

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 12, 2023                            10:30 a.m. Worship



Maurice Harron, *Hands Across the Divide*

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I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.

*1 Corinthians 3:6-7*

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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, March 5<sup>th</sup>.**  
**Our deacons will set the table so all may be made welcome.**



# Morning Worship<sup>†</sup>

Lectors: Oliver Lamb  
Adam Nord

## REFLECTION before the SERVICE

A Christian is one who is on the way, though not necessarily very far along it, and who has at least some dim and half-baked idea of whom to thank.

Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*

## GATHERING MUSIC

## WELCOME

**PRELUDE**      *Yearning for the Promised Land*      William Zeitler  
*Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.*

## \*CALL to WORSHIP

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

✉ **Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.**

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

✉ **Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.**

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

✉ **We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.**

**\*HYMN 321**      *The Church's One Foundation*      AURELIA  
(Verses 1,2,4,5)

## PRAYER of CONFESION

God of light,

You have set before us the path  
but we have wandered on our own  
to try to find our way.

Sometimes we are like toddlers  
and we hear Your call and come back.

Other times, we are children testing boundaries,  
ignoring Your call until fear finally makes us look back.  
And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion,  
demanding to be cut loose and set free,

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

\* Stand if you are able      ✉ The congregation will read.

not knowing how much we still need  
to seek Your wisdom and guidance.

But most of all, too often we think we are grown-up  
and have figured it all out and know our own way,  
only to stumble and stray.

*(Moment for silent reflection and confession)*

✖ **Remind us that we are always Your children,  
that we are never fully grown up in Your sight,  
that we always have much to learn.  
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*

## 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

***With a voice of singing***

*Martin Shaw*

With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia. Declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered the people. Alleluia. The Lord hath delivered the people, Alleluia, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honour of our Lord, make God's praise to be glorious. With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia. Declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia.

**SCRIPTURE**   **1 Corinthians 3:1-9**  
**Matthew 5:21-24**

*New Testament, page 167*  
*New Testament, page 4*

This is the word of faith that we proclaim  
✖ **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Sandy Tice*

**HYMN 683**

*Lord of All Hopefulness*

COURTNEY

### **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**

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

✖ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost, Amen.

OLD HUNDREDTH

### **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 693**

*Though I May Speak*

GIFTS OF LOVE

#### **\*MOMENT for REFLECTION**

#### **\*CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

#### **\*RESPONSE**

*Over My Head<sup>1</sup>*

*arr. John L. Bell*

Over my head, I hear music in the air, over my head, I hear music in the air,  
over my head, I hear music in the air: there must be a God somewhere. Oh,  
when the world is silent, I hear music in the air . . . And when I'm feeling

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<sup>1</sup> African American Spiritual arranged by John Bell. ©1998 Iona Community/Wild Goose Resource Group, GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of One License #A706254.

lonely, I hear music in the air . . . . Now when I think on Jesus, I hear music in the air. There must be a God somewhere. Over my head, I hear music in the air, over my head, I hear music in the air, over my head, I hear music in the air: there must be a God somewhere

## **POSTLUDE**

### ***Improvisation***

*William Zeitler*

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

### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK**

**Sandy Garza, Sally Inglis, Josie Short**

**Elders:** Amy Smith, Jeanne Clark, Susan Skoglund

**Deacons:** Joanna Nord, Chris Wright-Thomas, Dan Direen

**GREETERS:** Mindy Rueda, Amy Rueda

**USHERS:** Mark Adelson, *Lead Usher*

Chris Thomas, Brad Smith, *Security Ushers*

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

**LIVESTREAM ENGINEER:** James Welte

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

### **This Weeks' Celebrations**

***Feb 12*** Sue Alexander

***Feb 13*** Nita Zwolinski

***Feb 14*** Eva Diane Olsen

***Feb 15*** Randy Mantei

Joanna Nord

***Feb 16*** Kendra Elizabeth Lamb

Doris Schiavone

*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 with the name and date.*

**It's here! The *Presbyterian Women's Super Bowl Bake Sale* is in Fellowship Hall TODAY!** There are sweet and savory snacks and treats for your enjoyment. Proceeds will support the PW Annual (Mission) Fund.

**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).

**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.

**The scale of the disaster facing Syria and Turkey** after the Feb. 6 earthquake is becoming clearer. The 7.8-magnitude quake and its aftershocks have left more than 19,000 people dead and thousands more injured; these numbers will rise as search and rescue continues. **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** (PDA) is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas through long-standing partners in Syria, in addition to ACT Alliance members in Syria and Turkey, all of whom are already on the ground. PDA will remain active throughout the entire recovery process, accompanying our partners in the area as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for building and resilience.

If you would like to give to support these efforts, financial support for relief efforts can be designated to **DR999999-ST Earthquake**. Gifts can be made by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to the church with "DR999999-ST Earthquake" written on the memo line.

