

GATHERING

Loving God, we begin this new day in the sure knowledge that you have claimed us as your children. In all that we do and say, let our lives be an example to all whom we encounter. That we are called as daughters and sons of God, to follow in the path of Jesus, our Lord and our brother. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE Children of the Heavenly Father R. Hobby

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

The voice of God resounds upon the water.

The Spirit of the Lord hovers over the stream.

The Son of God is named, "Beloved."

Let us worship God in holy splendor.

*** HYMN 375** Shall We Gather at the River Hanson Place

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we are precious in your sight, yet we often forget that we are your beloved. We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant. We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world. We are sorry and we want to change. Create in us a clean heart, strengthen our resolve, reconcile us one to another, and bless us with your peace. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** ACT OF PRAISE** Gloria Patri Hymn 581

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.

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:1-9 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 670

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

This Is My Beloved Son

K. Nystedt

He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from a cloud said: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him."

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Vicki Sumner

(Children will remain seated with their families for the Time for Young Disciples.)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 3 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 2

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

You Have Put on Christ

H. Hughes

You have put on Christ, in him you have been baptized. Alleluia, alleluia.

* DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

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

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* 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; 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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Gluten-Free Bread)

PRAYER

SENDING

* HYMN 475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High

J. Dunstable

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Rev. Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Scott Stuart, Vicki Sumner

ELDER ON DUTY: Maralyn Foote

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

SEPTET: Raul Giovannetti, Colin Hall, Lydia King, Simon Lynch, Andrew Netardus, Alanna Parfait, Alexis Vellis

CHANCEL CHOIR ACCOMPANIST: Tiffany Fung

USHERS: Jenny Chamberlain, Tom Chamberlain, Bill Olinger, Paul Bennett

VIDEO TEAM: Kaylee Bleeker, Troy Bleeker, John Rayl

SOUND: Frank Counts

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT: We extend our sympathy and offer the prayers of our congregation to her family upon the passing of Marion Broadaway, who joined the Church Triumphant on December 8, 2021.

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT: We extend our sympathy and offer the prayers of our congregation to Mark and Karen Coffey and family upon the passing of Mark's mother, Urtella Coffey, who joined the Church Triumphant on December 23, 2021.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. We pray that you experience Christ's presence in our midst and that His presence will sustain you in the week ahead. Visitors are welcome to participate in the worship and the work of First Presbyterian Church. You can find a "Three Steps to Membership" card with information about how to join the church in the pew racks. If you feel a call to commit your life to Jesus Christ and His Church, please speak to the pastor or an elder after worship.

Prayer of Belief: *Lord Jesus Christ, I admit I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment, and offering forgiveness. I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior. Amen.* (If you are saying this prayer for the first time today, please let the pastor or elders on duty know.)

Leadership

Rev. Mark Hults
Pastor

Allison VanDenend
Clerk of Session

Dink Henderson
Treasurer

Session

Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Mary Jo Deichler	Pam Bailey	Alison Barat
Carol Israel	Todd Best	Ashley Lentz-Black
Jed Keesling	Deanna Cook	Jennifer Clark
Earle Pickens	Andrew Greer	Maralyn Foote
John Rayl	Missy Lentz	George Lebo
Tim Schubert	Russell Robinson	Evelyn Lewis
Allison VanDenend	Andy Vloedman	Dan Sutton
Cyndie Williams	Margaret Weech	

Diaconate

Class of 2022	Class of 2023	Class of 2024
Dell Bowman	Jessica Berger	Tammy Bleeker
Megan Greer	Perry Foote	Buzz Boyd
Fred Lewis	Mimi Gray	Mimi Carr
Jane Morris	Dean Schoenfeld	Kristin Pickens
Rose Pickens	Jane Smith	Mary Lou Schubert
Barbara Probert	Dale Syfert	Nick Vellis

Senior Pastor

Rev. Mark Hults - pastor@1stpc.org

Director of Music and Organist

Mitch Rorick - music@1stpc.org

Director of Young Adult & Family Ministry

Fred Lundy - youngadult@1stpc.org

Director of College Ministry

Scott Stuart - college@1stpc.org

Director of Children's Ministries

Vicki Sumner - children@1stpc.org

Preschool Director

Lisa Hershkowitz - preschool@1stpc.org

Business Manager

Trudy Bonerba - business@1stpc.org

Pastor's Assistant

Laura Montgomery - assistant@1stpc.org

Communications Assistant

Jenny Chamberlain - communications@1stpc.org

FPC Weekly Figures

In-Person Attendance	60
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$29,817
Received Week of 1/2/2022	\$22,520
Weekly Offering	\$8,004
Designated Offerings	\$85
Other Revenue	--
Preschool	\$14,431
YTD Budget Requirements	\$805,067
YTD Received	\$803,315
YTD Expenses	\$711,104

375 Shall We Gather at the River

1 Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,
 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er; soon our pil-grim-age will cease;

with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the hap-py gold-en day.
 grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the mel-o-dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;

gath-er with the saints at the riv-er that flows by the throne of God.

