

May 18, 2025; 9:00 am
Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.*

Prelude: "O Worship the King w/Come, Now is the Time to Worship"
arr. by Carol Tornquist

Welcome & Announcements *Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin*

Ring of the Bell and entrance of the Light of Christ

***Call to Worship** *Jaeda R.*

Let praise to God resound in the heavens!

Let praise to God fill the earth!

Let all God's angels offer praise and rejoicing!

Let all God's creatures sing praise and joy!

Open your hearts and spirits today.

Let us praise the Lord today and always! AMEN.

*** Opening Prayer**

Gracious and Loving God, we are grateful that you have called us together this day, drawing us from darkness to the glory of your light. May our spirits rejoice at the good news you have for us today. Open our hearts to your healing love, for we ask this in Christ's Name. AMEN.

***Sung Response: GTG 192 "Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining"**
(Shine, Jesus, Shine) *Elise C., Cantor, Liam A., drums, Eddie H., bass*

***Call to Confession**

Daniel A.

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us. With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer, let us confess our sin.

***Prayer of Confession**

God of all people, our hearts are too narrow, our perspectives are too small. We reject those who are not like us—those with different political opinions, those who struggle with mental illness, those who disagree with us. We forget that all are your beloved children, and neglect your call to love one another. Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we have failed to be a people known by our love. Show us how to be more caring. Teach us how to love one another, and make us faithful disciples. Amen.

Silent Confession

Contemplation by Alfred V. Fedak

Henry H., Organist

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

God dwells among us, giving to all who believe the repentance that leads to life. Rejoice in the Lord, for we are a forgiven people. **Thanks be to God!**

***Sharing God's Peace**

Peter discovered that all are included in God's welcome. Let us share this same welcome with those whom God places in our paths.

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 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"**

Daniel A., saxophone; Dan B., drums; Eddie H., bass

Graduate and Scholarship Recognition

Todd H. and Jolene S.

God's Word Is Proclaimed

Psalm Reading: Psalm 148 (Common English Bible)

Jaeda R.

page 582 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 780 (CEB)

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from heaven!

Praise God on the heights!

Praise God, all of you who are his messengers!

Praise God, all of you who comprise his heavenly forces!

Sun and moon, praise God!

All of you bright stars, praise God!

You highest heaven, praise God!

Do the same, you waters that are above the sky!

Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because God gave the command and they were created!

God set them in place always and forever.

God made a law that will not be broken.

Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!

Do the same, fire and hail, snow and smoke,

stormy wind that does what God says!

Do the same, you mountains, every single hill,

fruit trees, and every single cedar!

Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—

you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly!

Do the same, you kings of the earth and every single person,

you princes and every single ruler on earth!

Do the same, you young men—young women too!—

you who are old together with you who are young!

Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because only God's name is high over all.

Only God's majesty is over earth and heaven.

God raised the strength of his people,

the praise of all his faithful ones—

that's the Israelites,

the people who are close to him. **Praise the Lord!**

Scripture Reading: Acts 11:1-18 (Common English Bible)

Eli B.

page 130 in the pew Bible (NRSV), page 1340 (CEB)

The apostles and the brothers and sisters throughout Judea heard that even the Gentiles had welcomed God's word. When Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him. They accused him, "You went into the home of the uncircumcised and ate with them!"

Step-by-step, Peter explained what had happened. "I was in the city of Joppa praying when I had a visionary experience. In my vision, I saw something like a large linen sheet being lowered from heaven by its four corners. It came all the way down to me. As I stared at it, wondering what it was, I saw four-legged animals—including wild beasts—as well as reptiles and wild birds. I heard a voice say, 'Get up, Peter! Kill and eat!' I responded, 'Absolutely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' The voice from heaven spoke a second time, 'Never consider unclean what God has made pure.' This happened three times, then everything was pulled back into heaven. At that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea arrived at the house where we were staying. The Spirit told me to go with them even though they were Gentiles. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered that man's house. He reported to us how he had seen an angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and summon Simon, who is known as Peter. He will tell you how you and your entire household can be saved.' When I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them, just as the Spirit fell on us in the beginning. I remembered the Lord's words: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' If God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, then who am I? Could I stand in God's way?"

