

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 2, 2025 at 10 am

"The Father gave me these works to accomplish, and they prove that he sent me." (John 5:36)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

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"OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART, LORD"

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord;
Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You; I want to see You.

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord;
Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You; I want to see You.

To see You high and lifted up,
Shinin' in the light of Your glory.
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy:

Holy, holy, holy;
We cry holy, holy, holy.
You are holy, holy, holy,
I want to see you.

*"Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord," by Paul Baloche
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CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

We come to you, O God, to thank you for what is good.

We come to you, O God,
to confess and cry out against that which is wrong.

We come to you, O God, to ask for help and restoration.

We come to you, O God, with aching hearts and glad souls.

We come to you, O God, to worship you
for who you are, for what you do, for our eternal life in you.

Let's worship our God who loves us and cares for us,
and who renews us into the image of Christ.

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 HYMN #476: *O WORSHIP THE KING* (verses 1–2, 4–5)

O worship the King, all glorious above!
 O gratefully sing God's power and God's love;
 Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
 Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace,
 Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
 His chariots of heaven the deep thunderclouds form,
 And bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
 It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
 And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
 In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
 Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
 Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.

 READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

 Sermon: *"Two Signs—and What They Mean"*

John 5:19–47

So Jesus explained, "I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing. Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. ²⁰ For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing. In fact, the Father will show him how to do even greater works than healing this man. Then you will truly be astonished. ²¹ For just as the Father gives life to those he raises from the dead, so the Son gives life to anyone he wants. ²² In addition, the Father judges no one. Instead, he has given the Son absolute authority to judge, ²³ so that everyone will honor the Son, just as they honor the Father. Anyone who does not honor the Son is certainly not honoring the Father who sent him.

²⁴ "I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

²⁵ "And I assure you that the time is coming, indeed it's here now, when the dead will hear my voice—the voice of the Son of God. And those who listen will live. ²⁶ The Father has life in himself, and he has granted that same life-giving power to his Son. ²⁷ And he has given him authority to judge everyone because he is the Son of Man. ²⁸ Don't be so surprised! Indeed, the time is coming when all the dead in their graves will hear the voice of God's Son, ²⁹ and they will rise again. Those who have done good will rise to experience eternal life, and those who have continued in evil will rise to experience judgment. ³⁰ I can do nothing on my own. I judge as God tells

me. Therefore, my judgment is just, because I carry out the will of the one who sent me, not my own will.

³¹ "If I were to testify on my own behalf, my testimony would not be valid. ³² But someone else is also testifying about me, and I assure you that everything he says about me is true. ³³ In fact, you sent investigators to listen to John the Baptist, and his testimony about me was true. ³⁴ Of course, I have no need of human witnesses, but I say these things so you might be saved. ³⁵ John was like a burning and shining lamp, and you were excited for a while about his message. ³⁶ But I have a greater witness than John—my teachings and my miracles. The Father gave me these works to accomplish, and they prove that he sent me. ³⁷ And the Father who sent me has testified about me himself. You have never heard his voice or seen him face to face, ³⁸ and you do not have his message in your hearts, because you do not believe me—the one he sent to you.

³⁹ "You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me! ⁴⁰ Yet you refuse to come to me to receive this life.

⁴¹ "Your approval means nothing to me, ⁴² because I know you don't have God's love within you. ⁴³ For I have come to you in my Father's name, and you have rejected me. Yet if others come in their own name, you gladly welcome them. ⁴⁴ No wonder you can't believe! For you gladly honor each other, but you don't care about the honor that comes from the one who alone is God.

⁴⁵ "Yet it isn't I who will accuse you before the Father. Moses will accuse you! Yes, Moses, in whom you put your hopes. ⁴⁶ If you really believed Moses, you would believe me, because he wrote about me. ⁴⁷ But since you don't believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support our deacons' provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.

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HYMN #101: *WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS*

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
 That were a present far too small;
 Love so amazing, so divine,
 Demands my soul, my life, my all.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Our practice is to eat the bread individually as it is distributed,
 and to hold onto the cup until all have received it, and then partake of it in unison.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Passing the Peace: "May the peace of Christ be with you"

Communion

The 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,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
 he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven, and sits on 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.*

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HOLY, MIGHTY, WORTHY

Holy, holy, holy.
 Seraph choirs extol Thee;
 Bending wings they humbly sing of Thy lofty majesty.
 Thou alone art holy;
 Who on earth is like Thee,
 Grant that we like Thee may be:
 holy, holy, holy.

Mighty, mighty, mighty.
 Sun and stars declare Thee;
 All creation joins to sing of Thy pow'r and deity.
 Thou alone art mighty;
 Naught was made without Thee,
 Grant that we Thy pow'r may see:
 Mighty, mighty, mighty.

Worthy, worthy, worthy.
Saints in heav'n exalt Thee;
Lamb once slain now raised to reign,
Savior Judge and conq-ring King.
Thou alone art worthy;
All was made to please Thee;
Grant that we in heav'n may sing:
Worthy, worthy, worthy.

Glory, glory, glory.
We Thy church adore Thee.
Called by grace to bring Thee praise,
Trophies of Thy pow'r to save.
None shall share Thy glory;
All shall bow before Thee;
Father Son and Spirit One:
Glory, glory, glory.

"Holy, Mighty, Worthy" by Chris Anderson and Greg Habegger
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

- TODAY Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- Tuesday, Mar. 4 Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Worship at Channel Point (10:30)
- Wednesday, Mar. 5 Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Ash Wednesday Service (Fellowship Meal at 6:00; Service at 6:30)
- Sunday, Mar. 9 Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor)
Potluck (after the service)
- LOOKING AHEAD March 12 – April 9: Lenten Study—*Friendly Faith*
Coffee and Study (1:00 pm)
Soup and Study (6:00 pm)
- Saturday, March 29: Feast for All (5:00–7:00)
- March 30: Church Membership Information Meeting (after church)

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