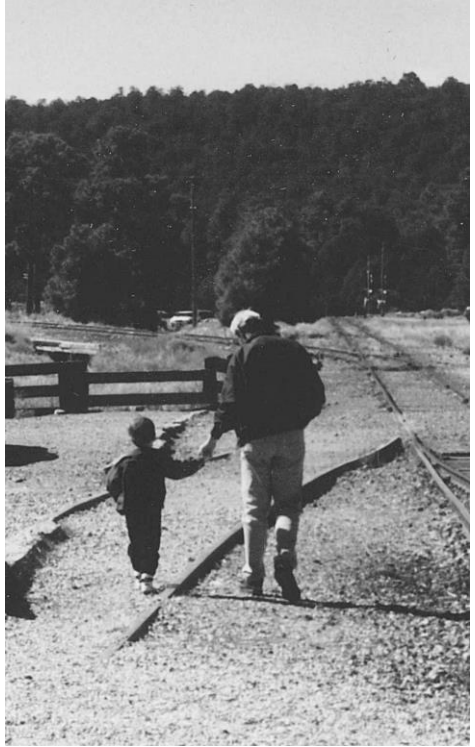


**Fourth Sunday  
after Epiphany  
January 29, 2023  
10:30 a.m. Worship**



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**He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the  
Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?**

*Micah 6:8*

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## **First Presbyterian Church**

Mailing address: P.O. Box 2729; San Bernardino, California 92406

**909.882.3308**

[www.fpcsb.net](http://www.fpcsb.net)

**MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT:** REV. DR. SANDRA R. TICE

**MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT:** REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

**COMMISSIONED LOCAL PASTOR:** DR. WENDY L. LAMB

**PASTOR EMERITUS:** REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC:** CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST; AMY GANO, BELLS

# Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

**This service is being livestreamed** and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. **Large-print copies of this order of service**, as well as **audio enhancement devices** are available **from the ushers**.

## **We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:**

- **To seek God**- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- **To practice Community** – rejoice w/those who rejoice, weep w/those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- **To listen for our Call**- often an invitation to go out and be or do or remember. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website [www.fpcsb.net](http://www.fpcsb.net), along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are welcome in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

**OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Our deacons will set the table so all may be made welcome.**

# Morning Worship†

Lector: Shelby Obershaw

## REFLECTION before the SERVICE

To become this kind of [eccentric] church will require a depth of spirituality that we have previously not known. It is never easy to move from the center to the edges when all the things that we have been taught to value are in the center. All the shiny trinkets and promises of security are there. We will need to become more intimately connected to God and more deeply committed to each other. We will definitely need more parties and fewer meetings! No more wringing our hands over a misremembered past. Let's move on to the dancing and celebrating the gift of life and love!

Bishop David Nagler, *The Gift of the Ec-centric Church*

## GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*We Live By Faith*

*William Zeitler*

*Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.*

### \*CALL to WORSHIP

Friends, we gather and we ask, what does God require of us?

✘ to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.

Let us worship God together.

### \*HYMN 687

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

## PRAYER of CONFESSION

✘ God of Light,

we confess that we have left undone those things

which we ought to have done;

and we have done those things

which we ought not to have done.

But now we also confess

that there are things we don't know how to do

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† The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

\* Stand if you are able

✘ The congregation will read.

There are moments we are surprised and unsteady  
 There are times we do not see the way ahead  
 Or the light in the darkness.  
 Steady us, hear our cry for help, shine your light on us.

*(Moment for silent reflection and confession)*

Call us to be light-bearers of love, compassion and justice,  
 in which the Mystery of Your Love is revealed.

### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

✘ In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.

*(We stand and sing Alleluia)*

### \*ALLELUIA

*William Zeitler*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le al - le - lu - ia!

