



# Fairfield Presbyterian Church

PCA

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

# Celebration of Worship

March 23, 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

Blessed Lord, whose only Son our Savior Jesus Christ has once suffered for our sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to You our God: We beseech You, that as we are baptized into His death, so by continually mortifying our corrupt affections we may be buried with Him; and at last through the grave, and gate of death, pass to our joyful resurrection: For His merits, who died, and was buried, and rose again, Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

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### Call to Worship

from Psalm 95

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**All:** *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

Pastor: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

**All:** *In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.*

Pastor: The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

**All:** *Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*

Pastor: For he is our God,

**All:** *and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.*

### **\*Invocation and Adoration**

*The invocation should acknowledge that our worship is in vain if it is not Spirit-inspired. Often, the invocation will also employ the language of adoration and praise, which is very fitting in light of the vertical, God-focused dimension of this prayer.*

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

**316**

#### ***The Mighty God, The Lord***

*(Psalm 50:1-6, Scottish Psalter, 1650)*

### **Public Confession of Sin**

**All:** *Our gracious Father, you sent your Son to die and rise to new life in order that death might be brought to an end and that we too might live a new life. Yet we have too often chosen death over life. In our thoughts, words, and deeds we have rebelled against you and your intentions for us. In so doing, we have broken our fellowship with you, whose love is better than life and whom to know is life itself. In so doing, we have hurt others, sometimes unintentionally and sometimes deliberately, and have diminished their lives. In so doing, we have damaged ourselves who were created to reflect your beauty. Father, forgive us our sin for Jesus' sake. And grant that your resurrection power might course through our entire being that we might walk in the ways of love and justice, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.*

## **Silent Prayer of Confession**

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

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ~ Hebrews 2.14-15

### **\*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 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;

\*\*The word catholic means 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**

### **Testimony of God's Work**

#### **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**

Scripture Context:

God had just given Gideon and his men a great victory over the Midianites. He now is in pursuit of the two kings of the east and their remaining army.

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Then the men of Ephraim said to him [Gideon], "What is this that you have done to us, not to call us when you went to fight with Midian?" And they accused him fiercely. <sup>2</sup> And he said to them, "What have I done now in comparison with you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the grape harvest of Abiezer? <sup>3</sup> God has given into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. What have I been able to do in comparison with you?" Then their anger against him subsided when he said this. <sup>4</sup> And Gideon came to the Jordan and crossed over, he and the 300 men who were with him, exhausted yet pursuing. <sup>5</sup> So he said to the men of Succoth, "Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me, for they are exhausted, and I am pursuing after Zebah and Zalmunna, the kings of Midian." <sup>6</sup> And the officials of Succoth said, "Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna already in your hand, that we should give bread to your army?" <sup>7</sup> So Gideon said, "Well then, when the LORD has given Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, I will flail your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers." <sup>8</sup> And from there he went up to Penuel, and spoke to them in the same way, and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered. <sup>9</sup> And he said to the men of Penuel, "When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower." <sup>10</sup> Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in Karkor with their army, about 15,000 men, all who were left of all the army of the people of the East, for there had fallen 120,000 men who drew the sword. <sup>11</sup> And Gideon went up by the way of the tent dwellers east of Nobah and Jogbehah and attacked the army, for the army felt secure. <sup>12</sup> And Zebah and Zalmunna fled, and he pursued them and captured the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and he threw all the army into a panic.

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**

Let all things their creator bless,  
And worship him with humbleness!  
O praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,  
O praise him! O praise him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

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

***May The Peoples Praise You***

#### Verse 1

You have called us out of darkest night  
Into Your glorious light  
That we may sing the wonders of  
The risen Christ

#### Verse 2

May our every breath retell the grace  
That broke into our strife  
With boundless love and deepest joy  
With endless life

#### ***Chorus***

[6]

***May the peoples praise You  
Let the nations be glad  
All Your blessing comes  
That we may praise  
May praise the Name of Jesus***

Verse 3

All the earth is Yours and all within  
Each harvest is Your own  
And from Your hand we give to You  
To make Christ known

Verse 4

May the seeds of mercy grow in us  
For those who have not heard  
May songs of praise build lives of grace  
To spread Your Word

***Chorus***

***May the peoples praise You  
Let the nations be glad  
All Your blessing comes  
That we may praise  
May praise the Name of Jesus***

Verse 5

This our holy priv'lege to declare  
Your praises and Your name  
To every nation tribe and tongue  
Your church proclaims

***Chorus***

***May the peoples praise You  
Let the nations be glad  
All Your blessing comes  
That we may praise  
May praise the Name of Jesus***

**Bridge**

Holy Holy is the Lord Almighty  
Worthy worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Holy Holy is the Lord Almighty  
All creation praise Your glorious Name

***Chorus***

***May the peoples praise You  
Let the nations be glad  
All Your blessing comes  
That we may praise  
May praise the Name of Jesus***

**(repeat)**

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**Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**

**Verse 1**

Come ye sinners poor and needy  
Weak and wounded sick and sore



Jesus ready stands to save you  
Full of pity love and power

Verse 2

Come ye thirsty come and welcome  
God's free bounty glorify  
True belief and true repentance  
Every grace that brings you nigh

Verse 3

Come ye weary heavy-laden  
Lost and ruined by the fall  
If you tarry 'til you're better  
You will never come at all

Verse 4

Let not conscience make you linger,  
Nor of fitness fond-ly dream;  
All that He re - quires as fit -ness,  
Is to know your need of Him.

**Chorus:**

***I will arise and go to Jesus  
He will embrace me in His arms  
In the arms of my dear Savior  
O there are ten thousand charms***

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## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Reading & Prayer of Illumination**

**Sermon Text:**

**John 1:35-51**

**Preaching of the Word**

***Come and See***

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

**\*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:

**Revelation 5:13** And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"



## **Announcements**

**VBS Training...***all previously scheduled training for VBS has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled at a later date to avoid conflict with Sunday School. See Lew Bacchieri with any questions.*

**Save the date!** *Ladies of Fairfield are cordially invited to attend a Spring Luncheon on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. This is a catered event. See Brenda Osborne for any questions.*



**Reminder...***Baby bottles are due for Safe Harbor on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. See insert for detailed information.*

*For any additional questions please contact Robin Camp.*

**Discipleship Opportunity** *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.*

**Parents!** *Did you know that we offer a Catechism class for children? This program is available for children ages 4-12. This is a place where they can learn how to be a Covenant child of God, memorize scripture, and worship God through song. Class begins at 6 PM. See Robin LaGuardia for more details.*

**Kingdom Feast: Coming to the Lord's Table** *is a video series that we are currently going through on Wednesday nights. Discussion questions and a time of prayer immediately follow the video. Study begins at 6 PM. See Pastor Ralph for additional questions.*



**Join us** *at the church next Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM for our monthly Hymn Sing. All are invited to attend a night of song and fellowship*