Once the apostles and other believers heard this, they calmed down. They praised God and concluded, "So then God has enabled Gentiles to change their hearts and lives so that they might have new life."

I Love You, Lord

Elise C. and Henry H., duet

Children's Time

Jennifer Zander

HYMN: GTG 753 "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Sermon: "God Enabled Change"

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin

We Respond to God's Word

The Practice of Gratitude

In response to God's Word and remembering all things come from God, we offer with thanks a portion of that which God has entrusted to us. The ushers will collect God's tithes and our offerings. For those who have given in other forms, there are cards in the pew racks that you may use as a tangible action of gratitude to God. No matter what we return to God in material forms, may we spiritually place our hearts, and our very lives, in God's hands, to be re-shaped for ministry in Christ, furthering God's kingdom here on earth.

Offering Music: "This Little Light of Mine" --Spiritual *Handbells*
arr. by Martha Lynn Thompson

***Offertory: GTG 240** "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" (refrain only)

***Offertory Prayer**

Loving God, you have given us the task to love one another. May the gifts we offer bring love and life to others. May the love we share bring hope to a world that has forgotten how to love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Avril N (Pretorius' friend)	Jack K* (Jolene S BIL)	Mary C-A.*
Arnold L.	James P.* (Ruth P. friend)	Paige T.
Bob & Ollive B.	Jesse F.	Pass Family
Brian C.	Joan K.* (Marcus A. mom)	Pat D.
Chastity G. & Joan S.	Kathy A* (Kevin B sister)	Pat M.* (Bonnie H sister)
Corinne C.	Kathy G.	Paul W.
Dick* (Laurie C uncle)	Liam A.	Qualine S.* (Jodi A mom)
Elias B.* (Laurie C grandson)	Lindsay* (Bill/Mary daughter)	Rod M* (Mary/Dan R friend)
Gib D.	Lynn M.	Sherry M.
Pete D.	Marie L.	Steven B.* (Kevin B nephew)

The names in **bold** are new to the prayer list. The names with an asterisk (*) are not church members. However, a church member has received permission to ask that they be lifted in prayer. 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. If you have a pastoral concern, that happens before or after office hours, please call the office (920.922.0425), press #2 for Pastoral Care.

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.**

Congregational Meeting

***Sung response: GTG 547 "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"**

***Charge and Benediction**

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

Postlude: "Ar Hyd Y Nos"

arr. by John A. Behnke

WEEKLY STATISTICS FOR MAY 11, 2025

Individuals in Person: 98

Zoom Households: 10

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
05/11/2025	\$1441.00	Tithes/Offerings
	0.00	Special Offerings
5/5-9/2025	\$1250.00	Vanco Online "Tithes/Offerings"
	10.00	Vanco Special Offerings
	\$2701.00	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:

Office Phone

920.922.0425

Office Email

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Website

www.fdlpresbyterian.org

Breeze Subdomain: FDLFirstPresb

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

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

Deacons of the Month: Amber

Summeril & Wendy Peachey

Elder of the Month: Deb Cooley

STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Craig R. Alwin

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Jennifer Zander

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Kris Bartelt

kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka

mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org

This Week

Sunday

9:00-10:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
11:30-12:45pm
11:30-12:30pm
12:30-6:00pm
1:00-2:00pm

May 18 Graduate Sunday

Worship/Congregational Meeting
Fellowship Time/ Growing Connections-School Memories
Sunday School
PYA Lunch and Activities
Learning Team Meeting
Piano Recital
PYA at the Woodlands

Monday

10:00-11:30am
6:30-8:00pm

May 19

Staff Meeting
Session Meeting

Wednesday

8:00-9:00am
1:00-2:30pm

May 21

Men's Breakfast
Growing Connections Planning Meeting

Thursday

9:15-11:15am
11:30-2:30pm

May 22

Finance Team Meeting
FAMA (Fond du Lac Area Ministerial Association Meeting)

Sunday

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

May 25

Worship
Fellowship Time/Growing Connections

Looking Ahead

Loaves and Fishes

May 28