



Fairfield Presbyterian Church

PCA

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

Celebration of Worship

May 4, 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 God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Call to Worship

from Psalm 98

Pastor: Oh, sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

People: *His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.*

Pastor: The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

People: *He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.*

Pastor: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People: *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!*

***Invocation and Adoration**

***Worship in Song**

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Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord
(from Psalm 98, ARP Psalter)

Public Confession of Sin

All: We confess to you, Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that we have so often forgotten your precepts. We have neglected your Word and your commands. We have decided for ourselves what we want to do rather than what you want us to do. We have not been attentive to your Word when it is read and preached. When we hear it, too often it does not reach our hearts. We are truly sorry for our ways. Make us truly contrite and give us grace to amend our ways. Grant us a delight in hearing and doing your Word, and let us do it for your Glory. We ask all this in the name of the Living Word, Christ our Savior. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Comfort and Assurance of the Gospel

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. ~ Psalm 130:7

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

* 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

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 9:7-21

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

Scripture Context:

Jotham speaks a parable to the leaders of Shechem and warns them of their treachery

When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on top of Mount Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, "Listen to me, you leaders of Shechem, that God may listen to you."⁸ The trees once went out to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, 'Reign over us.'⁹ But the olive tree said to them, 'Shall I leave my abundance, by which gods and men are honored, and go hold sway over the trees?'¹⁰ And the trees said to the fig tree, 'You come and reign over us.'¹¹ But the fig tree said to them, 'Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit and go hold sway over the trees?'¹² And the trees said to the vine, 'You come and reign over us.'¹³ But the vine said to them, 'Shall I leave my wine that cheers God and men and go hold sway over the trees?'¹⁴ Then all the trees said to the bramble, 'You come and reign over us.'¹⁵ And the bramble said

* Indicates please stand if able.

to the trees, 'If in good faith you are anointing me king over you, then come and take refuge in my shade, but if not, let fire come out of the bramble and devour the cedars of Lebanon.' ¹⁶ "Now therefore, if you acted in good faith and integrity when you made Abimelech king, and if you have dealt well with Jerubbaal and his house and have done to him as his deeds deserved- ¹⁷ for my father fought for you and risked his life and delivered you from the hand of Midian, ¹⁸ and you have risen up against my father's house this day and have killed his sons, seventy men on one stone, and have made Abimelech, the son of his female servant, king over the leaders of Shechem, because he is your relative- ¹⁹ if you then have acted in good faith and integrity with Jerubbaal and with his house this day, then rejoice in Abimelech, and let him also rejoice in you. ²⁰ But if not, let fire come out from Abimelech and devour the leaders of Shechem and Beth-millo; and let fire come out from the leaders of Shechem and from Beth-millo and devour Abimelech." ²¹ And Jotham ran away and fled and went to Beer and lived there, because of Abimelech his brother.

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**

Here is Love

Verse 1

Here is love, vast as the ocean, Lovingkindness as the flood,
When the Prince of Life, our Ransom,
Shed for us His precious blood.
Who His love will not remember?
Who can cease to sing His praise?
He can never be forgotten, Throughout Heav'n's eternal days.

Verse 2

On the mount of crucifixion, Fountains opened deep and wide;
Through the floodgates of God's mercy
Flowed a vast and gracious tide.
Grace and love, like mighty rivers, Poured incessant from above,
And Heav'n's peace and perfect justice
Kissed a guilty world in love.

Verse 3

Let me all Thy love accepting, Love Thee, ever all my days;
Let me seek Thy kingdom only And my life be to Thy praise;
Thou alone shalt be my glory, Nothing in the world I see.
Thou hast cleansed and sanctified me,
Thou Thyself hast set me free.

Verse 4

In Thy truth Thou dost direct me By Thy Spirit through Thy Word;
And Thy grace my need is meeting, As I trust in Thee, my Lord.
Of Thy fullness Thou art pouring Thy great love and power on me,
Without measure, full and boundless,
Drawing out my heart to Thee.

Jesus Messiah

Verse 1

* Indicates please stand if able.

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

***Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all***

Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

Bridge

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world

Chorus

Jesus Messiah
Lord of all

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PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading & Prayer of Illumination

Sermon Text:

John 3:16

Preaching of the Word

For God So Loved

***Hymn of Response and Preparation**

We Will Feast In The House Of Zion

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

He has done great things we will say together

We will feast and weep no more

Verse 1

We will not be burned by the fire

He is the Lord our God

We are not consumed by the flood

Upheld protected gathered up

Chorus

Verse 2

In the dark of night before the dawn

My soul be not afraid

For the promised morning oh how long

Oh God of Jacob be my strength

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

* Indicates please stand if able.

***He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more***

Verse 3

Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom

Chorus

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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 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

PLEASE NOTE: The cups in the outer ring contain wine; all other cups inside contain grape juice.

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Closing Hymn

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Spirit of the Living God

*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:

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,

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.

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

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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.

Announcements

- ❖ **Join us** today for our Potluck Fellowship Meal following Worship Service. *All are welcome and encouraged to attend!*
- ❖ **VBS training is scheduled** for Monday, May 5th, at 6 PM. *This session is geared for teachers and classroom helpers but are open to anyone who is interested. For more information, contact Linda Bauer*
- ❖ **Special Announcement:** Family photographs will be taken throughout the months of May and June on Sundays. E-mails will be sent out scheduling families alphabetically. Please look for your last name and the Sunday you will be photographed. We hope to have photos ready for the new directory scheduled to go out July 2025. See Debbie Reedy or Abigail Weaver for questions.