



First Presbyterian Church of
EDGEWOOD
The Community Church



LOVE GOD
EACH OTHER
OUR NEIGHBORS



Sunday Morning Worship at Eleven O'clock
Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany – February 12, 2023

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.

**Happy are those who keep God's decrees,
who seek the Lord with their whole heart.**

O that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping God's statutes!

**Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on the commandments of the Lord.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O Lord our God, you have given us your law

**to teach us how to live in peace,
to be faithful in our relationships,
and to be trustworthy in our words.**

Help us to take the extra step

**in rejecting violence,
loving our neighbors,
and speaking the truth,**

that we may be reconciled to you and to one another;
through Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

***HYMN #32**

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

1 I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

** We invite you to rise in body or
in spirit where there are asterisks **

*We invite you to read all **bold**
words aloud with the community*

*We start services with a "Call to
Worship" to establish the context
for worship as an encounter with
the Holy One who calls all things
into being.*

- 2 I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 God formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good.
 Lord, how thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
 if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!
- 3 There's not a plant or flower below but makes thy glories known.
 And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from thy throne,
 while all that borrows life from thee is ever in thy care,
 and everywhere that we can be, thou, God, art present there.

CALL TO CONFESSION

People of God, in the covenant of baptism
 we are claimed in Christ and called to be saints.

Therefore, with faith and confidence
 let us confess our sin and ask for God's grace,
 calling on the name of our Savior and Lord.

We turn from communal praise to corporate confession, not for shame nor in guilt, but to wrestle honestly with the impact we have on each other. We do so with the knowledge of God's grace for all people.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Holy One, in your presence, we confess our captivity to sin
 and our resistance to your way.**

**You have chosen what is foolish to shame the wisdom of this world,
 but we boast in our knowledge and ignore the insights of others.**

**You have chosen what is weak to shame the powers of this world,
 but we boast in our strength and refuse the gifts of others.**

**You have chosen what is despised to shame the values of this world,
 but we boast in our merits and reject the worth of others.**

Forgive us, Holy One.

Renew and reshape our lives with the message of the cross.

**Teach us to boast in nothing but the crucified and risen one:
 Jesus the Christ, our Lord.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Christ is the wisdom of God. Christ is the power of God. Christ is the glory of God.
 In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

As Christ has forgiven us, let us forgive one another:
 The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
 and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
 and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen. *(sing 3 times)*
 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Send your Spirit, O God, to search us and teach us.
Help us to understand the wisdom of your way.
Give us the mind of Christ—by whose gracious word we live
And in whose holy name we pray. **Amen.**

We read Scripture when we gather because we dare to believe that God continues to speak to us through it. Reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the Word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

NRSVUE

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

The Scriptures bear witness to the Word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word who "became flesh and lived among us" (John 1:14). Where the Word is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the living Word is present by the power of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the Word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

PSALM 119:1-8 (responsive)

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!

**Blessed are those who keep his decrees!
With all their hearts they seek him.**

They never do anything evil, but walk in his ways.
You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept.

May my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

**Then I shall not be put to shame
as I observe all your commands.**

I will thank you with an upright heart,
as I learn your just judgments.

**I will keep your statutes;
do not ever forsake me.**

RGP

Coming to us from the worship of ancient Judaism, the psalms have been at the heart of Christian prayer and praise across the centuries. Throughout its history, the Reformed tradition has given a special place to singing the psalms in worship. The Psalm is not intended as a reading but a response to the first reading.

ANTHEM

"Kum Ba Yah"

arr. Michael Larson

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 5:21-37

NRSVUE

²¹ "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder,' and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' ²² But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment, and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council, and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³ So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹ "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³² But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³ "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' ³⁴ But I say to you: Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵ or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶ And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷ Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

MESSAGE

Nathan Salamacha

***HYMN**

"Up on a Mountaintop"

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

(sung to the tune of "Be Thou My Vision")

- 1 Up on a mountaintop, Jesus sat down,
Teaching the people who gathered around:
Look for the blessings that God kindly brings;
God's loving kingdom is changing all things.
- 2 You are the salt and you're also the light.
Flavor God's world, with your faith shining bright.
Know that I've come here, God's word to fulfill.
Keep the commandments and follow them well.

