**February 2nd , 2025**

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**PWS&D Sunday**

**THE APPROACH**

**\*\*Please rise\*\***

**Musical Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**One**: Let us now prepare our hearts to worship almighty God.

**\*\*Entry of the Bible:**  Please rise

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**Introit –** “Make a joyful noise” vs. 2 (Linnea Good)

Chorus

Make a joyful noise all the earth!

Worship your God with gladness.

Make a joyful noise all the earth.

Come to this place with with a song!

Enter these gates, thanks giving.

Enter these courts with praise.

Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.

Worship your God with a song!

**\*\*Call to Worship**

**\*\*Hymn #585 –** “Christ, you call us to service”

1. Christ, you call us all to service

call us all who follow you;

plant in us a deep commitment

all your work and will to do.

Fire a passion for your justice;

in us kindle love of peace;

help us heal the brokenhearted;

to the captive bring release.

1. Teach us how to work together,

brother, sister, side by side,

equal partners in the struggle,

in the cause of truth allied.

To each one some gift is given –

man or woman, young or old;

help us use each skill and talent,

your great purpose to unfold.

1. Let us be a servant people,

reconciling, ending strife,

seeking ways more just of sharing

and or ordering human life.

Fill us with a glowing vision

of this world as it should be;

send us forth to change that vision

into blest reality.

**Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in 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.

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Passing the Peace**

**\*\* Children’s Hymn #385 –** “Like the murmur of the dove’s song”

1 Like the murmur of the dove’s song,

like the challenge of her flight,

like the vigor of the wind’s rush,

like the new flame’s eager might:

come, Holy Spirit, come.

2 To the members of Christ’s body,

to the branches of the Vine,

to the church in faith assembled,

to her midst as gift and sign:

come, Holy Spirit, come.

3 With the healing of division,

with the ceaseless voice of prayer,

with the power to love and witness,

with the peace beyond compare:

come, Holy Spirit, come.

**Children’s Time**

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Lesson:** Jeremiah 1:4-10 (pg 577)

**Epistle Lesson**: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 (pg 876)

**Responsive Psalm 71:1-6**

**ONE:** In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.

**ALL: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.**

**ONE:** Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth.

**ALL: Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother’s womb. My praise is continually of you.**

**\*\*Gloria Patri #684**

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen, amen.

**Gospel Lesson:** Luke 4:21-30 (pg. 785)

**Anthem**

**Sermon:** "How great is your love?"

**\*\*Reaffirmation of Faith (Apostles Creed)**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His 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 into Hell. On the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits  
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.

**\*\*Hymn: #765 –** “We’ve a story to tell to the nations”

1. We've a story to tell to the nations,  
that shall turn their hearts to the right,  
a story of truth and mercy,  
a story of peace and light,  
a story of peace and light.

Refrain:  
For the darkness shall turn to dawning,  
and the dawning to noonday bright,  
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth,  
the kingdom of love and light.

2. We've a song to be sung to the nations,  
that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,  
a song that shall conquer evil,  
and shatter the spear and sword,  
and shatter the spear and sword. [Refrain]

3. We've a message to give to the nations,  
that the Lord who reigneth above  
has sent us His Son to save us,  
and show us that God is love,  
and show us that God is love. [Refrain]

**Offertory**

**\*\*Doxology #79**

Praise God from whom all blessings Flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above Ye Heavenly Host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Offertory Prayer**

**Prayers of the People**

One: God of Love

**ALL: Hear Our Prayer!**

**\*\*Hymn: #699 -** “All the way my Savior leads me”

1 All the way my Saviour leads me;

what have I to ask beside?

Can I doubt his tender mercy

who through life has been my guide?

Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,

here by faith in him to dwell;

for I know whate’er befall me,

Jesus doeth all things well.

2 All the way my Saviour leads me,

cheers each winding path I tread,

give me grace for every trial,

feeds me with the living bread.

Though my weary steps may falter

and my soul athirst may be,

gushing from the rock before me,

lo, a spring of joy I see.

3 All the way my Saviour leads me,

oh the fullness of his love!

Perfect rest for me is promised

in my Father’s house above.

When my spirit, clothed, immortal,

wings its flight to realms of day,

this my song through endless ages,

“Jesus led me all the way!”

**\*\*Benediction** - Go Now in Peace (Don Besig)

Go now in peace Never be afraid

God will go with you each hour of every day

Go now in faith Steadfast, strong, and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, And show you believe

Reach out to others So all the world can see.

God will be there Watching from above

Go now in peace, In faith, and in love

Amen, amen, amen.

**Recessional**

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Minister: Rev. Andrew MacDonald (c) 902-331-0322

Organist: Clare Grieves

Office hours: Tues. to Fri. – 10 -1pm

Rev. MacDonaldoffice hours -Tues. to Thurs. 10-2 or by appointment

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

All are welcome at First Presbyterian Church. We hope you experience the love of God and of this congregation as we worship, celebrate, and serve one another.

**PASTORAL CARE:**

In order to provide support to the people of First Church, when you or a loved one is sick or in hospital, we encourage you to contact the church (902-752-5691), Reverend Andrew (902-331-0322) or Cathy Lewis, Chair of the Pastoral Care Team (902-759-9649), to inform us directly. It is also important that you inform the hospital that you would welcome a visit from your minister and/or your Elder.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MEETINGS** - There are no meetings scheduled this week.

**Annual Meeting & Reports** – Please submit your reports as soon as possible. Thank you to those who have already submitted your reports. The Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held Sunday, March 23rd after service.

**Donation ideas for the Food Bank:**

All donations to the Food Bank are gratefully accepted. First Church chose “Coffee Hour Sunday” (the 3rd Sunday of the month) as “Food Bank Sunday”. The following is a list of ideas for items that are really helpful and appreciated at the Food Bank:

* Pasta of any kind and Kraft dinner
* Canned or boxed milk
* Canned vegetables
* Canned soup
* Spices including salt and pepper
* Tea bags and instant coffee
* Sugar
* Canned fish or meat
* Hamburger Helper (no name brand is as good as the name brands)
* Peanut butter
* Jams
* Butter, margarine
* Eggs
* Cake mixes (frosting if possible)
* Cereal and oatmeal
* Dish detergent
* Hygiene, including feminine hygiene products
* Toilet tissue and Kleenex
* **Cash donations allow the Food Bank staff to take advantage of sales, especially meats and dairy products**

**SCRIPTURE READERS & USHERS:**

**Reader:** Mark Thibeau

**Ushers**: Main Door (Office) – Fran Savage

James St. – Ruth-Anne MacIntosh

MacLean St. (Main Entrance steps) – Ellen Jardine

**EARLY CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS:** Lynne Ann & Lois MacLellan