

GATHERING

Holy One, thank you for the ability to begin my day in prayer. Guide my path today. No matter what happens, help me to feel that I belong to you, and bring me home to you at the end of the day. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE (11 A.M.)

Jesus Loves Me
Laura Dallman, pianist

J. Krauss

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Delight in God's teachings dearest church.

We will learn of God's great ways!

Meditate on them and learn their meaning.

And we will yield the blessings of God's instruction.

* **HYMN 41**

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

LYONS

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God, though you call us to delight in your teachings, we can become cynical and full of doubt. Do not judge us, we pray, but heal us and restore us to you. Guard us and protect us from evil, and sanctify us in truth; in Jesus' name. 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 FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:38-50 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 45

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

Lord of All Hopefulness
Kate Vellis, alto

A. Bullard

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy, be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe, be there at our labours, and give us, we pray, Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace, be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm, be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Sarah Whitfield

(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God.)

* **HYMN 544**

Bless the Lord
(Sing 3x through)

BLESS THE LORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Esther 7 (NRSV)

OT pg. 448

SERMON

God Comes Through

Rev. Mark Hults

MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER

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 (11 A.M.)

Prière à Notre Dame

L. Boëllmann

* **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.*

* **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.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (8:30 A.M.)

(Gluten-Free Bread)

SENDING

* **HYMN 14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE**

Dialogue

F. Couperin

TODAY IN WORSHIP

WORSHIP LEADERS: Mark Hults, Fred Lundy, Scott Stuart, Sarah Whitfield

ELDER ON DUTY: Susannah Peddie

ACOLYTE: Rivers Rentz

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST: Mitch Rorick

CHAPEL USHER: Dan Sutton; **SANCTUARY USHERS:** Paul Bennett, Maralyn Foote, Perry Foote

A/V TEAM: Marin Best, Bruce Brashear, Owen Best, John Rayl

THE FLOWERS IN WORSHIP are given to the glory of God and in memory of Peg Garlington from the Garlington family.

THE PINK CARNATIONS are given to the glory of God and in honor and memory of all mothers. As you leave worship today, there are individual flowers available at the exits. Please feel free to take a pink carnation for your mother, even if she is not able to be with you today.

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.)



2024-2025

PLEDGE UPDATE

AS OF 5/5/2024



\$407,710
in pledged funds



78
pledges



\$850,000
pledge goal

Thank you! Every gift makes a difference.

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

Parish Associate, Director of College Ministry

Rev. Scott Stuart - college@1stpc.org

Preschool Director

Lisa Hershkowitz - preschool@1stpc.org

Business Manager

Trudy Bonerba - business@1stpc.org

Operations and Administrative Associate

Laura Montgomery - assistant@1stpc.org

Communications Specialist

Jenny Chamberlain - communications@1stpc.org

Event Sexton and Music Clerk

Andrew Netardus - events@1stpc.org

Head Sexton - Tony Cogdill

Sexton - Margaret Hill

41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:38-50 (NRSV)

³⁸John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SENDING

544

Bless the Lord

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

This refrain based on Psalm 103:1 is meant for repeated singing. To "bless God's holy name" (which could not be spoken by observant Jews) is a reminder to be grateful even for what we cannot comprehend, trusting that God's providence will show us "the path of life" (Psalm 16:11).

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1984
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1984

Text and Music © 1984, 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

BLESS THE LORD (Taizé)
Irregular

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Esther 7 (NRSV)

¹So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. ²On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."

³Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. ⁴For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." ⁵Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" ⁶Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

