

# THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 22, 2023



*Photography by Trina Holt*

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
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# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Please join in reading  
aloud those parts of  
the service printed  
in **bold**.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us now prepare our hearts to worship God.

## MUSIC FOR PREPARATION

We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- from *Psalms* 67

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

**for you judge the peoples with equity**

**and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

**let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has yielded its increase;

**God, our God, has blessed us.**

May God continue to bless us;

**let all the ends of the earth revere him.**

*When this symbol (\*)  
precedes an element  
of the service, please  
rise in body or spirit.*

## \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN – NO. 327

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

## \*CALL TO CONFESSION

*We lay before God  
our own sins,  
the sins and  
brokenness of our  
fellow worshipers,  
the church universal,  
and the world.*

## \*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we equate our judgment with your judgment,  
and often consider our ways to be your ways.

We define peace as the absence of disruption,

holding our comfort as your aim

and thinking our preferences reflect your way.

Too often we act as if we are your authoritative witnesses,

believing our worldview corresponds with your vision,

and that our narrative contains your hope for the future.

O God, dislodge us from our sinful assumptions.

Forgive our selfish views.

Correct us with your truth and teach us by your Spirit.

## \*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT



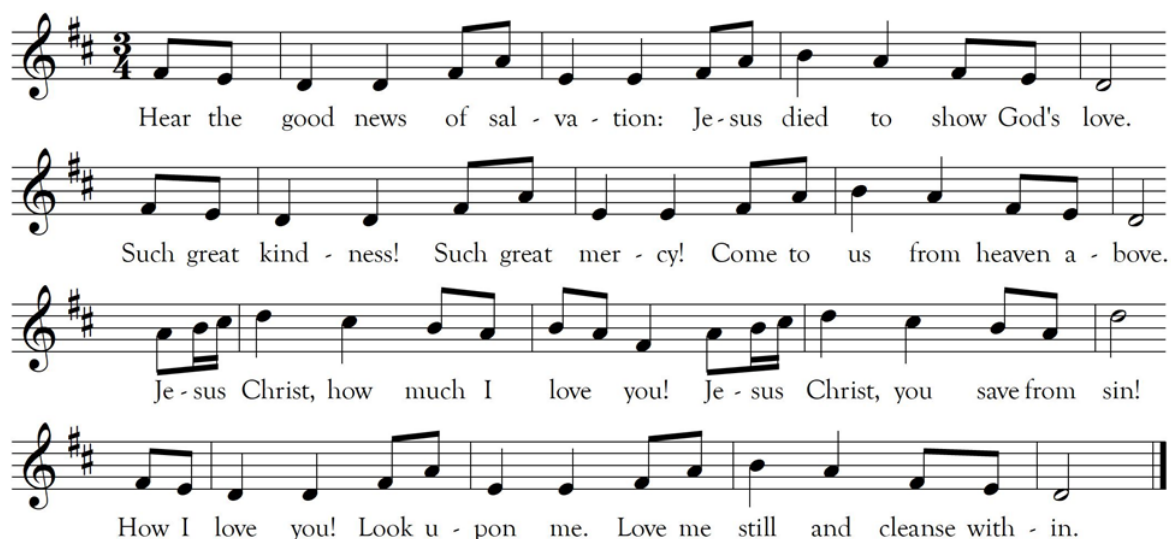
Forgive Our Sins, as found at Hymn No. 444  
in Glory to God hymnal.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Hear the Good News of Salvation

NETTLETON



Hear the Good News as found at Hymn No. 441 in  
Glory to God hymnal.

**\*PASSING THE PEACE, LOVE, AND JOY OF CHRIST TO OTHERS**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

**LISTENING FOR THE WORD**

**STORY TELLING**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING:** Genesis 1:1-15 and Genesis 2:4b-8

Large Print Pew Bible, page 1 and 2  
Pew Bible, page 1 and 2

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*The astoundingly good news of our reconciliation to God through Jesus Christ frees our tongues to sing mighty praise to God.*

*We exchange reconciling words and gestures among the people of God.*

*We listen for what God is saying to God's people through scripture, song, and sermon.*

## ANTHEM

I Will Sing with the Spirit

John Rutter (b. 1945)

*Chancel Choir*

I will sing with the spirit, alleluia.

And I will sing with the understanding also: alleluia.

