

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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4th Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

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

Meditation

“The Church is called to be a community of transformation, not just a place of refuge. It is a place where we learn to live out God’s vision of justice, compassion, and reconciliation.” ~ Cynthia Campbell

PRELUDE

Ben Marti

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric Garner

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 36:5-10

Pastor Eric Garner

Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,

And your salvation to the upright of heart!

HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

GTG 761

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Eric Garner

Unifying God,

All things hold together in you

And in Christ we see your commitment to reconciliation.

Yet we are a divided and dividing people.

We isolate ourselves from others

Through the pursuit of our own comfort and power.

Rather than trusting in your power and grace,

We attempt to face life alone.

Forgive us and draw us close.

Bind up our brokenness and bind us together.

May we celebrate our belonging to you

And live for your reconciliation of the world.

Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Eric Garner

Hear the good news of the gospel: Jesus is faithful! Through his submission and suffering God's plan for the rescue and restoration of the world has been accomplished! We are invited into the life of New Creation through the glory of Jesus the Messiah!

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

GLORIA

Gloria

GTG 581

Musical score for Gloria, featuring piano accompaniment and vocal lines. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "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." The score includes a piano introduction, followed by the vocal entry, and concludes with a final cadence marked with a double bar line and a fermata.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Ben Marti and Dr. Andrew Kendall

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Eric Garner

CHILDREN'S TIME

Katie Simon

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GTG 288

Musical score for Sung Prayer for Illumination, featuring piano accompaniment and vocal lines. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "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." The score includes a piano introduction, followed by the vocal entry, and concludes with a final cadence marked with a double bar line and a fermata.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 5:1-11

Suellen Lloyd

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2** through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. **3** And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, **4** and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, **5** and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. **7** Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. **8** But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. **9** Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. **10** For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much

more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. **11** But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 1:3-11

Pastor Eric
Garner

3 I thank my God for every remembrance of you, **4** always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy **5** for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. **6** I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. **7** It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. **8** For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the tender affection of Christ Jesus. **9** And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight **10** to help you to determine what really matters, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, **11** having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

SERMON

Membership and Belonging

Pastor Eric Garner

HYMN

We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

GTG 510

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.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Eric Garner

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, Our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead; on the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Pastor Eric Garner

CALL FOR OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY

GTG 607

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple here be - low; praise
 Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more; praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore. A - men.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Pastor Eric Garner

POSTLUDE

Ben Marti



*Thank you, Mary Topp, 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, February 2: 10:20 a.m.
Kidz Club
 FPC Kids Room

Sunday, February 2: 11:30 a.m.
 WiredWord Adult Sunday School
 FPC Library

Wednesday, February 5: 6:00 p.m.
 Love Thy Neighbor Book Club: *Hope in the Dark* by Rebecca Solnit
 FPC Narthex

Thursday, February 6: 12:30 p.m.
 FPC Staff Meeting
 FPC Multipurpose Room