

# *Worship at First Presbyterian Church*

*Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 10 am*

*"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again.  
Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #398: *THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT*

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There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

*Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.  
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,  
When we shall leave this place.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION

CHOIR: *PANIS ANGELICUS*

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*The bread of angels  
becomes the bread of mortals;  
the bread of heaven  
puts an end to symbols.  
O wondrous thing!  
The body of the Lord will nourish  
the poor, the poor,  
the slave and the humble.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

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Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD from the heavens!  
Praise him from the skies!

Praise him, all his angels!  
Praise him, all the armies of heaven!  
Praise him, sun and moon!  
Praise him, all you twinkling stars!

Praise him, skies above!  
Praise him, vapors high above the clouds!  
Let every created thing give praise to the LORD,  
for he issued his command, and they came into being.

Praise the LORD from the earth,  
 you creatures of the ocean depths,  
**fire and hail, snow and clouds,**  
 wind and weather that obey him,  
 mountains and all hills,  
 fruit trees and all cedars,  
 wild animals and all livestock,  
 small scurrying animals and birds.

Praise the LORD kings of the earth and all people,  
 rulers and judges of the earth,  
 young men and young women,  
 older women and older men—and children, too.

Let us all praise the name of the LORD.  
 For his name is very great;  
 his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

*Based on Psalm 148.*

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HYMN #478: *PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN*

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven;  
 To His feet thy tribute bring;  
 Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
 Evermore His praises sing:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor  
 To His people in distress;  
 Praise Him still the same as ever,  
 Slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Glorious in His faithfulness.

Fatherlike He tends and spares us;  
 Well our feeble frame He knows;  
 In His hands He gently bears us,  
 Rescues us from all our foes.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Widely yet His mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore Him:  
 Ye behold Him face to face;  
 Sun and moon, bow down before Him,  
 Dwellers all in time and space.  
 Alleluia! Alleluia!  
 Praise with us the God of grace.

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

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Our Father in Heaven,

We come to you as people  
 who have too readily absorbed the cultural norms  
 that we are all basically good,  
 that sin is little more than error of judgment,  
 that self-**fulfillment should be our goal.**

Help us to see sin as you see it—  
 as a violation of your holiness,  
 as rebellion against your will,  
 as a failure to be what you created us to be.

With Paul we acknowledge  
 that we all have sinned,  
 we all fall short of your glory.

Forgive us Lord;  
 In your mercy and compassion  
 wash us, cleanse us, blot out the stain of our sin.

In this Lenten season, transform us into the image of your son,  
 Help us to be holy as you are holy;  
 Renew a loyal and obedient spirit within us.

Now hear our personal and silent confessions of sin . . . .

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 READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD
 

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Sermon: *"Free Food, a Terrifying Storm, and the Bread of Life"*

John 6:1–21

After this, Jesus crossed over to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, also known as the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A huge crowd kept following him wherever he went, because they saw his miraculous signs as he healed the sick. <sup>3</sup> Then Jesus climbed a hill and sat down with his disciples around him. <sup>4</sup> (It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration.) <sup>5</sup> Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?" <sup>6</sup> He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.

<sup>7</sup> Philip replied, "Even if we worked for months, we wouldn't have enough money to feed them!"

<sup>8</sup> Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. <sup>9</sup> "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?"

<sup>10</sup> "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup> After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, "Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted." <sup>13</sup> So they

picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.

<sup>14</sup> When the people saw him do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, "Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!" <sup>15</sup> When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself.

<sup>16</sup> That evening Jesus' disciples went down to the shore to wait for him. <sup>17</sup> But as darkness fell and Jesus still hadn't come back, they got into the boat and headed across the lake toward Capernaum. <sup>18</sup> Soon a gale swept down upon them, and the sea grew very rough. <sup>19</sup> They had rowed three or four miles when suddenly they saw Jesus walking on the water toward the boat. They were terrified, <sup>20</sup> but he called out to them, "Don't be afraid. I am here!" <sup>21</sup> Then they were eager to let him in the boat, and immediately they arrived at their destination!

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## RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

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*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

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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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### JESUS, ALL FOR JESUS

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Jesus, all for Jesus,  
 All I am, and have, and ever hope to be;  
 Jesus, all for Jesus,  
 All I am, and have, and ever hope to be.

All of my ambitions, hopes, and plans,  
 I surrender these into Your hands;  
 All of my ambitions, hopes, and plans,  
 I surrender these into Your hands.

*For it's only in Your will that I am free;  
 For it's only in Your will that I am free.*

(x2)

Jesus, all for Jesus,  
 All I am, and have, and ever hope to be.

"Jesus, All for Jesus" by Jennifer Atkinson and Robin Mark.  
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### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

## CALENDAR

TODAY	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary) Potluck (after the service)
Tuesday, Mar. 11	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Wednesday, Mar. 12	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30) Lenten Study: <i>Friendly Faith</i> Coffee and Study (1:00 pm) Soup and Study (6:00 pm)
Thursday, Mar. 13	Session (7:00 pm)
Sunday, Mar. 16	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
LOOKING AHEAD	Saturday, March 29: Feast for All (5:00–7:00) March 30: Church Membership Information Meeting (after church)

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