



First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, February 16, 2025



Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit - Serving God's People

Join us on our faith journey as we seek to serve God, minister to our community, and love one another. Help us become an ever more inclusive church welcoming people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



Order of Worship

Prelude

Open the Eyes of My Heart

arr. Jim Lucas

Gathering for Worship

Leader: Blessed are those who trust in the Lord.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

All: Let us worship God.

***Hymn #172**

Blest Are They

***Call to Confession**

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. So let us be honest and confess what separates us from God and our neighbors, trusting in God's constant desire to forgive and renew.

***Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: God of judgment and renewal, we admit to you and to each other

That we have not always loved you and our neighbors as fully as you love us.

We have turned away from you and toward our own self-interest.

Help us turn back to you, O Lord, to reach toward you

as a tree sends its roots out toward water. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we are forgiven and set free to live for God and neighbor.

All: Thanks be to God.

***Giving of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

***Response #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

(sing twice)

Children's Sermon:

Got Any Change?

Prayer for Illumination

Reader: Creator God, you created us with free will and freedom of choice.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, speak your Word through the words of scripture,

that we may live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

**Please stand as you are able*

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 17:5-10 (OT p. 719)

Choral Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

arr. S. Donald

New Testament Lesson

Luke 6:17-26 (NT p. 64)

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Proclamation of the Word: "Level-Headed"

***Hymn #649**

Amazing Grace

v. 1-3

***Affirmation of Faith:**

(Confession of Belhar 10.3)

Leader: Together, let us confess our faith...

All: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another. Amen.

Covenant Box

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: Let us prepare to give our tithes and offerings, guided by the Holy Spirit who dwells among us.

Offertory

Winter Roses

Ailbhe McDonagh

***#606 Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Leader: Holy God, bless and multiply these gifts we give as tokens of trust in you.

Use them to bless the poor, feed the hungry, and comfort those who weep, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Minister: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: For all these people and all who are in need

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Minister: Let us pray... *Silent Prayer*

Minister: Let us pray together...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

***Hymn #649**

Amazing Grace

v. 4-5

Announcements

Blessing

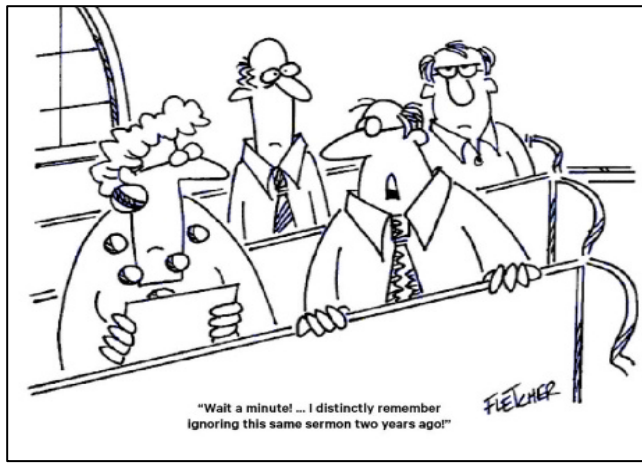
Minister: May the blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, nourish and sustain us, surprise and reorder us and strengthen us in faith and hope for this life and the life to come.

Postlude

Amazing Grace

arr. Heather Sorenson

A Moment for Reflection:



Worship Assistants

Gerry and Cindy Buys- Greeters
Jim Calloway- Worship Assistant
Jiyeon Lee- Accompanist
Elwood Prest- AV Tech

Wendi Zea- Head Usher
Cindy Buys- Scripture Reader
Pat Manfredi- Zoom Greeter
Choir- Anthem

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom
Coffee Fellowship (Hosts: Rick and Dori Jefferson)

FEBRUARY 17, 2025 -- OFFICE CLOSED

FEBRUARY 18, 2025

1:00 pm Presbyterian Women
6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

10:00 am Bible Study with Bill and J. P.
3:30 pm Bible Study with Pastor Kerry via Zoom
6:30 pm Bible Study with Judy Beyler

FEBRUARY 20, 2025

5:30 pm Dinner Group

FEBRUARY 23, 2025

10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom
Called Congregational Meeting
Coffee Fellowship (Hosts: Harry and Marta Davis)
Hope in a Troubled World Discussion

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 10:00 am-1:00 pm

If you would like a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit— please let Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

Church School meets downstairs in rooms 041 and 043. Parents can pick up their children after the service by using the stairway near Fellowship Hall. Enter the double wooden doors by the water fountains, go down the stairs and turn right to go through another set of doors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presbyterian Women will meet Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 1:00 pm. Please join us for this time of fellowship and study.

Dinner Group will meet at the Flame for fellowship and food February 20, 2025, at 5:30 pm. If you plan to attend, please email Jill (jillhertzing@aol.com).

A called meeting of the congregation will take place immediately after worship Sunday, February 23, 2025, to hear and act on the report of the nominating committee regarding election of Elders and Deacons.



Mark your calendars, invite a friend, and be sure to join us for **Fellowship** following worship Sunday, February 23, 2025. All are invited to participate as we explore together the topic *Hope in a Troubled World*. We will finish up at about noon.

Laundry Project has been selected for the Neighborhood Co-op's Wooden Nickel Program! From now until March 31, take a reusable bag or container when shopping at the Co-op to receive a wooden nickel, then drop the wooden nickel in the box by the register. For each wooden nickel placed in the box, the Co-op will donate 5¢ to the Laundry Project. The Co-op will match up to \$250 per organization and pass along any monetary donations.

Joys and Concerns

Remember to Pray for:

- Those affected by natural disasters, threats of terrorism, mass shootings, and hate crimes
- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Areas of the world at war, peace in the Middle East
- Our Democracy in the face of social unrest and political polarization
- Transgender community and others under attack legislatively
- Those who are homeless, hungry, marginalized, underrepresented and in harm's way
- Military Service Members

Each week we pray for one of the Carbondale Interfaith Council faith communities.

This week, please pray for: **Grace United Methodist Church**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Fellowship**

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God, thank you for the gift of this new day. Guide my steps as I face choices to care for the earth or not, to show compassion towards others or not, to care for myself or not, to be true to Christ or not.

May each of my choices draw me closer to you. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you for guiding me through this day, O Lord, even when I was not conscious of it. Now I give this day back to you, entrusting all that I did and left undone to your compassionate care. May I rest in peace. Amen.

Please, as you are able, continue to contribute financially to the life and ministry of the church through Sunday offerings, direct deposit, by sending checks in the mail, online at <http://www.firstprescdale.org> or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.



#172

Blest Are They

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow they shall be consoled.

Refrain: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the Kingdom of God!

Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.

Blest are they, who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. (Refrain)

Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.

Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God. (Refrain)

Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.

Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. (Refrain)

Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.

Rejoice and be glad; yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see. (Refrain)

#582

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (sing twice)

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Jeremiah 17:5-10 (OT p. 719)

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Luke 6:17-24 (NT p. 64)

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

#649 (v. 1-3)

Amazing Grace

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

1 Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

#649 (v. 4-5)

Amazing Grace

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

4 The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.