### TIME with the CHILDREN

*[Children are always welcome in worship. After Time with the Children, our children pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to join Nancy Horstmann & Jeanne Clark for KidSpace in Room 11. Parents, please pick your children up immediately following worship.*

*Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery at any time.]*

### ANTHEM *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*<sup>1</sup> Carlton R. Young

Come, O Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of your redeeming love. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by your help I've come; and I hope by your good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God; he to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood. O to grace how great a debtor, daily I receive anew! Let your goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to you. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your courts above.

<sup>1</sup> Music arrangement ©2004 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

**SCRIPTURE** Micah 6:8  
1 Corinthians 1:18-20

*Old Testament, page 866*  
*New Testament, page 166*

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✘ **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Sandy Tice*

**SUNG REFRAIN** *We Will Take What You Offer*<sup>2</sup>

*Iona*

✘ **We will take what you offer, we will live by your word;  
we will love one another and be led by you, Lord.  
We will take what you offer, we will live by your word;  
we will love one another and be led by you, Lord.**

**THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

*(We offer our gifts as a response to God's Word, to be part of God's purposes in the world. You may place gifts in the plate during the offertory, or on your way out – or by mail or online.)*

**OFFERTORY** *Duet for Two Cellos, Opus 22* Friedrich August Kummer  
*I. Allegro*

*Kayla Manansala, cello 1      Lynnette Silva, cello 2*  
*Ms. Manansala and Ms. Silva are members of Symphonie Jeunesse*  
*Orchestra, directed by Michele Tacchia, which rehearses here each*  
*Saturday.*

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and OUR 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.**

**\*HYMN 757** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

KINGSFOLD

**\*MOMENT for REFLECTION**

**\*CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

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<sup>2</sup> ©1998 Iona Community/WGRG, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

**\*RESPONSE**      *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*<sup>3</sup>      Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift his countenance upon you; and give you peace, and give you peace, the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you, be gracious, the Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**                      *The Order of Chivalry:*                      William Zeitler  
*Justice & the Knight's Sword*

*(For health reasons we are not greeting at the door)*

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK**  
**Danny & Doris Schiavone, Judy Steppins**  
*Elders:* Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños  
*Deacons:* Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Steve Smith

**GREETERS:** Meryll Davis, Joyce Lyons

**USHERS:** Margaret Doane, *Lead Usher*

Rick Rodriguez, Jim Siegmund, *Security Ushers*

**SOUND ENGINEERS:** Dan Direen, Brent Nord

**LIVESTREAM ENGINEER:** James Welte

**CAMERA OPERATORS:** Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

### **This Weeks' Celebrations**

***Jan 29***      Brenda Frederick

***Feb 2***      Brian & Amy Gano

*If you would like to have your birthday or anniversary included in our list of celebrations, or if you would like to make a correction to something that is already listed, please contact Mimi in the church office (909-882-3308), or email [pres.first@gmail.com](mailto:pres.first@gmail.com) with the name and date.*

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<sup>3</sup> Text & Music: Peter C. Lutkin. ©1991 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission of One License #A706254.

***Annual Meeting of the Congregation.*** The Annual Meeting will be held next Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. We will review the Annual Report and elect a nominating committee for the new year, as well as any other business that needs to be conducted. Please plan to attend.

***The Food Ministry is looking for a working freezer or refrigerator/freezer.*** If you have one that you are no longer using, contact Rick Rodriguez, and we will set up a time to pick it up from your home." We can no longer use the one outside the food closet because it is to be used by Oak Tree Learning Center.

***Leonard Scholarship Applications.*** Leonard Scholarship applications for fall 2023-2024 are available in the church office and on the church website. **All applications must be in the church office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28th, 2023.** Any questions can be emailed to Lynda K. Savage at [Lksavage3@gmail.com](mailto:Lksavage3@gmail.com).

***Offering Envelopes*** are available from the church office. If you are unable to come in for yours, contact the church office, and we will arrange a way to get them to you.

***Save the Date!*** Sunday, December 31st, 2023 is when we will celebrate our 150th anniversary as a church! Watch for more information. **If you have current photos or photos from years past showing the life of our church,** you can help with the celebration by letting us have a copy. There is a box on the reception desk in the office to put the photos in. Please write your name on the back of the photo if you want it to be returned to you. Or send us a digital photo!

