujah! Thine the Glory*

(vss. 3 & 4)



## \*Benediction

Just as God has the first word in worship, he also has the last word. For those who are in Christ Jesus, these are always words of blessing. We look up and extend our hands out in a posture of receiving the blessing of God.

## Postlude

\* Indicates please stand if able.

Memory Verse of the Week:

**Matthew 11:28-30** Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

***Prayer for Those Searching for Truth.*** Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.

***Prayer of Belief.*** Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Prayer for Those Overcome with Sin*** Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

***Prayer for Covenant Children (Not Yet Communing)*** Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

\* Indicates please stand if able.



# Announcements

**Join us today...** Sunday, Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup> as we celebrate Communion with a Fellowship Potluck immediately following Worship Service.

**VBS** is fast approaching. Volunteers are needed to fill different areas. VBS dates are June 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. Please note the date change for training for volunteers and teachers is **Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**, and **Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**, at 9:30 AM. See Judy Adkins for more information.

**Discipleship Opportunity.** ESL is looking for church members who would be willing to help with an adult Sunday School for English learners on Sunday mornings (from 9:30-10:15). Please see Anna Coplin for more information.

**All Fairfield Ladies** are invited to a short meeting Sunday, March 16, immediately after worship. We need your input for upcoming activities.



**Women's Bible Study** meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 9:30 AM. We are currently studying "Disciplines of a Godly Woman" by Barbara Hughes. It's not too late to join. Please see Linda Bauer for more information.

**Reminder...** Baby bottles for Safe Harbor are due on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. There are additional bottles located on the back table in the sanctuary if you are interested in helping this ministry. Please see the insert in today's bulletin for detailed information. Please contact Robin Camp with any questions.



**Parents!** Did you know that there is something available for your family on Wednesday nights here at Fairfield? Programs begin at 6 PM. The adults are currently studying "Kingdom Feasts: Coming to the Lord's Table" by R.C. Sproul followed with a time of prayer. Please see Pastor Ralph for more information. Additionally, we offer a Catechism Class for children ages 4-12 where they can learn how to be covenant child of God and memorize scripture. See Robin LaGuardia for more info!



**Men of Fairfield** are encouraged to attend Men's Bible Study every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month starting at 8 AM. We are currently going through "Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis. See Pastor Ralph for more info.