

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 23, 2022

Third Sunday after Epiphanyⁱ

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(for silent prayer during the prelude)

Gracious God, through your grace, you call us out of this world into your kingdom and assign us work in that kingdom. You give us honorable roles, and you unite us into one body. Grow your Holy Spirit within us to make known those roles and tasks to us, embolden us for that work, and unite us in one Lord and in one Spirit. Make us worthy of your call through Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 19)*

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God;

All: and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

One: The law of the Lord is perfect reviving the soul;

All: the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

One: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

All: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

One: the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

All: the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

One: Moreover by them is your servant warned;

All: in keeping them there is great reward. Let us worship and follow God!

*CALL TO CONFESSION *(from Psalm 19)*

The Psalmist continues from our Call to Worship with, “But who can detect their errors?” Let us humbly approach our God, search deep within us, listen to the Holy Spirit’s convictions of us, and confess our sins to God.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(30 seconds)*

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(from Psalm 19)*

Merciful God, we search within ourselves and know we cannot even bring to mind all of the ways we violate your will by doing what you command us not to do or failing to do what you command us to do. In your mercy, hear our petitions, and forgive us the sins we know we have committed but also our hidden faults. Grow us into servants obedient to your will. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from Luke 4)*

Jesus came to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor — when all those who were indebted would be set free. If you have been captive to sin or indebted to God in sin, live into freedom in Christ and know that we are forgiven. Amen.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Since we have been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, let us now be reconciled to one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

. . . to Proclaim God's Word

FIRST READING Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 p. 436

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a p. 174

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN AND CHILDREN AT HEART

GOSPEL READING Luke 4:14-21 p. 61

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Firing on All Cylinders” Rev. Andy Smothers

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER

One: Lord in your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

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.

*CONFESSION OF FAITH *Westminster Shorter Catechism (Q. 49-52)*

One: What is the second commandment?

Many: The second commandment is, Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

One: What is required in the second commandment?

Many: The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in his word.

One: What is forbidden in the second commandment?

All: The second commandment forbiddeth the worshiping of God by images, or any other way not appointed in his word.

One: What are the reasons annexed to the second commandment?

All: The reasons annexed to the Second Commandment are, God’s sovereignty over us, his propriety in us, and the zeal he hath to his own worship.

. . . to Give Thanks to God . . .

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from Nehemiah 8)*

Gracious God, you gave Moses and the wandering Israelites your law. Through Jesus, you gave your spiritual law. Rather than leaving our world to its own evil desires and tendencies, you have given us the way to life. This great gift when read to the Israelites who returned from the exile brought them to tears of grief and new commitment. In thankfulness that you have given us your moral law summarized in loving you with our whole being and loving our neighbor as ourselves, we offer these gifts that the law may be known and followed throughout the world. Amen.

... *and to Be Sent in God's Name*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tues. Jan. 25	PNC Meeting	1:00 PM
Sun. Jan. 30	Bible Study	10:00 AM

Welcome to worship this morning! As we continue to social distance, we will not be offering childcare for a time. Feel free to keep your children in worship — even if they're a bit noisy. We've, also, made the room off the Narthex available again with toys, books, and audio from the service.

Our thanks go to our lay reader Julie Katana and pianist Juanita Rodriquez for the intention to serve today.

Due to rising COVID-19 cases, we have **canceled our Wednesday evening programs until further notice**. Watch our Facebook page and website for further updates.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

Due to rising COVID-19 cases, we have rescheduled our **Inquirer's Course for today until further notice**. Watch our Facebook page and website for further updates.

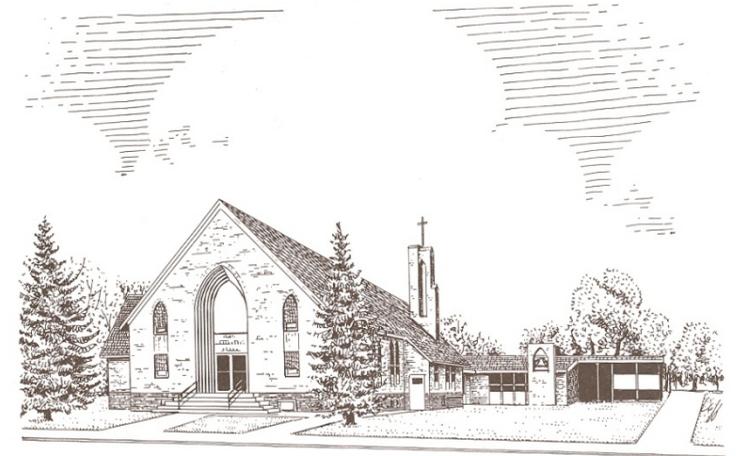
By order of session, the **annual meeting** of the congregation has been called for **Sunday, January 30th**, immediately after morning worship for the purpose of receiving annual reports, electing congregation members of the Nominating Committee, and expressing support for the church budget. Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Narthex.

Pastor Andy will be teaching a **Confirmation Class** for our youth on Wednesday evenings during our Wednesday evening discipleship program. Those in middle school and high school will all take the same course, but two tracks will be offered. Those who choose the confirmation track leading to church membership will additionally write a faith statement and be expected to regularly attend both the Wednesday class and Sunday worship. More information has been sent out to parents of prospective confirmands. If you would like to register your youth for the Confirmation Class, please call Wendi in the church office at 406-278-3043.

If you have any articles to contribute to the **February Newsletter**, please turn them into the office right away.

Last week, combined giving was **\$2,397.00**. In order to meet expenses, we need to average **\$2,995.00** per week.

First Presbyterian Church



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ⁱ Some service elements adapted from *Book of Common Worship* (1993).