

February 2, 2025; 9:00 am
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany – Holy Communion

We Gather Together

Welcome to today's Service of Worship. Whether you are with us in person, joining us live on Zoom, watching on our YouTube channel, or listening on KFIZ, we are glad you are here. For those in person, please use the time before worship to fill in the Friendship Pad in your pew. We extend a special welcome to our visitors, and if you have not already received your welcome gift, please pick one up as you leave the sanctuary after worship.

Copies of the Glory to God hymnal and Common English Bibles are available at the back of the sanctuary for your use during worship.

Prelude: Winchester Old
W zlobie lezy

arr. by Gerre Hancock
arr. by Paul Manz, Mark Sedio

Welcome & Announcements

Ringling of the Bell and entrance of the Light of Christ

***Call to Worship**

Carol W., Liturgist

In you, O Lord, let us take refuge,

so we might never be put to shame.

In your righteousness, O Lord, let us find deliverance,

so we might experience your saving power.

In your presence, O God, let us place our trust,

so we might find confidence in you alone.

You are our rock and our refuge, our fortress and shield.

We turn to you again this day. Amen.

***Opening Prayer**

Holy, loving God, we look to you this day to return us to the force of love. In our worship and witness, our works and our ways, may we be marked by the contours of your divine love. Remind us that our songs and words, prophecies and gifts, are nothing if not done in love. Pour out your Spirit this day, empowering us with the radical force of love. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn: GTG 25 "O Lord, Our God, How Excellent" vs. 1, 4 & 5**

Nancy P., Cantor

***Call to Confession**

Carol W.

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:14-16) Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, saying

http://www.flushingpres.org/uploads/1/2/5/7/12574707/call_to_confession.pdf

***Prayer of Confession**

In Jesus Christ God sought reconciliation with us. The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ exposes the evil in us as sin in the sight of God. In sin, we claim mastery of our own lives, turn against God and neighbors and become exploiters and despoilers of the world. We lose our humanity in futile striving and are left in rebellion, despair, and isolation.

Silent Confession

(In the silence of our hearts we confess our sins to God.)

Forgive us, O God, **when we forget your ways. Forgive us, O God, when we think our way is better. Call us back into living in the ways of love, restoration and healing. Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon** (from Romans 13)

Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ God sought reconciliation with us. The risen Christ is the Savior of all.

All who are joined to Christ by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as Christ's reconciling community.

Confession of 1967, 9.7, 9.10, 9.12, <https://www.pcusa.org/resource/biblical-confessional-worship-confession-and-pardon>

***Sharing God's Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

(Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you using the ancient formula 'The Peace of Christ.' 'And also, with you.' Please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands or be too close. We encourage you to use this time to send a text or emoji to someone who cannot be here.)

***Sung Response: GTG 581 "Glory Be to the Father"**

God's Word Is Proclaimed

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:11-12 (King James Version)

(page 326 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 451 Common English Bible)

And he said, Go forth, and stand upon the mount before the Lord. And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind: and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake:

And after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire: and after the fire a still small voice.

Second Reading: Exodus 3:7-15 (Common English Bible)

(page 50 in the pew Bible, page 68 Common English Bible)

Then the Lord said, "I've clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I've heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. I've come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that's full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. Now the Israelites' cries of injustice have reached me. I've seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. So get going. I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

But Moses said to God, "Who am I to go to Pharaoh and to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

God said, "I'll be with you. And this will show you that I'm the one who sent you. After you bring the people out of Egypt, you will come back here and worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I now come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they are going to ask me, 'What's this God's name?' What am I supposed to say to them?"

God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. So say to the Israelites, 'I Am has sent me to you.'" God continued, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46 (Common English Bible)

(page 29 in the pew Bible, page 1207 Common English Bible)

“Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

“Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’

“Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

“Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. I was hungry and you didn’t give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn’t give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you didn’t welcome me. I was naked and you didn’t give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’

“Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn’t do anything to help you?’ Then he will answer, ‘I assure you that when you haven’t done it for one of the least of these, you haven’t done it for me.’ And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life.”

Children’s Time

Jennifer Zander

Sermon: “Finding God in Unexpected Places” *Chaplain Darren Beachy*

Sung response: GTG 410 “God is Calling through the Whisper”

We Respond to God's Word

THE APOSTLES' CREED

We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. We 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.

** The word "catholic" means "relating to the church universal"*

Offering Music: "Carol of the Bells" *Handbell Choir, arr by Martha Lynn*

We think of this piece as a Christmas Song, but the original Ukrainian carol was a New Year's carol. It is usually sung on January 13th which is the Ukrainian New Year's Eve.

