

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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4th Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

**This service is being livestreamed Prelude through Postlude, and is available for public viewing.*

Meditation

"What we do now is but a small part of the great preparation for what is to come." ~ Dorothy Day

PRELUDE

Ben Marti

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric Garner

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 147 and Colossians 1

Pastor Eric Garner

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; God's understanding has no limit.

God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

God is reconciling all things to Godself through Christ, whether things on earth or things in heaven.

Since the fullness of God dwells in Christ, Jesus is making peace for us through the cross.

We have been rescued from the dominion of darkness and brought into the kingdom of Christ's love.

The Lord delights in our rescue; so let us place our trust in God's unfailing love.

ANTHEM

Ben Marti

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Eric Garner

CHILDREN'S TIME

Lizz Kendall

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GTG 288

The image shows a musical score for a song titled "Sung Prayer for Illumination" (GTG 288). The score is written for piano and voice. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has two staves: a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line has the lyrics: "Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." The piano accompaniment line has a bass line and a treble line. The second system also has two staves: a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line has the lyrics: "Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. — Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." The piano accompaniment line has a bass line and a treble line. The music is in 4/4 time and has a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 126

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. **2** Then our mouth was filled with laughter and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." **3** The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. **4** Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. **5** May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of

joy. **6** Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 21:1-7

Pastor Eric Garner

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; **4** he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." **5** And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." **6** Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. **7** Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God, and they will be my children.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Wiping Away Every Tear

Pastor Eric Garner

HYMN

For the Healing of the Nations

GTG 346

1 For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
2 Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
3 All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
4 You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on

one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing
world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred,
earth be banned: pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing,
hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness,

of the things that earth af - fords; to a life of
all may come and go in peace. Show us how through
dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our com - mon
bring the life of Christ to mind, that by our re -

love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word.
care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.
quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.
sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

The first line of this text quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Eric Garner

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY

GTG 607

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God all crea-tures here be low; praise
God, a-bove ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a piano accompaniment. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system contains the first two lines of the doxology. The second system contains the remaining lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Eric Garner

POSTLUDE

Ben Marti



Thank you, FPC Deacons, for sponsoring this Sunday's worship flowers

If you are interested in sponsoring the Sunday worship flowers, please sign up on the FPC website, or call the church office and we'd be glad to help get you signed up!

CALENDAR

- SUNDAY, MARCH 30: 11:00 a.m. immediately following Worship Service
Congregational Meeting
FPC Fellowship Hall
- Sunday, March 30: 11:30 a.m. after Congregational Meeting
WiredWord Adult Sunday School
FPC Library
- Wednesday, April 2: 6:00 p.m.
Love Thy Neighbor Book Club: *To Be a Water Protector* by Winona LaDuke
FPC Narthex

Eric Garner, Pastor and Head of Staff

FPC Session ~ Elders

Jim Connors, President | Brad Leiding, Treasurer | Joyce Prahm, Clerk of Session
April Austin, Worship | Sophie Hoiseth, Stewardship and Faith Formation
Lynn Kuechle, Community Engagement | Kelly McBride, Properties
Paul Peterson, Personnel

FPC Board of Deacons

Mark Taylor, Moderator | Derek Fette, Treasurer | Chris Renne, Secretary
Karen Anderson | Nancy Black | Amily Crowell | Deb Kienholz | Mari Lopez
Annette McGinness | Mary Jane Petersen | Marcia Richards | Jeanne Steiner

FPC Staff

Ben Marti, Organist | Andrew Kendall, DMA, Choir Director
Lizz Kendall, Director of Outreach and Faith Formation
Mark Zallek, Building Manager | Lori Olson, Administrative Assistant
Katelyn Prahm, Custodial Assistant