



Fairfield Presbyterian Church

PCA

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

Celebration of Worship

April 27, 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

O Almighty God, who alone can order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; grant to your people, that they may love the things which you command, and desire that which you promise; so that, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 84:1-5

Pastor: How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

People: *My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.*

Pastor: Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

People: *Blessed are those who dwell in your house; ever
singing your praises.*

All: *Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose
heart are the highways to Zion.*

*Invocation and Adoration

* Indicates please stand if able.

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**

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God is Known Among His People

(from Psalm 76)

(You may be seated)

Public Confession of Sin

My Eyes Are Dry

My eyes are dry my faith is old
My heart is hard my prayers are cold
And I know how I ought to be
Alive in You and dead to me

Oh what can be done
For an old heart like mine
Soften it up with oil and wine
The oil is You
Your Spirit of love
Please wash me anew
In the wine of Your blood

All: O Lord, we want to enter your presence, worshipping you face to face, awed by your majesty, greatness, and glory; yet encouraged by your love. Yet there is coldness in our hearts, a hardness toward you, an unwillingness to admit our sin and need for you. Forgive us, for Jesus' sake. Come near and strengthen us until Christ reigns supreme within us, in every thought, word, and deed. Give us a faith that purifies the heart, overcomes the world, works by love, fastens us to you, and always clings to the cross. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel

* Indicates please stand if able.

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;

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

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)

ADORING GOD’S GLORY

Public Reading of Scripture

Judges 9:1-6

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

Scripture Context:

* Indicates please stand if able.

After the death of Gideon, also called Jerubbaal, his son Abimelech conspired to become king by killing all of Gideon's sons except one – Jotham the youngest who escaped.

Now Abimelech the son of Jerubbaal went to Shechem to his mother's relatives and said to them and to the whole clan of his mother's family, ² "Say in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, 'Which is better for you, that all seventy of the sons of Jerubbaal rule over you, or that one rule over you?' Remember also that I am your bone and your flesh." ³ And his mother's relatives spoke all these words on his behalf in the ears of all the leaders of Shechem, and their hearts inclined to follow Abimelech, for they said, "He is our brother." ⁴ And they gave him seventy pieces of silver out of the house of Baal-berith with which Abimelech hired worthless and reckless fellows, who followed him. ⁵ And he went to his father's house at Ophrah and killed his brothers the sons of Jerubbaal, seventy men, on one stone. But Jotham the youngest son of Jerubbaal was left, for he hid himself. ⁶ And all the leaders of Shechem came together, and all Beth-millo, and they went and made Abimelech king, by the oak of the pillar at Shechem.

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;¹⁰ then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine. ~Proverbs 3:9-10

***The Doxology**

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. Amen.

***Prayer of Thanks and Dedication**

***Worship in Song**

Across the Lands

*You're the Word of God the Father
From before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet
Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
By the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory;
Let the land and seas rejoice!*

CHORUS

***You're the Author of creation;
You're the Lord of ev'ry man;
And Your cry of love rings out
across the lands.***

*Yet You left the gaze of angels,
Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven
For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry;
With a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered
That the guilty may go free!*

CHORUS

*With a shout You rose victorious,
Wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven,
Leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father,
Interceding for Your own;*

*From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home!*

CHORUS

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Verse 1

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 2

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 3

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Verse 4

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson

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PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text: John 3:9-21

Preaching of the Word

How Can This Be?

***Closing Hymn**

455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

***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:

2 Chronicles 20:12 O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."

Announcements

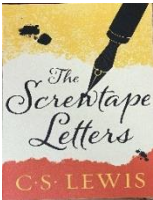


Join us tonight for our monthly Hymn Sing at 6 PM in the main sanctuary.

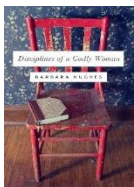


VBS training has been rescheduled for Monday, April 28th, at 6 PM and Monday, May 5th at 6 PM. These sessions are geared for teachers and classroom helpers but are open to anyone who is interested. For more information, contact Linda Bauer.

Join us next Sunday, May 4th for our Potluck Fellowship meal following Communion Worship Service.



Men's Fellowship will resume Saturday, May 3rd at 8AM. They are currently studying Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. It's not too late to sign up. See Pastor Ralph for more information. Men's study meets every first and third Saturday of each month.



Ladies' Bible Study will also resume Saturday, May 3rd at 9:30 AM. They are currently studying "Disciplines of a Godly Woman" by Barbara Hughes. All women are encouraged to attend. See Linda Bauer for any questions. Women's study meets every first and third Saturday of each month.