

Order of Worship

March 23, 2025

Third Sunday in Lent



Prelude

Elegy, Ritter

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Psalm 63

One: O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;

All: My flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

One: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

All: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. I will bless you as long as I live.

Hymn No. 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have been quick to judge others and slow to make changes in our own lives. We have focused on others' shortcomings instead reforming our own. Turn us, O Lord, from these ways that lead to distancing ourselves from one another and from You. Lead us, O Lord, to abundant life in Jesus' name, Amen.

Moment for Silent Confession

Kyrie No. 423, verse 1

Create in me a clean heart O God, Create in me a clean heart O God, Create in me a clean heart O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Gloria No. 423, verse 3

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, Restore to me the joy of your salvation, Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 63

Special Music

(11:00 a.m.)

Word to Grow By

(11:00 a.m.)

Second Reading

Isaiah 55:1-9

Sermon

So That We May Live, Rev. Dr. Kathy Wolf Reed

Hymn No. 694

Great God of Every Blessing (11:00 a.m.)

Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

from the *Confession of 1967*

The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

The new life does not release people from conflict with unbelief, pride, lust, and fear. They still have to struggle with disheartening difficulties and problems. Nevertheless, as they mature in love and faithfulness in their life with Christ, they live in freedom and good cheer, bearing witness on good days and evil days, confident that the new life is pleasing to God and helpful to others.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal p. 35

Offertory

Adagio Cantabile, arr. Broughton (11:00 a.m.)

Doxology No. 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Communion

(9:00 a.m.)

Hymn No. 435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Benediction

Postlude

Open the Eyes of My Heart, Baloché

Liturgist: Karen Herring

Bulletin Art: Lisle Gwynn Garrity -

In this image, I wanted to convey an abstract figure tugged by the tension of light and dark. The figure simultaneously emerges from the darkness of death and also appears to be sailing into light. God's presence is no longer physically embodied, but released, unbound. God unbound means even the faces of strangers hold the image of the divine.

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church, Auburn

New to the Presbyterian Church USA? We would love to share with you more about our Reformed tradition of theology and worship.

New to Auburn, or simply new to this congregation? We'd love to share with you more about the rich history of this church and its valuable contributions to the Auburn community.

Searching for a church home? We would love to join you in that search and help discern whether First Presbyterian may be where God is calling you to be nurtured, inspired, and empowered.

Please take a moment to fill out our [online Friendship Register](#) or you may contact either of us directly.

Revs. Nick and Kathy Reed, Co-Pastors