

Christ the King Sunday
Songs and Scriptures through the Church Year
November 26, 2023 **10:30 a.m. Worship**



**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning**

Lamentations 3.22-23a

First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpcsb.net

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

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

**As cold, flu, and Covid season is again upon us,
please feel free to request a mask from our ushers.**

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, 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, December 3rd.

Morning Worship†

Lectors: Kendra Lamb
Oliver Lamb

REFLECTION before the SERVICE

This Sunday is the last Sunday of the church year. We conclude the year remembering that Christ is the beginning and end of all life and remembering his story as we have followed it through the concluding year. Next Sunday we begin again with Advent. That makes this a good opportunity to take the long view of the church year.

Today, our worship will encompass the whole year in a “year in review.” We are revisiting the cycle of the liturgical year to create a retelling of the whole gospel story, from Advent to the Reign of Christ, from waiting for the Messiah to living into the Kingdom of God. The lectionary year is built so that each year we review the story of God’s love for the world, the coming of Jesus, his suffering and death, his rising to new life, and his teaching and ministry, his ascension and the coming of the Spirit, and our life together as disciples. Today we remember it all.

This service will be a summary, a chance to see the whole joyous and powerful story of the Christian faith.

(Sources: Carolyn C. Brown and Salt of the Earth: A Christian Seasons Calendar. Notes for the church year throughout the order of worship are adapted from Salt of the Earth: A Christian Seasons Calendar.)

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We will sing many songs today. Please feel free to remain seated as you need. The * denotes when we stand.*

CHRIST the KING

Today is the last Sunday of the liturgical year. The Christian year concludes with Christ the King or Reign of Christ Sunday, emphasizing that our first and foremost allegiance is to the risen and reigning Christ, Jesus. We celebrate our anticipation of, and longing for, Christ’s coming again in glory. We pray for the time when God’s true intentions for Creation are finally fully accomplished. We wait in hope.

PRELUDE

Echo for Trompette

Claudio Merulo (1533–1604)

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

* Stand if you are able

✱ The congregation will read.

INTROIT

*Spirit of the Living God*¹

Daniel Iverson

Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

*SUNG CALL to WORSHIP

Hymn 401

*Here in this Place*²

Haugen

Verses 1, 2, 4

**Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.**

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

We are the young; our lives are a mystery.

We are the old who yearn for your face.

**We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.**

**Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

ADVENT

The year begins anew with the first Sunday of Advent. God is not done yet. As we wait in Advent to celebrate the already fulfilled promise of the

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² Text & Music by Marty Haugen. ©1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254

coming of the Messiah, we wait also for what God has yet to complete—the promise of the creation fully redeemed and at peace. We and all of creation join in that longing. Glimpsing that reality in Jesus, we seek to live our life together as God intends in the full coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. The liturgical color we use for Advent is blue, signifying longing and hope and the dawning of a new day.

Scripture Reading **John 1:1-5, 14a**

HYMN 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

✦ O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

TIME with the CHILDREN

After Time with the Children, our children are encouraged to worship with us. There are activity bags and books in the narthex. Children Pre-K and younger may go to the nursery as necessary.

CHRISTMAS

At Christmas, the Word is made flesh. Christmas is a twelve-day celebration of the gift of Jesus to and for the world. Christmas is short for “Christ’s Mass”—the worship service that marks the birth of Jesus. The liturgical colors for the season of Christmas are—like Easter—white and gold, reminders that the birth of Jesus is the beginning of a pilgrimage through suffering and death to new life.

Scripture Reading **Luke 2:4-7**

***HYMN 134**

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.
He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

EPIPHANY

Epiphany means "to make manifest" and celebrates God the Son made manifest in the person of Jesus Christ. The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6 (or the Sunday closest to it), and commemorates the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus.

Scripture Reading **Matthew 2:1-2**

HYMN 151

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!

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 come forward and place gifts in the plate during the offertory or on the way out. If you would prefer, an usher will come to you.)

OFFERTORY

***RESPONSE**

KINGS OF ORIENT

Glorious, now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!