*-I Corinthians 14:15*

**GOSPEL READING:** John 14:15-27

*Large Print Pew Bible, page 133*

*Pew Bible, page 109*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** New Year – New Beginnings: Holy Spirit

Dr. Stewart Rawson

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE – NO. 279**

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

ST. AGNES

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*- from A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

and binds us together with all believers

in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

engages us through the Word proclaimed,

claims us in the waters of baptism,

feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,

and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Our response to  
hearing God's  
Word includes  
singing and saying  
what we believe.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

### MUSIC AT THE OFFERTORY

Come, Gracious Spirit

Alfred V. Fedak (b. 1953)

*Chancel Choir*

Come, Gracious Spirit, heavenly Dove, with light and comfort from above;  
be thou our guardian, thou our guide o'er every thought and step preside.  
The light of truth to us display, and make us know and choose thy way;  
plant holy fear in every heart, that we from thee may ne'er depart.  
Lead us to Christ, the living way, nor let us from his pastures stray;  
lead us to holiness, the road that we must take to dwell with God.  
Lead us to heaven, that we may share fullness of joy for ever there;  
lead us to God, our final rest, to be with him for ever blest.

*-Simon Browne, 1720*

### \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be - low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be -  
low; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly  
host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*God blesses and  
sends us in  
mission to the  
world.*

## BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### \*RECESSIONAL HYMN – NO. 296

Go in Grace and Make Disciples

WONDROUS LIGHT

### VOLUNTARY

Toccata in e minor

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*Stewart Rawson, D. Min., Transitional Pastor*

*Taylor Barner, M. Div., Associate Pastor for Student and Family Ministries*

*J. Patrick Murphy, M. Mus., Organist-Choirmaster*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME** is extended to all who worship with us. We hope in this service you will encounter the living Christ and experience the warmth of our caring family of faith. Childcare of infant through Pre-K is provided for parents/guardians who prefer that resource. If you are not receiving the weekly e-newsletter, please feel free to pick up a copy today in the narthex and then contact the church office to be added to the weekly email list. If you are visiting with us and in search of a church home, we invite you to become a part of our church family here at First Presbyterian Church. Please let us know of your interest by way of the friendship register or by speaking to a minister.

**MUSIC NOTES:** Music texts and impressions, along with streaming music, are provided with permission from One License, License #A-715495. All rights reserved.

**LIVE VIDEO STREAMING SERVICE:** **Boxcast** will stream to our website and Facebook page each Sunday morning. Click here to view: [on our website](#) and on [the FPC Facebook page](#).

**LARGE PRINT HYMNS:** Copies of today's hymns are available in the Narthex.

**PASTORAL CARE INFORMATION:** If you have a personal emergency, hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call the church office. If it is after office hours or on the weekend, you may call the minister on call: 1/20-1/22 Stewart Rawson (803-348-6143).

**WORSHIPPING TOGETHER:** Each Sunday through Labor Day, 2023, one worship service will be offered each week. The service will take place at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, and will be live streamed and phone streamed.

**THE FURNITURE MINISTRY** Our next workday is planned for Saturday, February 11, 2023. All volunteers are welcome at 9:00 a.m. at the Garrison Joyner Activities Building.

**NEW YEAR – NEW BEGINNINGS**, the sermon series continuing through February 26, will focus on themes of God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Listening, Personal Concern, Intercession, The World, and Love. Join us at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday to hear and experience the marvelous works God has in store for us in the new year. Next Sunday, worship will be led by Rev. Carrie Tuttle with the focus towards Listening.

**OUR MISSION EMPHASIS** for January is the Positive Attitude Youth Center (PAYC). PAYC strives to provide the youth of the community with a safe, positive, and social learning environment where they have the opportunity to mature physically, spiritually, and emotionally.

Programs include after-school, tutoring, recreation and family events. The children have the opportunity to participate in a summer program which includes sports, music, Bible study, and field trips. Parents who can attend life skills classes throughout the year. See the weekly e-blast for more information. Please keep PAYC in your prayers.

**EXPLORE FPC LUNCH:** All visitors are invited to join the FPC staff on **Sunday, February 5 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Witherspoon Room to learn more about FPC. Many of you have been worshipping with us by livestreaming and we would love the opportunity to see you in person. Lunch will be served. Please call the church office to register: 336-228-1703.