***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***

As I mentioned last week, the Greek word translated 'faith' is PISTIS ("PIS-tis"), also translated 'trust'. As used in the New Testament, 'faith' doesn't mean assent to doctrines, it's trusting that something is so, or trusting someone — to treat you well, to come through for you, etc. I personally fail to see how "believing in the Trinity" for example, makes a practical difference in one's life, but "trusting in God" most certainly does. Nowhere in the Gospels does Jesus ask us to assent to some doctrine — it's all about how conduct ourselves, and treat our neighbors.

Some think that Faith and Reason are opposed, but I think they're joined at the hip. So let's consider the role of Faith in what is "applied reason par excellence," namely Science.

The cornerstone of Science is the "scientific method": form a hypothesis, test it with experiments, rinse and repeat. Last week I pointed out that Science cannot demonstrate that there's a Future. That's because experimental verification is an essential part of doing Science, and you can only do that in the Present! Science also assumes (as an "act of faith"?") that the Laws of Physics have worked the way they do for all of Time, and throughout all of Space. How do you demonstrate THAT with an experiment? Nevertheless scientists assume/trust that this is so, otherwise Science isn't even possible.

The New Testament itself provides a definition of Faith in Hebrews 11: "Faith is the substance of things expected, the evidence of things not seen." Science can't demonstrate that the Sun will rise tomorrow (because that's in the future), but the track record of 4.5 billion years so far of the sun rising like clockwork inspires confidence! So I 'have faith in' and 'expect' a sunrise tomorrow that is not YET seen.

Faith plays another role in human endeavors. Hebrews 11 continues with a long list of examples of 'people of Faith', including Abraham: "By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going." I think this happens every time a human ventures into the Unknown to discover or invent something new.

Einstein (1879-1955) is especially famous for his two theories of Relativity. He presented his first, 'Special Relativity', in 1905. In it he argued that the speed of light is constant, therefore our yardsticks of space and time can't be the same for all observers. Those examples of someone traveling into space anywhere near the speed of light and returning to Earth only to find that mere years have passed for them, but millennia for those they left

behind on Earth — all that comes from Special Relativity. Then Einstein turned his attention to gravity.

When Einstein undertook solving 'gravity', I suggest that he stepped out 'on faith' into an unknown country — not unlike Abraham, believing/trusting that this was a solvable problem and that he could solve it. It took him EIGHT YEARS to do so. He presented his theory of gravity in 1915 (known as "General Relativity"). Eight years — that's a fair amount of determined faith.

Such faith in oneself is not always rewarded, however — even if you're Einstein. Twentieth century physics saw itself divide into Relativity (Special and General) — concerned with really large distances and speeds on astronomical scales, and Quantum Physics — concerned with the unimaginably tiny constituents of atoms. But the two theories just don't fit together. After presenting General Relativity in 1915, Einstein devoted his remaining 40 years to bridging this divide — without success. Physics is still trying to bridge this gap.

In Hebrews 11, Moses of course makes the list as a 'person of faith' — indeed he gets more column inches than anyone else, recounting how he went toe-to-toe with Pharaoh, led the Israelites through the Red Sea, etc. But in the end, in spite of all his faith, he doesn't get to enter the promised land himself.

Faith is a tricky thing.

For my part, here's where I've ended up: Each human being, each one of us consists of something like 100 trillion cells walking around. Purely as a metaphor, suppose the Body of Christ consists of 100 trillion souls. By faith I can choose to be one of them. My assigned task turns out to be a pancreas cell — a role with no privilege or glamor, but still needs to be done. What's wrong with that?

-- William Zeitler

## ***A Checklist for Evaluating Maturity***

A mature adult is one who:

1. Does not automatically resent criticism, realizing that it may contain a suggestion for self-improvement.
2. Knows that self-pity is futile and childish—a way of placing the blame for disappointments on others.
3. Does not readily experience a loss of temper or “fly off the handle” about trifles.
4. Keeps calm in emergencies and deals with them in a logical, reasonable fashion.
5. Accepts responsibility without blaming others when things go wrong.
6. Accepts reasonable delays without impatience, realizing that some adjustment for the convenience of others is necessary.
7. Is a good loser, accepting defeat and disappointment without complaint or ill temper.
8. Does not worry unduly about things that can’t be changed.
9. Doesn’t boast or “show off” when praised or complimented, accepts it with grace, appreciation and without false modesty.
10. Applauds others’ achievements with sincere goodwill.
11. Rejoices in the good fortune and success of others having outgrown petty jealousy and envy.
12. Listens courteously to the opinions of others even when they hold opposing views; does not enter into hostile argument.
13. Doesn’t find fault with “every little thing” or criticize people who do things differently.
14. Makes reasonable plans and tries to carry them out in orderly fashion;  
does not do things on the spur of the moment without due consideration.
15. Shows spiritual maturity by—
  - accepting the existence of a Higher Power and recognizing the importance of this Power in life.
  - realizing each person is part of humankind as a whole and has much to give; that each of us has an obligation to share with others the gifts that have been bestowed upon us.
  - obeying the spirit of the Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.”

**From Al-Anon Booklet “Alcoholism The Family Disease” (p-4)**