- 3 Let go of anger, for it is a sin.
It will destroy you, both outside and in.
Even your thinking can lead you astray;
Whatever tempts you, just throw it away.
- 4 Keep strong the bonds between husband and wife;
Keep your commitments for all of your life.
Don't swear by heaven or by earth below;
Let "yes" be "yes" then, and let "no" be "no."
- 5 If any hurt you, then you may resist,
But not with hatred or weapon or fist.
God's way is stronger than any you face;
Stand up and love them! And give them God's grace.
- 6 Love those who hate you and pray for them, too.
God's mercy reaches out far beyond you.
Seek, as God's people, God's wholeness each day
So you can witness to God's perfect way.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from A Brief Statement of Faith, 1983

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

**Ignoring God's commandments.
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.**

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.**

Hearing their cry,

God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Great is your wisdom, O Lord; you are mighty in power and vigilant in your care.
Therefore we come to you in faith. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church. Build us up as Christ's body, and strengthen us to serve you.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the earth. Bring life out of death and destruction,
and bless your creation with renewal. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all peoples. Teach us to pursue peace and work for reconciliation.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this community. Restore the honor of those falsely accused,
and be present with those who are in prison. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for loved ones... [prayers for those on our prayer list]
Protect those who are sick or suffering, in danger or facing death.
God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Lead us, O Lord, through fire and flood. Guide us, O God, from death to life.
This we pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

RESPONDING WITH THANKSGIVING

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES, GIFTS, AND GOODS

We may plant the seeds or water the garden,
but it is God alone who gives the growth.

We are God's servants, working together
**to sow seeds of peace on earth
and build up the body of Christ.**

Trusting in what God is doing, let us offer our gifts to the Lord.

RESPONSE #710

"We are an Offering"

We lift our voices; we lift our hands;
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;
Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering; we are an offering.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

What can we offer to you, O Lord, as our sacrifice of thanks and praise?

You have shown us what is good and the offering you require of us.

Help us to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you, our God.

And now, with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray,
in the languages closest to our hearts, the prayer Jesus taught, saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Those wishing to make offerings by electronic transfer may use this QR code or go to fpcedgewood.org/donate



**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.**

SENDING INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN**

“Trust and Obey”

1 When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his Word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

2 But we never can prove
the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows,
and the joy he bestows
are for them who will trust and obey.
(Refrain)

Refrain:

Trust and obey,
for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus
but to trust and obey.

3 Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go -
never fear, only trust and obey. (Refrain)

INVITATIONS TO BE THE CHURCH TOGETHER

The Sharing of Church Life

BLESSING & CHARGE

Each day we face choices between life and death, blessing and curse.
Let us choose blessing and life, that we may live and share God's blessing with all.
Alleluia! Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

*Please be seated as we partake in a time of contemplation.
When the music ends, we invite you to join us in the Gathering Place for coffee hour!*

SERVICE IN THE WORLD

*Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Morning Service;
we go forth to love and serve the Lord in daily living.
In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.*

Participants in this worship service:

Nathan Salamacha, guest pastor | **Elder Rhonda Apessos**, liturgist
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | **Sunny Sakai**, pianist | **The Sanctuary Choir**
John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our YouTube channel,
or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



Welcome

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. Please place this card in the offering plate either during or after the service.

ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE: What does it mean to be Presbyterian? Who is Jesus? What is the Church? How do we live together? Starting February 26th, join us after our worship service to discuss these questions together. Everyone is welcome, but if you are considering taking the next steps in your faith journey, you are especially invited. See Pastor Jason if you have any questions!

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR will start soon, but before Jason sets up regular hours, he would love to take the time to meet with people more directly. Look at your calendar and think of a time you'd like to get together. We can talk about whatever you'd like! This is just a chance to catch up, share ideas about the church, to ask questions about the Bible, or to talk about the latest movie you saw! Call, text, email, or use his Calendly to set up a time: www.calendly.com/pastorjasondauer

CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room, CE=CE Office, GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study, S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

Monday, February 13

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)
7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

Tuesday, February 14

10:00AM Book Club (AH)
7:00PM Edgewood Symphony (S)
7:00PM Session (GP)

Wednesday, February 15

7:30PM Zoom Bible Study

Thursday, February 16

3:45PM Flute Lesson (CE)
7:00PM SAA (L)
7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

Friday, February 17

4:15PM Flute Lesson (CE)
8:30PM AA (SR)

Saturday, February 18

8:30PM AA (SR)

Transfiguration Sunday, February 19

9:30AM Worship Ensemble (S)
11:00AM Emerging Worship (S)
Youth Sunday School (GP)
12:00PM Fellowship (GP)
12:15PM Staff Meeting (PS)

How can you become involved?

As we reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

OUR FPCE FAMILY

Pastor**The Rev. Jason Dauer**
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Office & Cleaning Manager
.....**Judy Mysels**
office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager**Rob Mysels**
building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music **Shaun Cloonan**
music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist.....**Sunny Sakai**
Sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Ministers **The Entire Congregation**



Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ, our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.
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