



# Fairfield Presbyterian Church

PCA

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

# Celebration of Worship

May 25, 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 and everlasting God, who is always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than either we desire, or deserve; Pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy; forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### ***Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down***

Come let us worship and bow down

Let us kneel before the Lord

Our God our Maker

Come let us worship and bow down

Let us kneel before the Lord

Our God our Maker

For He is our God

And we are the people of His pasture

And the sheep of His hand

Just the sheep of His hand

## Call to Worship

**from Psalm 27:1-4**

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**All:**            ***The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?***

Pastor:        When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

**All:**            ***Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.***

Pastor:        One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**All:**            ***...that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.***

## **\*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**

**76**

***Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven***

(from Psalm 103)

## **Public Confession of Sin**

ALL:    Eternal & Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before your Holy Majesty that we are poor, wretched sinners.

We were conceived and born into guilt and corruption, and we are prone to do evil. We transgress, without end, your holy commandments. We have drawn upon ourselves your just sentence of condemnation. But Lord, with deep and heartfelt sorrow, we repent of our offenses. O Lord, have mercy upon us, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Remove our guilt and pollution and grant us the daily

\* Indicates please stand if able.

increase of your blessed Holy Spirit that we may mortify sin and produce the fruits of holiness. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## **Silent Prayer of Confession**

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

*Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ~Isaiah 55:7*

### **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.

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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**

\* Indicates please stand if able.

## Public Reading of Scripture

## Judges 9:46-57

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

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*Scripture Context:*

*Sometimes when God seems absent, He is working behind the scenes to bring about His judgment.*

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When all the leaders of the Tower of Shechem heard of it, they entered the stronghold of the house of El-berith.<sup>47</sup> Abimelech was told that all the leaders of the Tower of Shechem were gathered together.<sup>48</sup> And Abimelech went up to Mount Zalmon, he and all the people who were with him. And Abimelech took an axe in his hand and cut down a bundle of brushwood and took it up and laid it on his shoulder. And he said to the men who were with him, "What you have seen me do, hurry and do as I have done."<sup>49</sup> So every one of the people cut down his bundle and following Abimelech put it against the stronghold, and they set the stronghold on fire over them, so that all the people of the Tower of Shechem also died, about 1,000 men and women.<sup>50</sup> Then Abimelech went to Thebez and encamped against Thebez and captured it.<sup>51</sup> But there was a strong tower within the city, and all the men and women and all the leaders of the city fled to it and shut themselves in, and they went up to the roof of the tower.<sup>52</sup> And Abimelech came to the tower and fought against it and drew near to the door of the tower to burn it with fire.<sup>53</sup> And a certain woman threw an upper millstone on Abimelech's head and crushed his skull.<sup>54</sup> Then he called quickly to the young man his armor-bearer and said to him, "Draw your sword and kill me, lest they say of me, 'A woman killed him.'" And his young man thrust him through, and he died.<sup>55</sup> And when the men of Israel saw that Abimelech was dead, everyone departed to his home.<sup>56</sup> Thus God returned the evil of Abimelech, which he committed against his father in killing his seventy brothers.<sup>57</sup> And God also made all the evil of the men of Shechem return on their heads, and upon them came the curse of Jotham the son of Jerubbaal.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord!

\* Indicates please stand if able.

**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**

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**

#### **How Deep The Father's Love For Us**

##### **Verse 1**

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

##### **Verse 2**

Behold the Man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

##### **Verse 3**

\* Indicates please stand if able.

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no power no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

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### ***His Glory And My Good***

#### Verse 1

I have seen my Father's glory  
Revealed in Jesus Christ  
And the more that I behold Him  
The more He satisfies  
When I gaze upon His beauty  
When I see Him as I should  
Then my eyes are lifted upward  
For His glory and my good

#### Verse 2

There is hope in every trial  
For I can trust the Lord  
He will turn my heart towards Him  
And help me bear the thorn  
So in faith I follow Jesus  
On the road not understood  
For I know that He is working  
For His glory and my good

#### **Chorus**

**To our God be the glory  
To our God be praise  
He alone the name above all names  
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God  
For I know His glory is my good**

Verse 3

See the open arms of Jesus  
Upon the cross that day  
What they understood as weakness  
Deserves my every praise  
For the charge that was against me  
It was nailed into the wood  
Yes I know that He has saved me  
For His glory and my good

**Chorus**

*Instrumental*

Verse 4

Would I gladly be made nothing  
That Christ would be made more  
Would I seek the only kingdom  
That far outweighs them all  
I will stand before my Father  
Where the faithful saints have stood  
/ And with joy my heart shall praise Him  
For His glory and my good /

**Chorus**

**/To our God be the glory  
To our God be praise  
He alone the name above all names  
I will boast ever only in the Lord my God**



**For I know His glory is my good /**

**Yes I know His glory is my good**

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## **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

### **Scripture Reading & Prayer of Illumination**

**Sermon Text:** **John 4:21-26**

### **Preaching of the Word**

*Seeking True Worshipers*

**\*Closing Hymn**

**44**

*How Great Thou Art*

### **\*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:**

**Philippians 4:8** Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

## **Announcements**

- ❖ ***Parents...please make sure you are cleaning up after your children when they eat in the Ladies Sunday School Classroom.***
- ❖ ***There is a VBS Craft Training meeting for Monday, May 26 at 10 AM. Teachers are encouraged to attend.***
- ❖ ***Photographs for the church directory are currently in the process. If your last name begins with letters D-G, please see Abigail Weaver to have your picture taken.***
- ❖ ***Join us! Our monthly Hymn Sing is scheduled for tonight, Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We hope you can attend a time of worship through song.***
- ❖ ***Join us! Next Sunday, June 1 as we celebrate Communion and our monthly Potluck Fellowship Meal. Bring a tasty dish to share.***