

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR FEB. 23, 2025

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

INTROIT 70 *What Does the Lord Require of You?* MOON

Gathering Around The Word

*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Ps. 37:4-5, 7, 39*

One: Take delight in the Lord,
who satisfies the desires of your heart.

All: **Commit your way to the Lord
and trust in God's actions.**

One: Be still before the Lord
and wait patiently for God.

All: **The Lord is our salvation
and our refuge in times of trouble.**

*HYMN 410 *God Is Calling through the Whisper* W ZLOBIE LEZY

CALL TO CONFESSION *from Luke 6:35*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Merciful God, we confess
that we have not followed your ways
or trusted your promises.
We love only those who love us;
we show kindness only to those who are kind to us;
we give only when we expect to receive.
Forgive us, Lord.
Fill our hearts with your selfless love.
Change our lives by your matchless grace.
These things we pray through Christ our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Now go and live as Christ commands: Be merciful, as God is
merciful; do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not
condemn, and you will not be condemned; but forgive, and
you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you.

All: **Glory to God!**

*PASSING THE PEACE

We invite you to share the peace of Christ with others.

*RESPONSE 581

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

Listening To the Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION OF GOD'S WORD *from Gen. 45:3-11, 15*

FIRST READING *PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40*

(The scripture readings can be found on the back of the bulletin)

ANTHEM 754 *Help Us Accept Each Other* BARONITA

SECOND READING *LUKE 6:27-38*

SERMON "How, Then, Shall We Live?" Rev. David Holden

Responding to the Word

*HYMN 203 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* CHEREPONI

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Ionian Creed*

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of male and female.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.

A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,
he died alone and forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,
and His kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of all resurrection and of eternal life.

Amen.

SHARING OUR PRAYERS *See prayer concerns list, back page*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*"debts"/"debtors"*) *page 35 in hymnal*

GIVING BACK TO GOD'S KINGDOM

(Give online @ bit.ly/FPCSomersetGive or scan the code on the yellow pew card)

OFFERTORY

TEN CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

(Any donation placed in the baskets today will go toward feeding those in need)

*THE DOXOLOGY 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God Sends Us Forth

*HYMN 306 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION *from Luke 6:37-38*

*BLESSING

HYMN 543 *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me (vrs5)*
GREEN TYLER

POSTLUDE

Visiting today? Welcome!

Please tell us about yourself! You can scan
this QR code with your smartphone to fill
out our online form, or fill out a pew card
and drop it in the offering plate.



This Week

TODAY! @ 12:00pm - Presbyterian Women Luncheon
Wed., Feb. 26 @ 6:30pm - Choir Practice
Fri., Feb. 28 @ 11:30am - *NEW DATE* Lunch Ladies to
Serendipity

Worship Assistants Next Week

Liturgist.....Laura Wright
Ushers.....Kim King & Pat Carpenter
Audio.....Mary Beth Waller
Video.....Richard Wright
Coffee Plus.....Suzanne Kidd

*for portions marked with an asterisk, you're invited to rise in body or spirit

First Reading—Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, ²for they will soon fade like the grass and wither like the green herb.

³Trust in the Lord and do good; live in the land and enjoy security.

⁴Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act. ⁶He will make your vindication shine like the light and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

⁷Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

⁸Refrain from anger and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil. ⁹For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

¹⁰Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there. ¹¹But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

³⁹The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble. ⁴⁰The Lord helps them and rescues them; he rescues them from the wicked and saves them because they take refuge in him.

Second Reading—Luke 6:27-38

²⁷“But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

Scripture verses taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition



Prayers for Comfort, Concern, and Healing

Aaron Ramsey; the family of George Kamperman; the family of Lee Harrison; Tim Noel; Leslie Phillips' parents, J.R & Karen Goff; Don Haney; Rebecca Davis; Pat Carpenter; David & Brenda Bryant; Jeff & Kathy Bishop's daughter, Ashley Kerr; Angie Butler; Becky Butler's brother, David Seiler; Shane Thurman; Baby S; Ed & Joyce Mick; Autumn Brock's mom, Marie; Jennifer Williams; Bill House; Leslie Phillips

Current Giving

	Rec'd month of Jan.	Needed Monthly	Received YTD	Needed YTD
Offering	\$13,946	\$16,522	\$13,946	\$16,522

Blessing Box Attendant

This Week.....John & Lynn Cain
Next Week.....Linda Bonardel

Assisting in Worship Today

Ministers.....Every Member
Liturgist.....Zack Vaught
Ushers.....George Joplin & Linda Bonardel
Audio.....Paul Guffey
Video.....Sue Guffey
Coffee Plus.....Suzanne Kidd
Director of Music.....Theresa Jean Kibby
Piano & Organ.....Debby McDonald
Pastor.....Rev. David Holden

Deacons:

Linda Cook Rebecca Davis Sue Guffey
 Don Haney Nancy Holland Marshall Judy Marci Randall

Elders:

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Class of 2027</i>
Charles Leveridge	Sharon Mandt	Jo Salmon
Perry Waller		Laura Wright

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First Presbyterian Church

February 23th, 2025

The Seventh Sunday After Epiphany



Love Your Enemies, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58810> [retrieved February 18, 2025]. Original source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/boojee/2929823056/>.

People of God, Welcome Home!

May Christ's peace and presence fill your heart as you worship this day, and may you go forth with the light and love of God shining within you.

We welcome you to worship, and ask that any electronic devices be placed on silent so that all may hear what God has to say.