

*Our Vision*  
***God Nourishes All to Grow***

*Our Mission*  
***Inspiring All to Love and Serve with Christ***



***First Presbyterian Church***

**Reverend Katie Estes, Pastor**

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January 16, 2022

Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prayer For Peace—Edward Broughton

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

With steadfast love, God calls our names.

Come to find refuge in the shelter of God's ways.

**We long to be recognized and affirmed.**

**We are eager for a place of shelter and security.**

Feast on the abundance of God's love.

Come to drink deeply from the fountain of life.

**We are ready to hear the Word of God.**

**We want to be guided by eternal truth.**

Reach out to claim the gifts God pours out on us.

The Spirit is eager to inspire and empower each one.

**When God calls us, we cannot remain silent.**

**When Christ is real to us, we accept our discipleship.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (unison)

**How awesome it is that you care for us, God of all life! Your delight in us brings out our best. When you rejoice in us, we come to believe in our capacity for goodness. When your light and salvation dawn in our lives, we want to share the joy. Remind us now of the gifts you so freely bestow. Help us to recognize them in ourselves and in one another, that we may use them to serve people in need and give glory to your name. Amen.**

**HYMN #339** "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Despite our best intentions, there is much in life that separates us from God. We find ourselves living for things and being ruled by our appetites. Our possessions become for us dumb idols that keep us from taking risks and making sacrifices of faithfulness. Recognizing how far we are from what God intends for us, let us confess our sins together:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

**God, how do you have time for us when we have given so little time to you? We have tried to live by our own designs rather than to seek your purposes. We have become mired in our mistakes and then imagined that you do not care. We have suffered the agonies of loss and blamed you rather than sought the comfort and help you alone can give. We have turned away from the judgment we deserve in order to justify ourselves. Where can we find the integrity for which we yearn and the healing we so desperately need? Help us, God, to face our own need and to accept your guidance.**

**SILENT CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** (responsive)

God does not ever leave us or forsake us.

**We are welcomed with rejoicing, enfolded by love,  
celebrated as persons of beauty in whose salvation God delights.**

Let your hearts be lifted up. You are forgiven, loved and freed!

**We are not bound to our old ways but are set free for a new identity in Christ.  
God's gifts are provided to each one of us in abundance.**

**PASSING THE PEACE** (responsive)

As we are forgiven and reconciled to God through Christ Jesus,  
let us be reconciled to each other. The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.** (*share words of peace*)

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Joel Morien

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Variations on 'Picardy' —Karel Warren

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** (unison)

**Transforming God, whose presence in Jesus blessed the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee, and whose gifts are available to all who will accept them, inspire us now as you speak once more through the scriptures. Grant us the courage to answer when you call our names, and the heart to listen for your love. Amen.**

**EPISTLE**

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

1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

**PSALM 36: 5-10** (responsive)

But your loyal love, Lord, extends to the skies;  
your faithfulness reaches the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the strongest mountains;  
your justice is like the deepest sea.**

**Lord, you save both humans and animals.**

Your faithful love is priceless, God!

Humanity finds refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**They feast on the bounty of your house;  
you let them drink from your river of pure joy.**

Within you is the spring of life.

In your light, we see light.

**Extend your faithful love to those who know you;  
extend your righteousness to those whose heart is right.**

**GOSPEL**

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

John 2: 1-11

**SERMON**

“A Defining Moment”  
Pastor Katie Estes

**HYMN #754 “Help Us Accept Each Other”**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (unison)

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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, he is seated on the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

When our riches increase, we are tempted to put our trust and confidence in them. When we are stretched and left wanting, we too quickly blame God for our lack. But riches were never meant to satisfy our need, but only placed in our hands that we might accomplish God's good purpose through them. Giving from our lives grants us that opportunity. You may mail your check to the church or use our online giving portal located on the church website.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

**Lord our God, you have given us life and guidance for the living of it. You have sent us prophets to keep us on track, even though we don't always recognize them until they are gone. You have made us part of your family and one in your Spirit. We rejoice in the opportunity we have to receive and share your word, and we pray that our gifts and offerings may provide for a ministry that bears much fruit. Amen.**

**HYMN #733 "We All Are One in Mission"**

**CHARGE & BLESSING** (responsive)

Depart to serve, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Use the wisdom, faith, and knowledge you received.

**We cannot just rest in God's care or keep silent:  
the love of God must be lived and shared.**

Go forth with praise on your lips.

The steadfast love of God will light your path.

**We want to offer light and hope to others.**

**Daily we will seek inspiration for this joyous task.**

Reach out as listening, caring, healing people.

Your love will become a miracle for someone in need.

**We pray that God will keep us open to further learning.**

**May our humble witness attract others to Christ.**

**POSTLUDE**

Thanks Be To Thee—G F Handel