Reading: *Put Away the Tinsel*

Ann Weems

LENT

In Lent the church retraces Jesus' forty days of temptation and testing in the Wilderness. Lent was an established period of intensified training in discipleship in the church, first for those new to the faith, then later a practice the whole church was encouraged to undertake as they prepared to celebrate the Resurrection on Easter. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Since Sundays are always celebrations of the Resurrection,

they are not counted as part of Lent's forty days. The liturgical color is purple, signifying pain and suffering, which bring grief and penitence. It is also a color of royalty, signifying that Jesus is our Messiah, literally our king.

Scripture Reading **Matthew 3:16-4:1**

HYMN 215 *What Wondrous Love Is This*³ WONDROUS LOVE

✘ **What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!**

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week begins the high holy time when Christians re-tell the final week of Jesus' life: his arrival in Jerusalem, arrest, trial, and crucifixion. The liturgical colors for Holy Week are red for Palm Sunday and black for Good Friday and Holy Saturday, signifying death. We read the story of Christ's passion and discover God's aching compassion for the world.

PALM SUNDAY

Scripture Reading **Matthew 21:6-9**

***HYMN 196** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

✘ *Refrain:* **All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!**

**Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One. (Refrain)**

³ Text: American folk hymn, c. 1811. Music: Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1965. Harm. ©1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company). All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Thursday of Holy Week we remember Jesus taking on the role of a servant and washing the feet of his closest followers, and also offering himself to them in the bread and the wine. He gives them a new commandment: Love one another.

Scripture Reading **John 13:34-35**

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday is the day we acknowledge that Christ suffered and died on the cross.

Scripture Reading **Isaiah 53:3-6**

HYMN

The Old Rugged Cross

Bennard

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best
for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
and exchange it some day for a crown.

To that old rugged cross I will ever be true,
its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away,
where his glory forever I'll share. *(Refrain)*

EASTER

Christ is risen; he is risen indeed! Our high holy time culminates in the great season of Easter, a fifty-day celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. The liturgical colors are white and gold. The Easter or paschal candle is lit each Sunday. This is our most prominent festival and our celebrations throughout this season are full of exuberance, the singing and shouting of hallelujahs, and much joy.

Scripture Reading **Luke 24:1-5**

*HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

✠ "Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!
All creation, join to say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to You by both be given; Alleluia!
Every knee to You shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

PENTECOST

The season of Easter comes to an end on the day of Pentecost when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the church.

The liturgical color for Pentecost is bright red, signifying fire and the presence of God.

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-4

HYMN 280

*Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us*⁴

EBENEZER

Come, O Spirit, dwell among us;
come with Pentecostal power;
give the church a stronger vision;
help us face each crucial hour.
Built upon a firm foundation,
Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,
still the church is called to mission
that God's love shall be made known.

ORDINARY TIME

The long season from Pentecost to Advent is a season of growth. We hear the stories of Jesus' ministry, and his teaching. There are graduations, federal holidays, vacations, and schools beginning again in the fall. We live, work, and grow together, and look beyond our common life.

ANTHEM

Blessed Assurance

Crosby/Raney/Knapp

MORNING PRAYER 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.

⁴ Text: Janie Alford, 1979, ©1979 Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254. Music: Thomas John Williams, 1890.

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

Scripture Reading **Matthew 22:37-39**

***HYMN 300** *They'll Know We Are Christians* ST. BRENDAN'S
 *by Our Love*⁵

We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

CHRIST the KING

*We come back once again to Christ the King or Reign of Christ. Next
week we will begin again with Advent.*

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE *God Be in My Head*⁶ *K. Lee Scott*
God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes, and in my
looking; God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in
my thinking; God be at mine end, and my departing. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

***POSTLUDE** *Improvisation* *W. Zeitler*

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⁶ Words: Sarum Primer, 1514, Music: K. Lee Scott. Words and Music - ©1988 The Lorenz Publishing Corporation. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

GREETERS: Jeanne Clark, Robin Edwards
USHERS: Margaret Doane, *Lead Usher*
Brad Smith, Mark Adelson, *Security*
SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord
LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte
CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Ruth Alexander, Doris Schiavone, Judy Steppins
Elders: Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney
Deacons: Katie Smith, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas

This Weeks' Celebrations

Nov 26 Brad Smith
Chris Wright-Thomas
Nov 27 Abigail Grace Willis
Nov 28 Raymond Olivarez
Nov 29 Norm Wallis
Nov 30 Sanai Wright
Dec 1 Elaine Saenz
Dec 2 Sarah Godby

If you haven't yet pledged for 2024, there is still time! Call the church office if you have any questions.

