

# Our Mission

To Know Christ and To Make Him Known

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Welcome** to today's worship service. We are delighted that you are here. If you are visiting, we invite you to join by profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, by reaffirmation of faith, or by transfer. Please speak to the pastor after the service.

## SERVING TODAY

Rev. David Baker	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Ashley Stanley-Robey	Music Director
Patricia Taylor	Organist
Ray Beale	Sound
Nancy Clayton	Liturgist
Barbara Wilkins	Security, side door and offering
David Parris	Greeter
Harriet Beale and Joan Reynolds	Sunday School
David Swann and Brenna Takata	Communion

# First Presbyterian Church

February 5, 2023

11 a.m.



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# A Service for the Worship of God

## GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

*As you enter the sanctuary please end your conversations and respect those worshipers who seek quiet time for prayer and meditation. Please silence all electronic devices. If you need a hearing assistance device, please request one from the usher. Remaining seated is as worshipful a posture as standing. Please worship in a way that is comfortable for you.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE**                      *“Draw Us on the Spirit’s Tether”*                      H.W.Friedell

## INVOCATION

Everlasting Father, thank you for your faithfulness throughout the generations. By faith, we see your mighty hand in creation and in the lives of your people throughout history. By faith, your children have followed you through the wilderness. By faith, your people have called out to you for peace and mercy. By faith in Jesus, your children have been rescued from sin. Help us to have faith in your promises. Help us to fix our eyes on you as we run the race of life. Help us to walk by faith and not by sight. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**CHORAL INTROIT**     *"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"*     O. Westendorf/R.E. Kreutz

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 27:1)

Steady our steps, O God, as we travel the journey set before us.

**Let us walk in the way of light and pursue the path of peace.**

Keep us on your course of life as we seek to be faithful

**And as we gather to praise you, our faithful Lord and God.**

**HYMN** *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"* **GTG #12**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday (2/6) Day Circle with meet in the Westminster Room at 12:30 p.m.  
Evening Circle will meet at 7p.m. at the home of Bernadine Hayes, 245 Linden Drive.

Tuesday (2/7)      Handbell Choir at 5 p.m.  
Women meet for dinner at 6p.m. Place TBA.

Wednesday (2/8) Youth Activities at 6 p.m.

Thursday (2/9) Bible Study at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.  
Choir rehearsal at 5 p.m.

Saturday (2/11)      Session Retreat 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Condolences are offered to the family of Jerry Broschart who died on January 27, 2023.**

Condolences are also offered to the Perez family, on the death of their father, José , who died on January 27, 2023.

## **“There is a Balm in Gilead”**

**Text based on Jeremiah 8:22**

**African American Spiritual, arr. William L. Dawson**

There is a Balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,  
There is a Balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul. (Refrain repeats)  
Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain repeats)  
If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say, “He died for all.” (Refrain repeats)

Historical Context – This anthem was chosen as part of a worship mini series to celebrate Black History Month, particularly the compositions of African American musicians throughout American history. The African American Spiritual “There is a Balm in Gilead” was written and composed anonymously on an unknown date. The author(s) and composer(s) are unknown because it was illegal at the time for enslaved people to learn to read and write.

The enslaved musician(s) who penned this spiritual were likely inspired by the writings of John Newton and Charles Wesley, two prominent ministers who loudly opposed slavery during the 18th and 19th centuries. John Newton formerly worked in the slave trade and famously wrote the lyrics to “Amazing Grace” after being convicted by the Holy Spirit that slavery was evil. Charles Wesley referred to the slave trade as “the execrable sum of all villainies.” The text of this spiritual rings true in that only Christ can make our wounded souls truly whole – the Great Physician continuously heals humanity from all evil and sickness. This text also points out that the mission field is inclusive; every Christian can tell the world about the unending love of Jesus. Actions can speak that message loudly for those of us who struggle with written or spoken words.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

Into the shadows of our isolation, God speaks the words of life and community. Through God's graceful, healing presence, God redeems our woundedness and restores us to wholeness. Trusting in God's gracious provision, let us together confess our limitations and proclaim God's faithfulness.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Generous God, we are baptized as your people, called to live and serve together as your church. We confess that we have sought to live for ourselves, not reaching out to others and honoring the divine image in all your children. Forgive us, we pray. In your abundant mercy give us the grace to be your church, confessing our faults, offering forgiveness and working for reconciliation. Turn our hearts to your intentions that we may hold fast to one another and draw near to your presence. In Jesus, we ask it. Amen.

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Friends, in Jesus Christ, we have been fed God's grace and redemption. And that redemption gives us the strength to love our neighbors near and far, proclaiming in our words and deeds: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

## **THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Leader:** Let us, the children of God, stand and greet each other with cupped hands filled with blessings and remain standing for the “Gloria Patri”.

## **RESPONSE**

*“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. Amen.*

## **A TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES**

(Children through Grade 5 may leave with their teachers for Sunday School).

Generous God, you have planted the seeds of generosity into our hearts and by your grace, you give the growth through our actions and response. Receive the fruit of your mercy and the offerings of our lives and use these gifts to grow your harvest of justice and mercy, Amen.

## DOXOLOGY

**ANTHEM**                      *"There is a Balm in Gilead"*                      arr. W.L.Dawson  
Greg Robey , soloist

**SERMON** "We Need Healing"

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was  
crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead;  
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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of  
saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Doane/Conkey, arr. Berry

**GTG #796**

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION