

PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

February 2, 2025



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PERRY, FL

GATHERING (W-3.0101 & W-3.0201)

PREPARATORY PRAYER (prayed upon entering the sanctuary) **Eternal God, empower me to glorify you; make me a blessing in someone's life today, ever-pointing point others to Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRELUDE & INTROIT (W-3.0101 & W-3.0201)

"O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" Arr. by W. Elmo Mercer

"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God" By John Carter

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PASSING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS/SESSION SHARING

(W-3.0101 & W-3.0201)

We stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP (W-3.0202 & W-3.0203)

L God alone is our refuge and hope, **our shelter and protection.** From our first breath to our last, **God's love and compassion never fails.**



1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

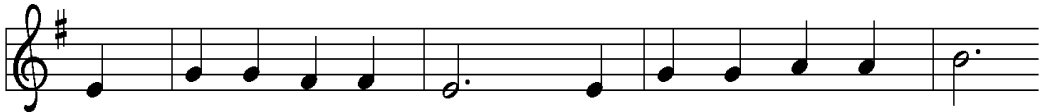
CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON (W-3.0205)

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. (*brief silence for reflection*)

Most holy and loving God, You formed us from the womb to be your servants, but we daily disobey and turn from you in our thoughts and thoughtlessness, our words and our silence, our actions and inaction. For the sake of Jesus, forgive and restore us as we eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

KYRIE (W-3.0205)



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

P God proclaims these assuring words: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI (W-3.0205)



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY (W-3.0204)

P We pray: Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD (W-3.0301)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (W-3.0302)

L We pray: **O God, source of our salvation: Open our ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. The Word is among us. The Spirit is present. May the Lord add a blessing to these readings. Amen.**

We sit.

FIRST READING Malachi 3:1-4 (W-3.0303)

L ¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 24:7-10 (*we say responsively by whole verse*). (W-3.0304)

L ⁷ Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

8 Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

9 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

10 Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

SECOND READING **Hebrews 2:14-18** (W-3.0303)

L ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We rise.

GOSPEL **Luke 2:22-40** (W-3.0303)

P The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke the 2nd chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29 "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; 30 for my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. 38 At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. 39 When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. 40 The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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

We sit.

SERMON (W-3.0305)

"Interrupted!"

Rev. Pr. J. David Bryant

We rise.

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

THE NICENE CREED (W-3.0306 & F-2.01)

L Let us profess the faith, saying: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the (†) resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

We sit or stand.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (W-3.0308)

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

L *(brief silence)* O God, for your holy church, show us again and again your grace upon grace, that your church boldly testifies to your love. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the world and all creation, that you nourish your people like a watered garden, empowering us to nourish our creaturely companions. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For victims of oppression, that you deliver peoples who suffer under oppressive regimes. Thwart the foolish plans of unjust leaders. Give wisdom to our elected officials. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For all who suffer addiction, depression, anxiety, hopelessness, or other illnesses. For the sick and the recovering, and for all on our prayer lists and for those we name before you now aloud upon our lips or silently within our hearts. *(pause)* God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For our congregation and its ministries, transform the way we have always done things into your new future for us. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For all who have died, that their hope in you, is fulfilled in resurrection. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P God of life, death, and resurrection, we are grateful for life and all its gifts. Increase in us the stuff that life is made of: faith, hope, and love, but especially love; that we may abide with you eternally through Jesus Christ, our lover and our lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE (W-3.0411)

P The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

EUCCHARIST (W-30409--W-3.0411)

We sit.

OFFERTORY (W-3.0411)

L Freely you have received, freely give. Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (W-3.0411) *"This Is My Prayer with Change My Heart, O God"*

Words and Music by Doug Holck ; Arr. by Marty Parks

DOXOLOGY (W-3.0411)



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be - low; praise *him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (W-3.0411)

L Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We sit or stand.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE (W-3.0412)

P The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

GREAT THANKSGIVING (W-3.0412)

P 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us (✚) gathered here, and (✚) on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER (W-3.0304)

(SUNG TO THE MALOTTE TUNE)

As Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Our Fa- ther, which art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be
Thy name. Thy king- dom come, Thy will be
done on earth as it is in heav- en.
Give us this day our dai- ly bread, and for- give us our debts as
we for- give our debt- ors. And lead us not in- to temp- ta- ion, but de-
liv- er us from e- vil, for Thine is the King- dom and the
Pow- er and the Glo- ry, for- ev- er. A - men.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD (W-3.0413)

P The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD (W-3.0414)



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*GLUTEN-FREE WAFERS ARE AVAILABLE. AS YOU APPROACH THE PASTOR,
PLEASE LET HIM KNOW THAT YOU DESIRE GLUTEN-FREE*

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION (W-3.0414)

P Come for all is now ready.

COMMUNION SPECIAL MUSIC "Take My Life" © 1995 Mercy / Vineyard Publishing
Leah Metzger



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with

(G) (F#) (G) (D) (Em)
 B \flat A B \flat F Gm



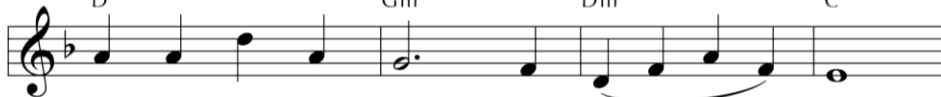
trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of light de -
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the

(Bm) (C) (G) (D)
 Dm E \flat B \flat F



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

(B) (Em) (Bm) (A)
 D Gm Dm C



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may van - ish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

(Bm) (Em) (F#m) (Bm)
 Dm Gm Am Dm



our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the shad - ows clear a - way.
 al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (W-3.0414 & W-3.0501)

L *We pray:* Almighty Father, Everlasting God, we thank You, Lord, for having been pleased, through no merit of our own, but of Your great mercy alone, to feed us. **Amen.**

SENDING (W-3.05)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION (W-3.0501)

P The blessing of the ✠ holy, triune God, be with you now and always.
Alleluia!

SENDING HYMN (W-3.0501) **Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee** GTG 629

1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of thee
2 Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
3 O hope of ev - ery con - trite heart,
4 But what to those who find? Ah, this
5 Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou,

with sweet - ness fills my breast. But sweet - er far thy
nor can the mind re - call a sweet - er sound than
O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how
nor tongue nor pen can show. The love of Je - sus,
as thou our prize wilt be. Je - sus, be thou our

face to see, and in thy pres - ence rest.
 thy blest name, O Sav - ior of us all.
 kind thou art! How good to those who seek!
 what it is none but his loved ones know.
 glo - ry now, and through e - ter - ni - ty.

DISMISSAL (W-3.0503)

L Go in peace. Be the presence of Jesus. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”* Music by C. H. Gabriel Arr. by W. Elmo Mercer

Leading Worship: Rev. Pr. J. David Bryant, Minister; Juanita Ratliff, Liturgist; Leah Metzger, Accompanist & Director

Session Committee leaders

Administration-Bobby Harper, Michael McMillan

Christian Education-Martha Davis

Clerk-Cindy Brown

Congregational Care-Nancy Bell

Fellowship-Juanita Ratliff

Finance-Cindy Brown

Mission/Outreach-Jamie Poppell

Worship/Music-Marilyn Culpepper, Zachary Wiggins

Notes & Announcements

- **Ushers** for February 9th: Bobby Harper, Martha Davis, Mike Perrine, Marcy Fletcher, Robin Walker
- **Liturgist** for February 9th: Katie King
- FPC **website** www.firstpresperry.org
- Send **prayer requests** to prayer@firstpresperry.org or contact Jeanne Hilgendorf

Dear First Presbyterian Church Family
(Missions & Care Committee),

Bob and I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the generous monetary amount you gifted us with following Hurricane Helene.

We also appreciated the gift card to Mama's Italian and the Joy jar.

We are abundantly blessed!

Love in Christ,
Nancy Bell

FPC PRAYER LIST

TOGETHER, WE PRAY FOR:

CHUCK ECKEL

SANDI HILGENDORF

TEACHERS

MARGIE RAWLS

BLUE CREEK CHURCH

PRESBY BIBLE STUDIES AND

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUPPER TEAMS

JOHN DAVID & HARRIET BRYANT

THE HOMELESS

HELBERG S & MARNE'S SISTER

CULBREATH'S

CHERYL RICKETSON, REHAB

RITA BENOIT, OPTIONS

RON POPPELL, ONGOING

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR OUR CHURCH.