Christmas with the Homeless. The Deacons are still taking donations for CCLM's "Christmas with the Homeless" party for the residents of the Men's Emergency Shelter. Monetary donations are gratefully received and used. We can also use: ***New*** Men's Colored T-shirts (S - 4X), ***New*** Boxer Briefs (L, XL, 1X, 2X); ***New or Gently Used*** Polo Shirts (M-2XL), Jeans (sizes 32 - 52, especially 36-48), Sweat Pants (sizes M - 4XL) and Jackets (sizes M-4XL). **The Deacons will collect donations on Sundays throughout November. Thanks for your help.**

There will be a Congregational Meeting directly after the worship service today, to elect officers for the coming year. Please plan to attend.

Blood Drive. The Deacons will host a Blood Drive **next Sunday, December 3** in Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets will be available during coffee hour.

Presbyterian Women will celebrate an Alternative Christmas event in Fellowship Hall on **December 10, 2023** following Worship. This year's Alternative Christmas. "A Season of Hope" highlights three programs here at First Presbyterian San Bernardino: **the LifeSkillz Program, Food Ministry, and the Internship Program.** Please support them with a donation! We will provide thank you cards to share with your friends and family to show your support. We will accept donations on Dec. 10 and Dec. 17 following Worship.

Annual Reports. The Annual Reports for the year 2023 must be submitted to session by Friday, January 12th. If you are a committee chair (or co-chair), please send your report to Mimi Lange at pres.first@gmail.com, or to Amy Smith at amymys952@aol.com. Or you can turn them in to the church office.

What is God calling us to be and do at this time in this place? That's the work of Mission Assessment. Learn more, or find a survey you missed, at <https://fpcsb.net/mission-assessment>, or click **Mission Assessment** from the church home page. Surveys or other feedback to the MAT can be sent to the office, to any member of the team, or left in the box at the table in reception.

More 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

Claudio Merulo was an Italian composer, publisher and organist of the late Renaissance period, most famous for his innovative keyboard and ensemble music. He was born Claudio Merlotti and Latinised his name (meaning 'little blackbird') when he became famous in Venetian cultural clubs.

Little is known of Merulo's early life. He studied with Zarlino (1517–1590), a music theorist who, amongst other things, experimented with keyboards that had 19 keys per octave instead of the usual twelve. One of Zarlino's other students was Vincenzo Galilei – father of the famous astronomer Galileo. At age 23 Merulo was appointed organist at Old Cathedral of Brescia, and his skill as an organist must have been impressive because a year later he became organist at St. Mark's, one of the most prestigious organ posts in Italy, selected over a list of candidates that included Andrea Gabrieli.

At St. Marks they had TWO organs – a larger and a smaller. Merulo was organist of the smaller until the 'first organist' suddenly left his post for one in Hapsburg for unknown reasons and Merulo was promoted to 'first bench' (something like 'first chair' for organists). At age 51 Merulo also suddenly left his organist post where he was both well-liked and well-paid, to take a position at a much smaller church in Parma. He remained there until his death age 71.

-- William Zeidler



The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.

The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames.

As a church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our congregational life is governed by the Ruling Elders of our current Session:

Jeanne Clark, Susan Skoglund, Alex Smith, Tim Usher, Mary Bolaños,
Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños,
Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough,
and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Sharon Landeros, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord,
Chris Wright-Thomas, Dan Direen, Robin Edwards, Rick Rodriguez,
Katie Smith, Brad Smith, and Dave Thomas

In this time of change for our congregation, a Mission Assessment Plan will be completed by our Mission Assessment Team:

Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher, Nancy Horstmann,
Marilyn Kraft, Jim Morris, Brent Nord, Irene Sandoval Suverkrup