

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Email: info@fpcmankato.org | Web: fpcmankato.org | Facebook: facebook.com/FPCmankato

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

January 26, 2025

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

Meditation

"We forget that our capacities for wrongdoing, for harm and cruelty, are always present with us. The doctrine of sin is a way of acknowledging this truth without despair."

~ Marilynne Robinson

PRELUDE

Ben Marti

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Eric Garner

CHORAL INTROIT

Ben Marti and Dr. Andrew Kendall

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 51:1-2, 7, 10-12

Pastor Eric Garner

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

HYMN

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

GTG 415

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Eric Garner

Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

By what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

Have mercy on us and forgive us;

That we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,

To the glory of your Name.

Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Eric Garner

Jesus has rescued us. He has led us out of the shame of sin into the honor of life with God. Know that you have been transformed through our God's love.

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

GLORIA

Gloria

GTG 581

Musical score for Gloria, GTG 581. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system contains the lyrics: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -". The second system contains the lyrics: "gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Ben Marti and Dr. Andrew Kendall

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor Eric Garner

CHILDREN'S TIME

Noa Malone

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GTG 288

Musical score for Sung Prayer for Illumination, GTG 288. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of piano accompaniment. The first system contains 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 second system contains the lyrics: "Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a - fresh on me." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

SCRIPTURE READING

Amos 5:18-27

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, **19** as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. **20** Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? **21** I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. **22** Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. **23** Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. **24** But let justice roll down like water

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. **25** Did you bring to me sacrifices and offerings the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel? **26** You shall take up Sakkuth your king and Kaiwan your star god, your images, which you made for yourselves; **27** therefore I will take you into exile beyond Damascus, says the Lord, whose name is the God of hosts.

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

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 3:19-28

Pastor Eric Garner

19 Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. **20** For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

21 But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, **22** the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, **23** since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; **24** they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, **25** whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; **26** it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. **28** For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

SERMON

Sin Is a Four-Letter Word

Pastor Eric Garner

HYMN

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

GTG 610

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 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 Hannelore Leipold, for sponsoring this Sunday's worship flowers in memory of Lance 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, January 26: 11:30 a.m.
 WiredWord Adult Sunday School
 FPC Library

Tuesday, January 26: 11:30 a.m.
 Families Connect with Pastor Eric, Deb Kienholz, and Diane Murray
 FPC Fellowship Hall

Eric Garner, Pastor and Head of Staff

FPC Session ~ Elders

Jim Connors, President | Brad Leiding, Treasurer | Joyce Prahm, Clerk of Session
 April Austin, Worship | Theo Black, Budget | 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
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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