



*"We are born broken. We live by mending.
The grace of God is glue."*

— EUGENE O'NEILL

May 5, 2024

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING MUSIC

Allison Thorp

"This is the Day"

Les Garrett

Call: This is the day,

Response This is the day,

Call: That the Lord has made.

Response That the Lord has made.

Call: Let us rejoice,

Response Let us rejoice,

Call: And be glad in it.

Response: And be glad in it.

All: This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. This is the day, this is the day, that the Lord has made.

(Repeat)

"Great is the Lord"

Michael W. Smith

Great is the Lord,
He is holy and just;

By his power we trust in your love.

Great is the Lord,
He is faithful and true;

By his mercy he proves he is love.

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory.

Great is the Lord and worthy of praise.

Great is the Lord. Now lift up your voice;

Now lift up your voice:

Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord!

(Repeat)

"Surely the Presence of the Lord"

Lanny Wolfe

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings;

I see glory on each face.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

(x 3)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute For Mission

Judy Covin

CHIMING THE TRINITY

PRELUDE "Let Us Break Bread Together" arr. Mark Hayes
Diane Combs

***CALL TO WORSHIP, responsive**

Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
Maker of heaven and earth.

**This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Worship the Lord with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing!

***OPENING HYMN**

"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above" #41 vs 1,2,5

**1. O worship the King, all glorious above!
O gratefully sing God's power and God's love.
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**2. O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form;
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.**

**5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.**

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION, in unison

**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 and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors
as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us
amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may
delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your
holy name. Amen.**

:: A MOMENT OF SILENT CONFESSION ::

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

**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.**

***AFFIRMATION 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, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on 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.

:: PASSING THE PEACE ::

*And now, as people who are loved and forgiven by the grace of God,
we pass the peace of Christ, remembering God's command to love
and forgive one another.*

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

ANTHEM "We Come To Your Table, Lord"
Sanctuary Choir Ruth Elaine Schram

FIRST SCRIPTURE Psalm 145:8-17 *Mike McKinney*

SECOND SCRIPTURE Esther 4:6-14

SERMON "GRACE: Esther"
Rev. Holly K. Davis

HYMN OF PREPARATION, seated "Amazing Grace" #649

**1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind but now I see.**

**2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**4. The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

**5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.**



INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts;
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

:: PRAYERS of the PEOPLE ::

THE LORD'S PRAYER, sung

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.

:: HOLY COMMUNION ::

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "I Come with Joy"
Diane Combs arr. Emma Lou Diemer

***DOXOLOGY**
Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**



***CLOSING HYMN "I Know Whom I Have Believed" vs.1-3**

- 1. I know not why God's wondrous grace in me he hath made known, nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own. But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."**
- 2. I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart, nor how believing in his Word wrought peace within my heart. But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."**
- 3. I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing us of sin, revealing Jesus through the Word, creating faith in him. But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."**

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**
"There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit" Doris Akers

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love.
And for these blessings, we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.**

***POSTLUDE** "Trumpet Voluntary in G" David Lasky
Diane Combs

** Please stand as you are able for these portions of the service.*

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First Presbyterian Church

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church, USA

May 5, 2024



Our Mission:
Love God and Love Our Neighbors.

Our Deacons

Stan Briggs, Moderator	941-544-8100
Kate Bailey	434-242-2718
Sherry Blount	828-736-1449
Lee Hutchison	704-650-4999
Ann Kline	828-734-4310
Sylvia Lonnee	828-506-7081

Our Church Elders

Clerk of Session	RON TINGLE	828-400-6900
Building & Grounds	RICK CROSKERY (2024)	252-413-8737
Discipleship	LAURA JANSON (2026)	828-712-7938
Elder for Deacons	STAN BRIGGS (2024)	941-544-8100
Fellowship	PAT PARKER (2024)	315-481-0418
Finance	MIKE McKINNEY (2025)	828-734-7192
Missions	MELONIE GROSS (2026)	773-405-5889
Personnel	RON TINGLE(2026)	828-400-6900
Worship	WES LEE (2025)	828-400-0037