A Baptist pastor wrote this hymn while seated at his parlor organ. Created as an alternative to gloomy "river of death" hymns, it is a celebration of the "pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Revelation 22:1 KJV).

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:1-9 (NRSV)

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵ Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

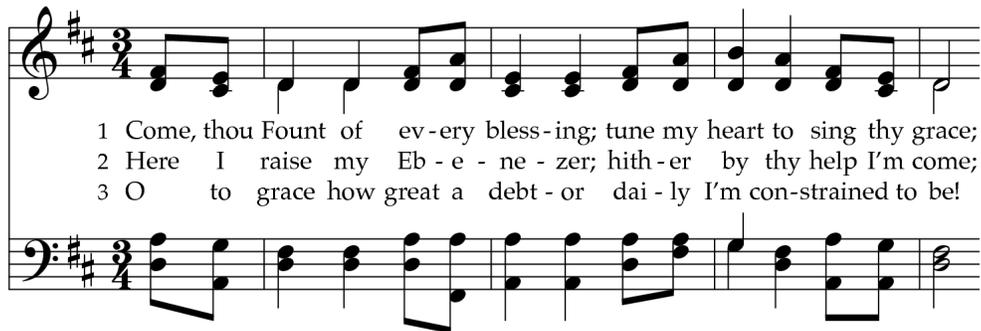
Matthew 3 (NRSV)

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

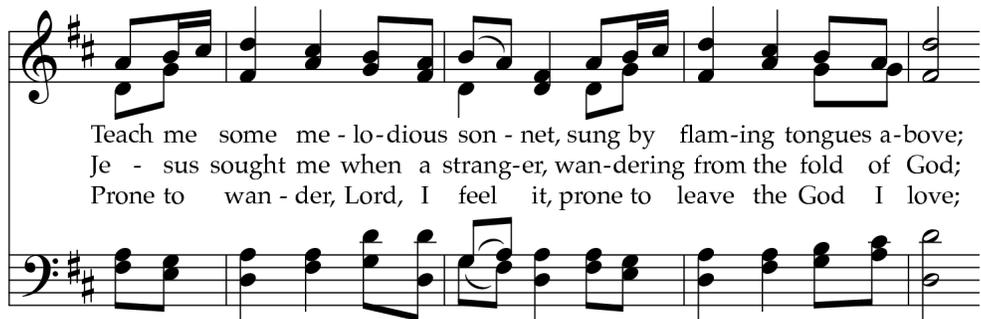
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



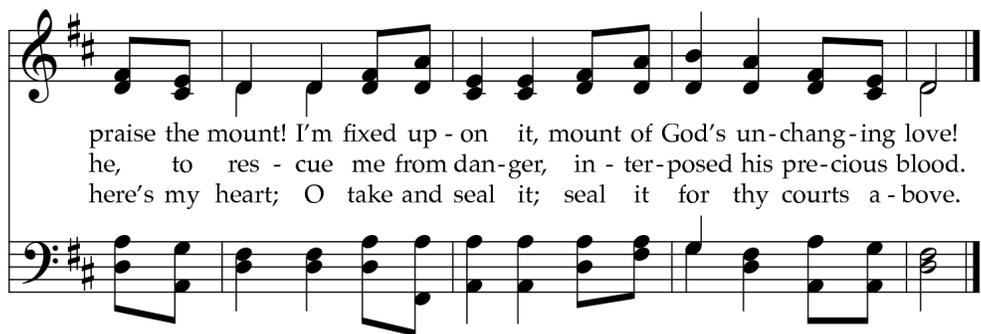
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - ery bless - ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, wan - dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON
 8.7.8.7.D

GLORIFY GOD

A Solo Organ Recital with David Higgs will be held in the sanctuary this afternoon, Sunday, January 9, at 4 p.m. One of America's leading concert organists, David Higgs is Chair of the Organ Department at the Eastman School of Music. He performs extensively throughout the United States and abroad and has inaugurated many important new instruments including the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola New York City, and most recently, Christ Church Cathedral Cincinnati. His performances with numerous ensembles have included the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Orpheus Ensemble, Chanticleer, and the Empire Brass. Mr. Higgs frequently performs, teaches, and adjudicates at the great organ festivals and competitions around the world.

