

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

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

## Meditation

*"We are a community of faith, entrusting ourselves to one another and to the God who calls us together."  
~ Serene Jones*

PRELUDE

Ben Marti

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric Garner

CHORAL INTROIT

Ben Marti and Josh Newman

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 47:1-2, 6-9

Pastor Eric Garner

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with our songs of joy.  
**For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**  
Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.  
**For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.**  
God is king over the nations; God sits on a holy throne.  
**The princes of the peoples gather to exalt the Most High God.**

HYMN

*You Walk along Our Shoreline*

GTG 170

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Eric Garner

**Oh great One in Three,  
We affirm the community at the very heart of your being,  
And yet we frequently work against your fellowship.  
We fracture and divide;  
We split and severe.  
We reject our sisters and brothers, choosing to go alone.  
Draw us out of our self-imposed isolation.  
Unite us in faithful action for the sake of partnering together with you,  
For working your peace and justice in all the world.  
As you are One, may we become one.  
Amen.**

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Eric Garner

By the grace of God you have been given the gift of new life, accomplished through the work of Christ, and assured in the power of the Holy Spirit. Trust in this good news and live.

In the name of Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

**GLORIA***Gloria*

GTG 581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -  
gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

Ben Marti and Josh Newman

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor Eric Garner

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

Noa Malone

**SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

GTG 288

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. — Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me.

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Romans 12:1-8

Patti Kramlinger

**1** I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual act of worship. **2** Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. **3** For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. **4** For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, **5** so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. **6** We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; **7** ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; **8** the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

1 I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: 4 there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8 Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

9 (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) 11 He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. 14 We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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

SERMON

*Governed By Connection*

Pastor Eric Garner

HYMN

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

GTG 716

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 blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise  
 Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Eric Garner



*Thank you, Hannelore Leipold, for sponsoring this Sunday's worship flowers in honor of Lorelai Leipold!*

*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, February 16:            10:20 a.m.  
    **Kidz Club**  
    FPC Kids Room
  
- Sunday, February 16:            11:30 a.m.  
    WiredWord Adult Sunday School  
    FPC Library
  
- Wednesday, February 19:       9:30 a.m.  
    Presbyterian Women's Circle Meeting  
    FPC Fellowship Hall
  
- Wednesday, February 19:       6:00 p.m.  
    Session Meeting  
    FPC Multipurpose Room

**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 | Kathy Gordon | Deb Kienholz | Diane Murray  
 Marcia Richards | Jeanne Steiner | Susan Schoon

**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 | Noa Malone, Intern for Faith Formation