

Celebration of Worship

July 6, 2025

Prelude

The Prelude is a time to begin transitioning from fellowshipping 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 Father, who has given your only Son to be to us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life; Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive His inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of His most holy life; that dying to sin, and living to righteousness, we may at last obtain eternal life: through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship

from Psalm 103

Pastor: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise

his holy name.

All: Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his

benefits--

Pastor: who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

All: who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you

with love and compassion,

Pastor: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so

great is his love for those who fear him.

^{*} Indicates please stand if able.

All:

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Praise the Lord, O my soul.

*Invocation and Adoration *Worship in Song

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Hallelujah Praise Jehovah

(Psalm 148:1-13, Bible Songs Hymnal, 1927)

Public Confession of Sin

All: God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you: from purity to lust, from freedom to slavery, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Order our lives by your holy Word, and make your commandments the joy of our hearts. Conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, so that we may shine before the world to your glory. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. **Ephesians 2.8-9**

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.

PETITIONING GOD'S PROVIDENCE

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 13:1-14

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

Scripture Context:

With Samson we begin the last cycle of the judges

And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, so the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years. ² There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had no children. ³ And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, "Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. ⁴ Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, ⁵ for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines." ⁶ Then the woman came and told her husband, "A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like the

^{*}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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appearance of the angel of God, very awesome. I did not ask him where he was from, and he did not tell me his name, 7 but he said to me, 'Behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death." 8 Then Manoah prayed to the LORD and said, "O Lord, please let the man of God whom you sent come again to us and teach us what we are to do with the child who will be born." 9 And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field. But Manoah her husband was not with her. ¹⁰ So the woman ran guickly and told her husband, "Behold, the man who came to me the other day has appeared to me." 11 And Manoah arose and went after his wife and came to the man and said to him, "Are you the man who spoke to this woman?" And he said, "I am." 12 And Manoah said, "Now when your words come true, what is to be the child's manner of life, and what is his mission?" 13 And the angel of the LORD said to Manoah, "Of all that I said to the woman let her be careful. 14 She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing. All that I commanded her let her observe."

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

(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

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing (457)

1 Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God: he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be; let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee. Prone to wander - Lord, I feel it - prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Come behold the wondrous mystery

Verse 1

Come behold the wondrous mystery
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 mystery
He the perfect Son of Man
In His living, in His suffering
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 mystery
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 mystery 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 deliverance How unwavering our hope Christ in power resurrected As we will be when he comes

What a foretaste of deliverance
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 & Prayer of Illumination
Sermon Text: John 5:9-16

Preaching of the Word

Jesus, the Jews, and the Sabbath

*Hymn of Response and Preparation 259

Hark! The Voice of Love and Mercy

(verses 1-2)

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

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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

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

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Closing Hymn

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Hark! The Voice of Love and Mercy

(verses 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

Memory Verse of the Week:

Matthew 6:33-34 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

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.

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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.

<u>Announcements</u>

<u>Join us</u> today. Immediately following Communion Service is our monthly potluck. This is a great time to enjoy a meal together and to fellowship.

<u>FYI!</u> Men's study will be resuming Saturday, August 2nd. They are currently studying Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. It's not too late to join. See Pastor Ralph for questions.

<u>FYI!</u> Women's Bible Study will be resuming Saturday, August 16th. All women are encouraged to attend. Please see Robin LaGuardia or Linda Bauer for questions.