***Per Capita Apportionment for 2023.*** Per Capita is the money that we send to Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly for administrative expenses to ensure that mission dollars are spent on mission. The amount set for 2023 is \$40.00 per member. We hope that some of our members will consider giving \$40 per church member in addition to your regular offering to help us meet our \$8,520.00 obligation to the larger church. Please consider making this additional donation if you are able. Thank you for your help.

***News and announcements are available*** in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

### ***Music Box***

In the Star Trek movie "The Wrath of Kahn", Spock says "Logic dictates that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few – or the one," which becomes a significant theme of the movie. In the next movie in the series, Captain Kirk explains to Spock, "The needs of the few – or the one – outweigh the needs of the many." This expresses a fundamental tension in society – the rights of the individual "vs." the well being of Society in general.

Early humanity banded together into tribes because it significantly improved their odds of survival – multiple folks working together had much better odds of bringing home the brontosaurus burgers than individual folks by themselves. In doing so they gave up a certain kind of freedom – to go wherever and do whatever one pleased, and instead acquiesced to the consensus of the tribe. But in exchange for giving up one kind of freedom, folks gained other freedoms, such as freedom from starvation. And ultimately, as tribes grew even larger, folks were able to specialize and develop unique skills, improving the quality of life for everyone, as opposed to everyone having to grub for berries and bugs all day on their own. (That doesn't sound like much fun.)

We experience this all the time in our modern world. In exchange for driving on whatever side of the road I please, I give up that 'freedom' and acquiesce to always driving on the right side. And so does everyone else (exceptions are so rare they make the 6 o'clock news). In exchange for giving up one kind of freedom (driving on whichever side of the road I feel like), I gain the freedom to drive across town without worrying about oncoming traffic.

The thing is, acquiescence to the 'rules of the road' – like always driving on the right – is voluntary. If everyone decided to ignore the rules of the road, there just aren't enough police to arrest everyone, or jails to hold them all. Police can only work if the percentage of folks flouting the Law is very small. Even the national guard wouldn't be enough if one morning most of us woke up and decided to flout the Law all day long.

So what makes this all work is that 1) we individually acquiesce to the Rule of Law, and 2) we trust everyone else to do the same. Yes, there are burglars and such in the world, but I'm not sure we really appreciate how small a percentage of the population that must be for Society to continue to function.

In short, we citizens have to trust each other. Of course we also trust the Justice System to address that small percentage of the population that doesn't want to live by the rules. (And the Justice System also discourages



us when we law-abiding folk might think about straying!) But for the most part, our trust in each other — our trust in most of our fellow citizens — is well founded. It works.

The Greek word in the New Testament for "faith" and "believe" is PISTIS — also translated as 'trust'. The idea of PISTIS is not assent to some idea like "I believe in the Trinity" — which is fine, but that's not what PISTIS is really about. PISTIS is about acting on the assumption that something is true — driving on the right side ASSUMING — TRUSTING — that everyone else will too. I trust that this bridge I'm about to drive across was properly engineered. I trust that this food I just bought is fit to eat.

It goes even further. I trust that the Laws of Physics will keep working as we move into the future. Scientists trust that this is so too. Science cannot prove that the Laws of Physics will still work 1 minute from now. That has been the case for almost 14 billion years now, so it's a really good bet, but it's not an absolute certainty. After all, there could be some unknown, undiscovered Law of Physics — "ha ha at 6:06 6/6 of year 2066 the Universe is Game Over!" — a law that no one knows about (yet).

In other words, PISTIS is not something confined to religion. I argue that all of sane human endeavor is riddled with it. It's something that makes civilization and even Science possible. It makes Life itself possible — without us collapsing into a blubbering helpless pile of doubt about everything. We swim in PISTIS — Faith, and Trust! And without it Society would collapse and we would all die — literally. Fortunately, we all persevere in Faith — more than we may realize. "We live by Faith" — we all most certainly do!

*-- William Zeitler*