



Fairfield Presbyterian Church

PCA

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

Celebration of Worship

May 11, 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.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship

from Psalm 146

Pastor: Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

All: *Blessed is he whose hope is in the Lord his God, the maker of heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them: the Lord, who remains faithful forever.*

Pastor: He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those that are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

All: *The Lord watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow but he frustrates the ways*

of the wicked. The Lord reigns forever. Praise the Lord!

***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**

57

Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah, O My Soul

(from Psalm 146)

Public Confession of Sin

All: Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.

Forgive our frivolous attitude toward life, our callousness toward suffering, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our neglect of your wise and gracious law.

Help us to change our way of life so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel

Christ Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness... ~ 1 Peter 2:24

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

* Indicates please stand if able.

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 9:22-33

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

Scripture Context:

These incidents in the history of Israel show us the dire consequences of living in defiance of God's Word – there was no king in Israel, everyone did what was right in his own eyes

Abimelech ruled over Israel three years.²³ And God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the leaders of Shechem, and the leaders of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech,²⁴ that the violence done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid on Abimelech their brother, who killed them, and on the men of Shechem, who strengthened his hands to kill his brothers.²⁵ And the leaders of Shechem put men in ambush against him on the mountaintops, and they robbed all who passed by them along that way. And it was told to Abimelech.²⁶ And Gaal the son of Ebed moved into Shechem with his relatives, and the leaders of Shechem put confidence in him.²⁷ And they went out into the field

* Indicates please stand if able.

and gathered the grapes from their vineyards and trod them and held a festival; and they went into the house of their god and ate and drank and reviled Abimelech.²⁸ And Gaal the son of Ebed said, "Who is Abimelech, and who are we of Shechem, that we should serve him? Is he not the son of Jerubbaal, and is not Zebul his officer? Serve the men of Hamor the father of Shechem; but why should we serve him?"²⁹ Would that this people were under my hand! Then I would remove Abimelech. I would say to Abimelech, 'Increase your army, and come out.'"³⁰ When Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger was kindled.³¹ And he sent messengers to Abimelech secretly, saying, "Behold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his relatives have come to Shechem, and they are stirring up the city against you."³² Now therefore, go by night, you and the people who are with you, and set an ambush in the field.³³ Then in the morning, as soon as the sun is up, rise early and rush upon the city. And when he and the people who are with him come out against you, you may do to them as your hand finds to do."

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**

* Indicates please stand if able.

The Lord Is My Salvation

Verse 1

The grace of God has reached for me
And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on this solid ground
The Lord is my salvation

Verse 2

I will not fear when darkness falls
His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun
The Lord is my salvation

Chorus

***Who is like the Lord our God
Strong to save faithful in love
My debt is paid and the victory won
The Lord is my salvation***

Verse 3

My hope is hidden in the Lord
He flows each promise of His Word
When winter fades I know spring will come
The Lord is my salvation

Verse 4

In times of waiting times of need
When I know loss when I am weak
I know His grace will renew these days
The Lord is my salvation

Chorus

Verse 5

And when I reach the final day
He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise He will call me home
The Lord is my salvation

Chorus

Bridge
Glory be to God the Father
Glory be to God the Son
Glory be to God the Spirit
The Lord is our salvation

Chorus

***Who is like the Lord our God
Strong to save faithful in love
My debt is paid and the victory won
The Lord is my salvation***

Ending
The Lord is our salvation
The Lord is our salvation

Jonas Myrin, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Nathan Nockels
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I Want To Know You

Verse 1
I've tried in vain a thousand ways
My fears to quell my hopes to raise
But what I need your word has said
Is ever only Jesus

Verse 2

* Indicates please stand if able.

You died you live you reign you plead
There's love in all your words and deeds
This weary heart finds all it needs
In ever only Jesus

Chorus

***I want to know you Jesus my Lord
King of the Heavens king of my soul
I trade my treasure and all my rewards
Jesus to know you then know you more***

Verse 3

Though some should curse me for your name
I have no fear I have no shame
You stand with me for all my days
My ever only Jesus

Chorus

Bridge

/Like wave after wave on the ocean
Like all of the sand on the shore
Your beauty and glory are endless
O Jesus I must know you more/

Chorus

Jesus to know you, then know you more.

James Proctor, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson
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As The Deer

As the deer pants for the water
So my soul longs after You

You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You

Chorus:

***You alone are my strength my shield
To You alone may my spirit yield
You alone are my heart's desire
And I long to worship You***

You're my friend
And You are my brother
Even though You are a King
I love You more than any other
So much more than anything

Chorus

I want You more than gold
Or silver
Only You can satisfy
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye

Chorus

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(You may be seated)

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text:

John 3:22-36

Preaching of the Word

Jesus and John the Baptist

* Indicates please stand if able.

Be Thou My Vision

*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:

Deuteronomy 6:4-5 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.⁵ You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Announcements



Special Announcement: Family photographs will begin today May 11th.

If your last name begins with the letters A-C, please see Abigail Weaver to have your family/individual photos taken. Only the family photo will be used for the church directory. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Reedy or Abigail Weaver.

ESL Reminder: Last night for ESL classes and an ESL celebration will be held this Tuesday, May 13th at 6PM. In addition, a teacher/staff meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20th at 6PM. If you would like to volunteer in this ministry for the upcoming calendar year, please see Eric or Anna Coplin.

***Men's Fellowship** will meet this Saturday, May 17th at 8AM. It's not too late to join. They are currently going through "Screwtape Letters" by C.S. Lewis. Please see Pastor Ralph for additional information

***Women's Bible Study** will meet this Saturday, May 17th at 9:30AM immediately following Men's Fellowship. They are studying "Discipline of A Godly Woman" by Barbara Hughes. All Women of Fairfield are encouraged to attend. Please see Linda Bauer for more information.

***All Men and Women Bible studies meet every 1st and 3rd Saturday of each month.**

* Indicates please stand if able.