

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 24, 2024 at 10 am

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.*

Our God is a God who saves! (Psalms 7:17; 68:20)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #555: *NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD*

Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom this world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God,
Who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son
And Spirit now be given.
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
The God who was, and is,
And shall be evermore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Sing to the LORD, All God's people!
Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.
Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.
Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

Great is the LORD! He is most worthy of praise!
He is to be feared above all gods.
The gods of other nations are mere idols,
but the LORD made the heavens!
Honor and majesty surround him;
strength and joy fill his dwelling.

O nations of the world,
O church of Christ,
O all those who follow Jesus,
recognize the LORD,
recognize that the LORD is glorious and strong.
Give to the LORD the glory he deserves!
Bring your offering and come into his presence.

Worship the LORD in all his holy splendor.
Let all the earth tremble before him.
The world stands firm and cannot be shaken.
Let the heavens be glad, and the earth rejoice!
Tell all the nations, "The LORD reigns!"

Let the sea and everything in it shout his praise!
Let the fields and their crops burst out with joy!
Let the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD,
for he is coming to bring justice and restoration to all the earth.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!
His faithful love endures forever.

Save us, O God of our salvation!
We praise you, LORD, you who live from everlasting to everlasting!
Amen.

Based on 1 Chronicles 16:23-36.

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HYMN #555: *WE GATHER TOGETHER*

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing,
Sing praises to His name; He forgets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our defender will be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *AND* ASSURANCE OF PARDON (unison)

Gracious and Loving God,
you have given us so much,
but too often we take those gifts for granted,
as something to which we are entitled.

We take for granted that you will answer our prayers,
that you will heal us and make us whole.

We take for granted that you love us.
We too easily think and talk about salvation—
our relationship with you—
as if we deserve it,

forgetting that it flows out of your amazing grace.

You call us to live in caring community,
but too often we place our wants and needs first,
with those of others a distant second.

You call us to share Your gifts with the world around us,
but we worry that there may not be enough,
and our worry gets in the way of our sharing.

For all the times we mistreat and misuse your gifts, Lord,
for all the times we assume that we get what we have on our own,
forgive us and lead us back to your grace, your will, your calling,
to hearts that are genuinely thankful, to hearts full of praise.
We want you to be the king of our lives.

After corporate prayer we will have a few moments of silence for personal confession.

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HYMN #280: *AMAZING GRACE*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.

READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: "Giving Thanks to God for Our Salvation"

Ephesians 1:3-14

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

⁹ God has now revealed to us his mysterious will regarding Christ—which is to fulfill his own good plan. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. ¹¹ Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.

¹² God's purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God. ¹³ And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. ¹⁴ The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

찬송하리로다! 하나님 곧 우리 주 예수 그리스도의 아버지께서 그리스도 안에서 하늘에 속한 모든 신령한 복으로 우리에게 복 주시되 4 곧 창세 전에 그리스도 안에서 우리를 택하사 우리로 사랑 안에서 그 앞에 거룩하고 흠이 없게 하시려고 5 그 기쁘신 뜻대로 우리를 예정하사 예수 그리스도로 말미암아 자기의 아들들이 되게 하셨으니 6 이는 그의 사랑하시는 자 안에서 우리에게 거저 주시는 바 그의 은혜의 영광을 찬미하게 하려는 것이라 7 우리가 그리스도 안에서 그의 은혜의 풍성함을 따라 그의 피로 말미암아 구속 곧 죄 사함을 받았으니 8 이는 그가 모든 지혜와 총명으로 우리에게 넘치게 하사 9 그 뜻의 비밀을 우리에게 알리셨으니 곧 그 기쁘심을 따라 그리스도 안에서 때가 찬 경륜(經綸)을 위하여 예정하신 것이니 10 하늘에 있는 것이나 땅에 있는 것이 다 그리스도 안에서 통일되게 하려 하심이라 11 모든 일을 그 마음의 원대로 역사하시는 자의 뜻을 따라 우리가 예정을 입어 그 안에서 기업이 되었으니 12 이는 그리스도 안에서 전부터 바라던 우리로 그의 영광의 찬송이 되게 하려 하심이라 13 그 안에서 너희도 진리의 말씀 곧 너희의 구원의 복음을 듣고 그 안에서 또한 믿어 약속의 성령으로 인치심을 받았으니 14 이는 우리의 기업에 보증이 되사 그 얻으신 것을 구속하시고 그의 영광을 찬미하게 하려 하심이라

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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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 Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *AND* THE LORD'S PRAYER

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HYMN #155: *REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING*

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
And triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail,
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope!
For Christ the Judge shall come
To glorify the saints
For their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Choir Practice (9:00 in the parlor) Joint Three-Church Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary) Thanksgiving Potluck (after the service)
Tuesday, Nov 26	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Wednesday, Nov 27	Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
Sunday, Dec 1	<i>First Sunday of Advent</i> Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor) Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary) Caring Hearts (after the service in the parlor)
LOOKING AHEAD	December 2–7: Greening the Sanctuary December 7: Christmas Open House (6:30 pm) December 14: Creation Station—our crafting group (11:00 – 1:00)

Have you been thinking about the Black Friday sales, and looking for a reason to upgrade to a bigger TV? If so, we'd like to give you the excuse! The church's current TVs are small, and/or unable to connect to modern technology—and we could use replacements in a few places. So . . . if you have a **working flat-screen TV** you are replacing, please talk to Chuck about the possibility that we could use it. Thanks!

Our deacons are here to help! The "Helping Hands" ministry is available for church members and attenders who run into problems—around the house, or even with transportation needs. Brian Krohn is the contact person for Helping Hands; his number is 360-580-1683.

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Office Hours: 10 am – 2 pm (Monday, Wednesday – Friday)

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