***Offertory: GTG 607 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

***Offertory Prayer**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

GTG 509 "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

(Remain seated, we sing this song as the table is being prepared for communion)

Invitation to the Lord's Table

This is neither a Presbyterian table, nor even the church's table. This is the Lord's table. It is prepared for those who love the Lord and for those who desire to love him more. All who believe in Jesus Christ are welcome to share in this meal, including children who have been taught the meaning of this holy meal.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of abundant life. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

You made your covenant with us, calling us to love and serve you. When we are wandering in sin you forgive us and lead us home. We give thanks for Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lived and died and rose for us, and is coming in glory to reign. Remembering Christ's saving love, we celebrate this holy meal and offer ourselves to you, O God, with gratitude and praise.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, on your people gathered here, and on these gifts of the loaf and the cup gathered from your creation. By your Spirit make us one body in Christ, one in mission and ministry to the world. Nourish us in faith, hope, and love, and strengthen us for service, until we feast with you in glory. All praise and honor and glory are yours, holy triune God, now and forever more. **Amen.**

And now, lifting our voices together in unity, we pray the prayer Jesus taught:

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.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread – (words of institution)

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Sharing of the Meal

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.
Come, share in the mystery of this holy meal.

The Bread of Life

The Cup of Salvation

Music during communion:

GTG 500 “Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread”

“One Bread, One Body” arr. by John Carter

Prayer of Thanks

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Sending Song GTG 546** “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” v.1

***Taking the Light of Christ into the World**

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: “Sicilian Mariners”

arr. by Anne Krentz Organ

Please Keep in Prayer

Arnold L.	Carol D.	Paige T.
Bob & Ollive B.	Pete D.	Pass Family
Brian C.	Jesse F.	Pat D.
Chastity G. & Joan S.	Stu K.	Pat M.* (Bonnie H sister)
Corinne C.	Joan K.* (Marcus A. mom)	Paul W.
Danielle B.	Kathy A.* (Kevin B sister)	Qualine S.* (Jodi A mom)
Darren B.	Liam A.	Sherry M.
Dick and Maryann*	Lynn M.	Steven B.* (Kevin B nephew)
Elias B* (Laurie C grandson)	Marie L.	Vern A.* (Debra S dad)
Gib D.		

John and Wendy P., in the death of John's father, [Don Peachey](#).

The names in **bold** are new to the prayer list. The names with (*) are not church members, however, a church member has received permission to ask that they be lifted in prayer. If you or someone you know wants added to our prayer list, contact a Deacon or church staff.

Prayer request cards are available in the Prayer Box in the Narthex, in the church pews, or online ([click here](#)). You can place your prayer request in the offering plate or the lock box at the church office door. For electronic prayer requests, please complete the form and click submit.

Pastoral concerns outside of office hours, please call the office 920.922.0425, press #2 for Pastoral Care.

WEEKLY STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 26, 2025

Individuals in Person: 95

Zoom Households: 07

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
1.26.2025	\$10,491.00	Tithes/Offerings
	\$173.00	Special Offerings
1.20-24.2025	\$1061.00	Vanco Online "Tithes/Offerings"
	\$10.00	Special Offerings
	<u>\$11,735.00</u>	TOTAL INCOME FOR THE WEEK

Financial Giving and Gratitude

You can give online at www.fdlpresbyterian.org Giving page. (Click on 'Online Giving'.) You can also give by cash or check on Sunday morning, or by mail. We are so very thankful for your contributions that help us do God's work in our church and in our community.

GETTING CONNECTED:

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Office Email

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FDLFirstPresb

Facebook

[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchFondDuLac)

February

Deacon of the Month: Gail Kamphuis

Elder of the Month: Sue Baker

STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Craig R. Alwin

pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander

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Kris Bartelt

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Mary Robotka

mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

This Week

Sunday

9:00-10:00am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
6:00-7:30pm

February 2

Worship
Fellowship Time
Growing Connections-Sermon Discussions
Sunday School in the Gathering Room
Boy Scout Committee Meeting

Monday

10:00-11:30am
1:00-2:30pm

February 3

Staff Meeting
Deacon Meeting

Wednesday

8:00-9:00am
1:00-2:30pm
4:00-5:00pm
5:00-6:00pm

February 5

Men's Breakfast
Growing Connections Meeting
Handbell Rehearsal
Confirmation Class

Thursday

2:00-3:00pm
6:00-8:00pm

February 6

Serving Team Meeting
GriefShare

Sunday

9:00-10:00am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am

February 9 Souper Bowl of Caring Offering

Worship
Fellowship Time
Growing Connections-Pastor Craig
Sunday School in the Gathering Room