



February 16, 2025

THE CHURCH GATHERS
CHIMING OF THE HOUR
WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRELUDE

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(inspired by Mark 1: 21-28)*
As people, as a group, as a community of faith - we gather in this place. To listen, to speak, to worship, to pray, to be with God. Because we know - it is out of God's authority, it is out of God's love, that we live. Let us worship God!

***HYMN # 447 (Blue Hymnal)** *Lead On, O King Eternal*

CONFESSION OF SIN (Unison)

We have a hard time loving those who are not like us, who disagree with us, or who ask us to face the truths about ourselves. You told us to love one another, because love is from God. We often do not love those we think are dirty, hungry, lost, or undesirable. Forgive us, God, and show us how to love thy way you command us to love. Open our hearts so that they might receive your perfect love for us and offer it to the world.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

1 Corinthians states, "Love forgives everything". Friends, the good news is this: **Love** is from God, and we are **loved** by God. God sent Christ into the world to atone for our sins, and in him we are forgiven. 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

A TIME FOR PEOPLE TO PRAY and THE LORD'S 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.

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
SCRIPTURE READING: *Matthew 7:7-12*
THE SERMON: ***"The Sink"*** Dr. William D. Coker

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH
***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** ***THE APOSTLES CREED**
Leader: *The Apostles' Creed is a 2nd Century affirmation that has been used for almost 2,000 years. It states our belief in God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. "He descended into hell" means Jesus was "truly dead." "Quick" means "living." "Holy catholic Church" means the "Church universal." The "communion of saints" means "fellowship of believers." When we recite the Apostles' Creed, we are affirming the essential tenets of our faith. Let us stand and affirm the Apostles' Creed. Friends, what do you believe about God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?*
All: *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 rose 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*

***HYMN # 359 (Blue Hymnal)** *More Love to Thee*

***BENEDICTION**
And may God be your protection and safe haven; May the power of Christ Jesus dwell in you; and may the Holy Spirit be your guide forever. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord, In the name of Christ. Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. 8 Most Significant Words: "Who will you invite to church next Sunday?"
2. #1 Reason to Be at First Pres: *Because we know why we're here - to share the Real Jesus.*
3. Rev. Coker's sermon series "Jesus Speaks from the Mount" concludes today with : "The Sink. "
4. *Our fellowship luncheon is today immediately following the service.*
5. *Prayer List:*
 - a. *Cathy Martin (Biff's sister) - She has Pancreatic Cancer. The spot on her Liver has shrunk, and she can now switch to the Chemo Pill instead of Infusion. Pray that her body type will be eligible for a new Immune System Trial, which could result in a cure for many She has a Cancer Coach who has survived Pancreatic Cancer for the last 26 years, and her husband Brad says he is not leaving his "Wing Man", like in "Top Gun."*
 - b. *The family of Bubba Harrison (his wife, Cynthia and JoAnn Smith - his sister).*
 - c. *The Need for Unity in Our Country*
 - d. *Our New 12 Commitments for Christ*
6. *If anyone has a prayer request/need, you can fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate or email us at 1stprestifton@gmail.com.*
7. *The sign-up sheet for flowers is in the narthex.*



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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