### **SOULCOLLAGE® WORKSHOP Sunday, February 5 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Shive Hall**

At the start of a new year, we think of New Beginnings. How does "new" continue to show up for us throughout the year? What does the threshold of "new" require of us? Join us in SoulCollage® to play, relax and explore with images as we listen to the longings in our inner soul. No artistic experience or talent is needed. We will have scissors, glue, and lots of pictures. You need to bring your wonder, awe and curiosity. Take some time to nurture your soul. Bring an open heart and join in. As we seek to follow Jesus, it is important to listen to the guidance of the Spirit working within. There are many ways to listen, but come and explore another possibility for spiritual practice.

**JOIN THE POETRY CLASS**, led by Dr. Harry Brown, today at 11:00 a.m. in Room 201 to read and discuss Selected Poems by Fred Chappell.

**JOHN KNOX FELLOWSHIP "PSALMS FOR THE SEASON" CLASS LED BY DR. JIM PACE** begins at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 29, 2023. The Sundays in January fall within the church season of Epiphany, the season that celebrates the manifestation of Christ to the world. This series will be a study of the particular Psalms designated to be read during the Epiphany season by the church lectionary. We will analyze the Psalm assigned for each Sunday in February in light of its historical, literary, and theological characteristics and reflect upon how these Psalms might be related to the revelation of Christ to the world.

### **ENRICHMENT CLASS—Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in Room 228**

Jane Wellford will be teaching the Enrichment Class on Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45 a.m. through February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. We will be studying **The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life by Adam Hamilton**. Six sessions: 1. *Worship & Prayer: A Living Hallelujah*, 2. *Study: The Importance of Listening & Paying Attention*, 3. *Serve: Here I am, Lord, Send Me*, 4. *Give: Where Your Treasure Is*, 5. *Share: Going Fishing, Reflecting Light*, and 6. *The Five Practices from the Cross*. The class will meet in Room 228 at the church, second floor, and anyone is welcomed to attend. The class will also be recorded live on Zoom for those unable to be physically present.

### **MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE:**

#### **The American Red Cross is planning to hold a blood drive on February 28, 2023 in Shive Hall**

The American Red Cross is planning to hold the First Presbyterian Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 in Shive Hall from 2:00-6:30 p.m.. The blood drive is done in memory of Harold Lloyd, who organized a number of blood drives at FPC, and Barbara Lloyd, who was a faithful Red Cross volunteer for many years.

Donor registration is now available. To schedule an appointment go to [redcross.org](https://redcross.org) and use the sponsor code **FPC**. If you need assistance or information you may contact Lucy Kernodle, Site Coordinator, at [lkernodle@bellsouth.net](mailto:lkernodle@bellsouth.net). Please schedule your appointment as soon as possible so you will get the time you want! The site, [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) also gives information about guidelines about who may donate blood and what to expect as a blood donor.

Also, Presbyterian Women who would like to volunteer to work at the drive or donate food for the canteen please notify your circle chairman at your January Circle Meeting or contact Lucy Kernodle at [lkernodle@bellsouth.net](mailto:lkernodle@bellsouth.net)  
Thank you!

### **LUNCH WITH THE PROGRAM STAFF AT THE VILLAGE OF BROOKWOOD AND TWIN LAKES—SAVE THE DATE:**

The program staff looks forward to joining our FPC residents for lunch. Invitations will be coming soon (and important RSVP details!), but make sure you have these on your calendars.

The Village of Brookwood—Thursday, February 2 at 12:00 noon  
Twin Lakes—Thursday, February 9 at 12:00 noon

We hope to see you on these dates and will have time for fellowship and to tell you more about what is happening in the life of First Presbyterian.

### **CALENDAR**

#### **Sunday, January 22**

8:45 a.m. Confirmation Class — Room 403  
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children, Youth and Adults  
9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 a.m. Worship Service — Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Poetry Class with Harry Brown — Room 201  
5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group  
5:30 p.m. Diaconate Meeting — John Knox Room  
6:00 p.m. Youth Supper  
6:45 p.m. High School Youth Group  
7:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting — Witherspoon Room

#### **Tuesday, January 24**

6:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study — Witherspoon Room  
7:00 a.m. High School Dough Devotions — *The Park*  
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting — Room 203  
7:00 p.m. BSA Troop 17 — Garrison Joyner Activities Building

#### **Wednesday, January 25**

10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Bible Study — Witherspoon Room and Zoom  
2:00 p.m. PW Team Planning Meeting — Witherspoon Room  
6:00 p.m. TableTop Youth Gathering  
6:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, January 26**

6:45 a.m. Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study — Witherspoon Room  
10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathers — Room 201  
4:00 p.m. Coffee Club for Youth — The Blend