



Fifth Sunday in Lent April 6, 2025



THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRELUDE

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We stand before the Lord this day; the Lord of the burning bush and the cloud upon the mountain.

People: To God be praise and glory! This is the Lord of our lives.

Leader: We acknowledge the risen Christ— our Savior and Redeemer— the Master recognized in the break of bread and amid the dust of the Emmaus Road.

People: To Christ be praise and glory! This is the Savior who makes all things new.

Leader: We acknowledge the Holy Spirit who enables us...seen in the descending dove, heard in the rushing wind and tongues of fire.

People: To the Holy Spirit all praise and glory! This is the one who empowers us.

Leader: Even now in this time ...in this place, we have seen signs of God's greatness.

All: Come, let us sing our praise!

* HYMN # 122

Thine is the Glory

A PRAYER OF SINCERE THANKSGIVING (Unison) Dawn Neely- Woman's Day
To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: I offer a prayer of sincere thanksgiving for Your blood sacrifice. Thank You for being obedient to Your Father and going to the cross for me. May I never forget that You gave Your life for me, so that one day I might live with You in eternity. Because Your blood has redeemed us, we are now new creations in Christ, and by His blood we are freed from sin to serve the living God, to glorify Him and to enjoy Him forever. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

*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.

A WORD FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

HYMN # 322

Spirit of the Living God

THE MORNING PRAYERS and THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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

WE GIVE THANK OFFERINGS TO GOD

GIVING GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

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

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING:

Matthew 12:22-32

THE SERMON:

Dr. William D. Coker

"Whoever Blasphemes Against the Holy Spirit"

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

The Jesus Creed

We have confidence in Jesus who healed the sick, the blind, and the paralyzed, and even raised the dead. He walked on water and calmed the storms. He died for the sins of the world, rose from the dead, and ascended to the Father. We have confidence in Jesus, who called disciples, led them, gave them new names and new purpose and sent them out to preach good news. We have confidence in Jesus, so we follow him, learn his ways, seek to obey his teaching and live by his example. We have not seen him, but we love him. His words are to us words of life eternal, and to know him is to know the true and living God. We do not see him now, but we have confidence in Jesus. Amen.

HYMN # 442

The Church's One Foundation (1,2,5)

*BENEDICTION

Friends, let us go into the world with assurance, hope, and promise, and as we go, may the love of God rest upon us, the grace of Christ embrace us, and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit strengthen and surprise us this day and every day. Amen.

POSTLUDE - (*) We stand as we are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Welcome Visitors. We're so glad you are here. Please fill out our Welcome/Prayer Requests Card located on the back of the pew and drop it in the Offering Plate or hand it to the pastor. We will pray for you, and if you're itching to serve Christ at First Pres, let us know. We have lots of enjoyable jobs that can make a difference in your life and in the Mission of Christ here. Please feel free to invite your family and friends to come and enjoy our loving and laughing Church family
2. 8 Most Significant Words: *"Who will you invite to church next Sunday?"*
3. #1 Reason to Be at First Pres: *Because we know why we're here - to share the Real Jesus.*
4. The sermon series "Difficult Sayings of Jesus continues today -
April 6 - *"Whoever Blasphemes Against the Holy Spirit"*
April 13 - *"The Last Shall Be First and The First Shall Be Last"*
5. Prayer List:
 - a. Cathy Martin (Biff's sister) -Pancreatic Cancer.
 - b. Key Coker (Biff's brother) - Anterior Cervical Discectomy (plate on neck spine)
 - c. Jynni Bowyer as she recovers from surgery.
 - d. Allen Boyd - Torn rotator cuff
 - e. Marj Chalfant
 - f. Cheryl Coker who has had foot surgery.
 - g. Ben Reeves (friend of Allen Boyd)
 - h. Jim Hall (friend of Cokers)
 - i. Susan Robbins (friend of Cokers)
 - j. Diane Carr - Bone Cancer.
 - k. Rodney Bennett's mother (Betty Driggers) who is under hospice care.
 - l. Melissa Hughes (niece of Marlene Mathis) who has bone cancer. She will begin radiation and bone infusion therapy. Pray for healing so this mother will be able to see her young children grow up).
 - m. Mary Catherine Mullin (Friend of Hillary Smith) who recently lost a child.
 - n. Someone who feels lost and not loved by God.
6. On Palm Sunday, we will have our fellowship luncheon followed by an Easter Egg Hunt.
7. We will have a Maundy-Thursday Service on April 17th at 6:00 pm.
8. On Easter Sunday, we will have our sunrise service at 7:30 am in the circular drive; at 11:00 am we will have our traditional Easter service.
9. We are collecting for the "One Great Hour of Sharing" special offering which helps with disaster relief; more information is in the bulletin insert.
10. Take a few minutes to go to the educational building and see the bulletin board with all of Biff's "misfit" bulletins.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A)

OUR VISION: ALWAYS BE CHRIST'S DISCIPLES
OUR MISSION: TO SHARE HOW JESUS AND HIS
LOVE ARE REAL THROUGH ALL CHURCH ACTIVITIES.

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