

Worship at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, January 4, 2026 at 10 am

"The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning." (Lamentations 3:22-23)

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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HYMN #40: JOY TO THE WORLD (verses 1-2, 4)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come:

 Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

 And heaven and nature sing,

 And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns:

 Let us our songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

 Repeat the sounding joy,

 Repeat the sounding joy,

 Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

 And makes the nations prove

 The glories of His righteousness,

 And wonders of His love,

 And wonders of His love,

 And wonders, wonders, of His love.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION AND THE WORLD

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

People of God, as we step into a new year,
we remember that our times are in the Lord's hands.

From everlasting to everlasting, God is faithful.

We come to worship the One who makes all things new.

 In the year behind us, God's mercy sustained us.
 In the year before us, God's grace goes ahead of us.

 We place our hope in the Lord,
 whose steadfast love never fails.

Let us lift our eyes to the One who guides our steps,
 renews our strength,
 and calls us into His purposes.

With gratitude and expectation,
we worship the Lord our God.

CHOIR: "*SOMEBODY'S KNOCKIN'*"

READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Sermon: "*Buried, Raised, and Made New*"

Romans 5:1–2, 6:1–13

Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.² Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory. . . .

¹ Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace? ² Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it? ³ Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? ⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. ⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. ¹⁰ When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus.

¹² Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. ¹³ Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life.

Galatians 3:26–28

You are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.²⁷ And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes.

²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.

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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A CHRISTIAN'S DAILY PRAYER

As morning dawns and day awakes,
 To You I bring my need:
 O gracious God, my source of strength,
 In You I live and breathe.
 Each hour is Yours by wisdom planned,
 Each deed empowered by sovereign hands;
 Renew my spirit, help me stand;
 Be glorified today.

As day unfolds, I seek Your will
 In all of life's demands;
 And though the tempter tries me still,
 I cling to Your commands.
 Let every effort of my life
 Display the matchless worth of Christ,
 Make me a living sacrifice;
 Be glorified today.

As sun gives way to darkest night
 Your Spirit still is here.
 And though my strength fades like the light
 New mercies will appear.
 I rest in You; abide with me
 Until our trials and suffering
 Give way to final victory.
 Be glorified, today; be glorified, I pray.

"A Christian's Daily Prayer" by Matt Merker, Jordan Kauflin, and Dave Fournier.
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REAFFIRMATION/RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil in your life and the world?

I renounce them

Do you love and trust in Jesus Christ as the one who saves you from your sin,
 and have you with repentance and joy accepted him as your Savior and Lord?

I have

Do you, by the grace of God, seek to live your life as a follower of Jesus,
 and to obey him in all you do—loving those around you,
 practicing righteousness and justice,
 and witnessing to his presence in all of life?

I promise, with the help of God

Do you promise to devote yourself to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
 in the breaking of bread and in prayer to celebrate Christ's presence,
 and to further Christ's mission in the world?

I promise, with the help of God

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.*

Our communion bread is gluten-free.

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.*

*

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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CALENDAR

TODAY	Choir Practice (9:00 in the Parlor) Sunday Worship with Communion (10:00 in the Sanctuary) Congregational Meeting (after the worship service)
Tuesday, Jan. 6	Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
Wednesday, Jan. 7	Quilting Group (10:30–2:30)
Saturday, Jan. 10	Creation Station (11:00–1:00)
Sunday, Jan. 11	Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary) Potluck (after the service)

Chuck will be on vacation this coming week (January 5–11); in case of emergency, he can still be contacted through his cell phone. For other church issues please contact Aries in the church office. Next week Dr. Darren Sumner will preach.

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