

\*PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CELL PHONES ARE TURNED OFF.\*

Welcome and Announcements  
Moment for Mission

Sara Wood, Lay Reader  
Angelina Carpenter, 1<sup>st</sup> UMC After-School Program

Prelude “We Plow the Fields and Scatter” Schulz  
*Pouring the Waters of Baptism: a reminder that we are baptized children of God.*

\*Call to Worship Sara Wood

L: The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?  
**ALL: The Lord is the stronghold of our life;  
of whom shall we be afraid?**  
L: Sisters and brothers, God is good.  
**ALL: In love and mercy, God greets us here.**  
L: The Lord makes us strong; let our hearts take courage  
**ALL: We wait for the Lord. Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” #12

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon Sara Wood

L: The Lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear? With humble hearts, let us confess our sins before God and one another, praying first silently, then together. *(Silence)*  
**ALL: Merciful God, you have made us citizens of heaven, but we confess that we have set our minds on earthly things. We think, act, and speak out of fear, rather than trusting in you to guide our thoughts, words, and actions. Forgive us, Lord. Strengthen our spirits through your Holy Spirit, and conform us to your will, that we may be the body of Christ for the world. Amen.**  
L: God, our light and our salvation, does not forsake us or leave us with our sin. In Christ we are forgiven and healed, free to serve God and one another!  
**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

\*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.”**

Prayer for Illumination Sara Wood

**Loving God, you save all who seek refuge in you. Open your Word by your Holy Spirit, so that we, finding refuge, may walk always in your light, take courage in your faithfulness, and rejoice in your astounding goodness to us. Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

Scripture Reading: Psalm 27 Sara Wood

Special Music: *(FPC Choir)* “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” #688

Scripture Reading: Philippians 3:17 - 4:9 Pastor Betsy

Sermon “Setting our Minds on Heavenly Things” Pastor Betsy

Moment for Meditation

\*Affirmation of Faith *Philippians 2:5-11*  
**Let the same mind be in you that you have in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

\*Hymn “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful” (sing 3 times) #654

Offertory                      “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”                      Francis & Williams  
*March/April Dollars for Mission will support the World Central Kitchen.*

\*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication                      Pastor Betsy  
**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.**

Prayers of the People and 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.**

\*Hymn                      “When Morning Gilds the Skies”                      #667

\*Charge and Benediction                      Pastor Betsy

\*Postlude                      Frank Armato, Church Musician

\*Please rise in body or in spirit. Lael Wilson or Dixie Ramsdell, “the waters;” Dennis Dalglish, candle lighting; Jerry Blaydes, sound system. The congregation is invited to read the print in **BOLD**.

<sup>†</sup>God's Hands and the Holy Spirit, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/basta-cosi/1547659026/> - Jean Bean.

# First Presbyterian Church

growing in Faith, serving with Hope, sharing God's Love

**March 16, 2025 10:00 a.m.**

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent*

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*“God’s Hands and the Holy Spirit” (Stained Glass)<sup>†</sup>*

**Worship Leaders**  
**Pastor: Rev. Betsy Stow | Music Director: Frank Armato**  
**Lay Reader: Sara Wood**