

First Presbyterian Church Worship Bulletin 1.8.23 **(with Communion & Welcoming New Members)**

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of the Day and Remembering our Baptism

Righteous God, you sent your son Jesus to be baptized by John in the Jordan, so that all might hear the proclamation of your love. Make us voices of proclamation, so that all might know of your love through our words and actions as your faithful followers. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prelude *In Christ There Is No East or West* Arr: Dale Wood

***Call to Worship**

Welcome to worship this day!

We have come seeking God's blessings and love.

As God's beloved, they shall be given to you.

We have come seeking forgiveness and healing.

As God's children, these will be offered to you.

Open your hearts to receive God's Good News.

We open our hearts to all of God's words and ways for us in praise and thanksgiving!

***Hymn of Praise** *As the Deer* STF2025 (2x)

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength my shield;

To you alone may my spirit yield.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

Call to Confession

We are an incredibly stubborn people, believing in quick fixes and going our own way. But in our baptism, we are called to a new way of life, of going Christ's way, which will take a lifetime of learning. Let us lay our burdens before Christ, first together, and then individually. Let us pray...

Laying Our Burdens Before Christ

O Lord, we have entered the season in which your Light and your blessings have been poured out on the world, and yet all we can think about is our own problems, our own needs, our own desires. Pour your baptismal waters over us again, cleansing us from our self-pity and arrogance. Nourish and heal us so that we may joyfully serve you. Again let us receive the blessings offered in the birth and baptism of Jesus, and in the ministry of his baptized believers. We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Prayer Song *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful* STF2195

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid, Lift up your voices,

The Lord is near, lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Silent Reflection and Confession

***Proclamation of the Gospel**

The love of God is always offered to us, freely, joyfully, for all eternity. Rejoice, dear friends, this is the Good News of our Lord, that you have received forgiveness and made whole. AMEN.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Risen Lord.

***The Gloria Patri**

Prayer for God's Wisdom

Let us hear your Word this day, Loving Father, so that we may know that we are loved by you and may your Spirit descend upon our hearts, transforming us into your people. Amen.

Scripture Matthew 3:1-17

Message More than Wet, Loved and Welcomed

Welcoming New Members

***Hymn of Response** *In Christ, There Is No East or West #439*

*1 In Christ there is no east or west,
In Him no south or north;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.*

*2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord,
Close-binding humankind.*

*3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
Are surely kin to me.*

*4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
In Him meet south and north;
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.*

Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

Offertory *As the Deer with Fairest Lord Jesus* Arr: Mark Hayes

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Washed in your peace and love, O God, we bring our gifts to you. Bless the gifts and the lives that they represent, that all may be used in your service and to your glory. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving with Prayers of the Community and the Lord's Prayer

Distribution of Elements

Prayer after Communion

Benediction

Postlude ***I Sing the Mighty Power of God*** **Arr: Joel**
Raney

Remembering in Prayer

Praise and Thanksgiving: ***(Lord, hear our praise):*** **Welcoming of New Members**

Ministry of the Church in the Community: **Neighbors Together**

Healing and Encouragement ***(Lord, hear our prayer):***

Homebound: **Jean M, Ernie, Les and Jan, Carlene and Wayne, Sheri and Jim**

For those seeking healing and comfort: **Peggy, Ruth, Ross, Preston, George, Corban, Nicholas F and his family, Cindy & Steve, and Ukraine.**

For our Country: **Those suffering from the recent severe weather.**

CCLI Streaming License #2652405

On-line donations are now being accepted. If you wish to support the church ministry by donating with your credit or debit card, click on the “Give Now” link on the church webpage, www.fpclagrande.org, or use the QR code.



Announcements

Jan 8-Welcoming New Members into the FPC Family & Celebrating Communion.

Jan 15-Annual Congregational Meeting following worship to Elect Church Officers & McCoy Board, and approve Pastors' Terms of Call. We will also have information about the financial state of the church and possibly update the church bylaws.

Jan 19-Evening Prayer 7PM

Jan 22-Installation of Church Officers, Session to follow worship

Jan 26-Our Church Serves Dinner at Koinonia House, 6PM

Feb 1-Community Fellowship Night, 6PM in the Friendship Center