Year-End Contribution Statements will be sent upon request after January 15. Please contact Trudy Bonerba at business@1stpc.org or through the church office and specify if you prefer email or regular mail.

January is a Great Time to Join a Choir at First Presbyterian Church! There are choirs and handbell groups for a variety of ages. Please contact Mitch Rorick with questions or to find the right group for you.

MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

Nursery Coordinator Needed: We are hiring an individual to staff and run the nursery. The paid position is 8-10 hours a week which includes Sunday mornings, weekly planning, and special events. Several volunteers are already committed to serve with the children. Contact Evelyn Lewis with questions at citytr122@gmail.com.

Children's Worship Bags are located in the Narthex, Gordon Hall, and the chapel. Pick one up before the service to help your child participate in worship. After the service, please return all bags to the baskets. We encourage your family to discuss worship together - even if you don't use the guide.

Children and Youth Sunday School: Our Elementary (K-5th Grade) and Youth (6th-12th Grade) Sunday School classes resume via Zoom today, Sunday, January 9. The Elementary class meets from 9:30-9:50 a.m. and the Youth class meets from 10:00-10:20 a.m. in which both classes spend time in fellowship, the morning lesson, and prayer. The Christian Education Committee is working to bring classes back into the church building. Please join us in prayer as we equip volunteers to lead these classes and let us know if you feel called to lead. Contact Vicki Sumner with questions and to volunteer.

The LOGOS ministry invites families to an outdoor gathering at the church parking lot this Wednesday, January 12 for fellowship and recreation from 4:45-6:00 p.m. This meeting will provide information about LOGOS ministry for this semester. Children and youth will be grouped for activities by age, and parents will have an opportunity to register their children and

choose their involvement in this ministry. Please RSVP to Bev Vloedman at dvloedman@aol.com.

Youth Connection (6th-12th Grade) is a space for our students to connect and grow in their faith. We are continuing a twice a month schedule this semester. Due to the rise in local cases of Covid-19, we will meet via Zoom from 4-6 p.m. this Sunday, January 9. Look for more information regarding Youth Connection in the Children and Youth Ministry Weekly Update emails.

Young Adult & Family Ministry: We have in-person and Zoom gatherings scheduled for the new year along with opportunities to support local missions. Contact Fred Lundy if you would like to be on our email list.

Gordon Hoover Sunday School: Meet in the Church Library at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Enter through the Mary Gate or the sanctuary. All are welcome! Email Perry Foote at palbertfoote@gmail.com with questions.

January 9	Acts 28	Pam Bailey
January 16	The Holy Trinity	Don McGarity

MEET HUMAN NEEDS

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Melda Bassett, Cecilia Caton, Jayne Fox, Emily Hoyer, Kay Koons, Elizabeth Miller, and Theral Moore. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Trinity Gilkey, Brian Hill, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez, and Paul Samala. Essential worker: Bill Clark.

Our Nursery is open from 10:45 a.m. through the end of the 11 a.m. worship service for infants (6 weeks old) through pre-kindergarten children. The nursery is run by masked FPC volunteers. Children are not required to wear masks, yet we will honor any caregiver's request for their child to keep a mask on within our care. We are also looking for those who are called to serve the littlest in our congregation to sign up to volunteer. We currently have no staff and our nursery is solely run by church members who are sharing their gifts and talents during this season of hiring a Nursery Coordinator and staff. Please contact Vicki Sumner, children@1stpc.org, or Evelyn Lewis, citytr122@gmail.com.

Urgent Call for Ushers: Are you willing to lead worship by welcoming members and guests to our doors and collecting the offering during worship? We are in need of ushers on both a regular and substitute basis at both worship services. Please call the church office or email Laura Montgomery if you are willing and able to serve.

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 **now from 9-10 a.m.**
for our televised broadcast 
or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts



Current Worship video and audio
as well as archives at 1stpc.org

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Is there something you would like to announce in the Bugle or Bulletin? Contact communications@1stpc.org