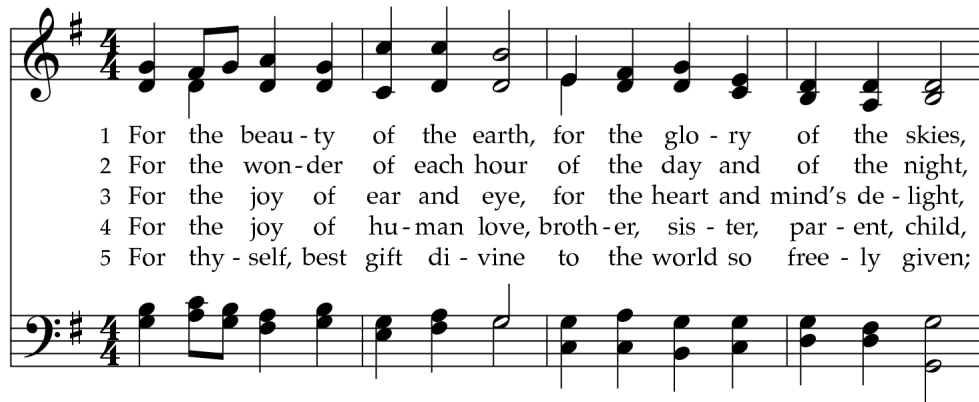
⁷The king rose from the feast in wrath and went into the palace garden, but Haman stayed to beg his life from Queen Esther, for he saw that the king had determined to destroy him. ⁸When the king returned from the palace garden to the banquet hall, Haman had thrown himself on the couch where Esther was reclining; and the king said, "Will he even assault the queen in my presence, in my own house?" As the words left the mouth of the king, they covered Haman's face.

⁹Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." ¹⁰So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

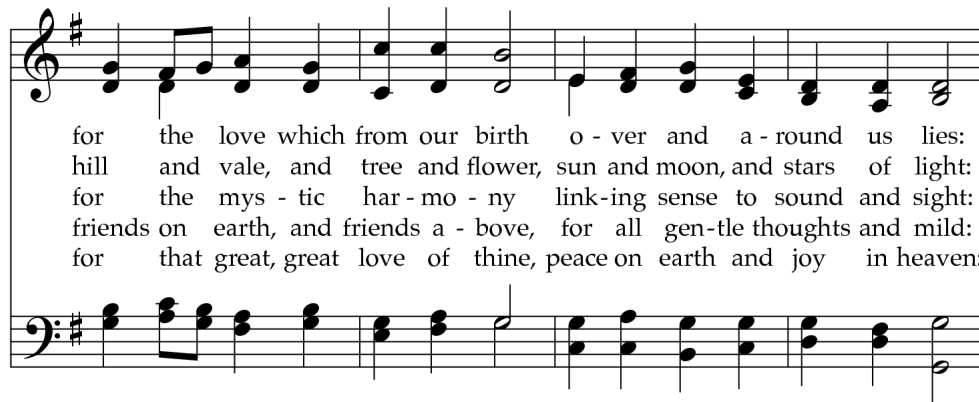
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

For the Beauty of the Earth 14

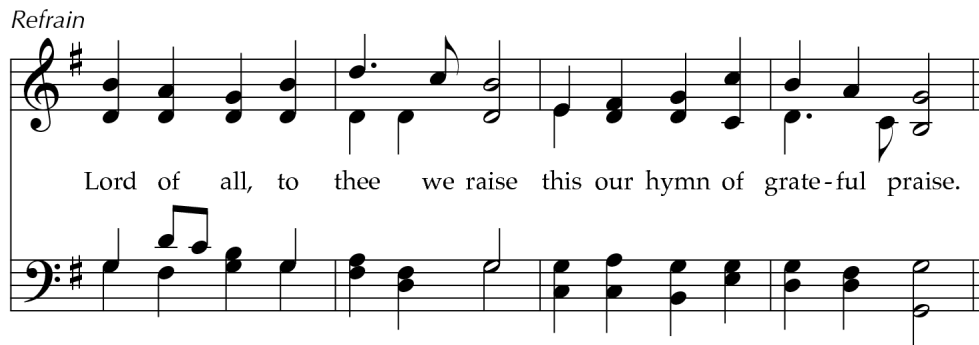


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

GLORIFY GOD

Summer Choir will sing Sunday, May 26 and June 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30. Rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:40 a.m. in the sanctuary immediately preceding worship. Well aware of summer schedules, it is not necessary for members of the summer choir to be present every summer Sunday. The anthems are selected to match the abilities of those in attendance. Join us! For more information, contact Mitch Rorick.

A Men's Choir, conducted by Don McGarity, will sing on Sunday, May 19. Rehearsal will be from 9:30 - 10:40 a.m. and the choir will participate in the 11 a.m. service. Please contact Mitch Rorick if interested.

MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

Nursery Care (6 weeks old through pre-kindergarten) is available on Sundays from 10:45 a.m. through the end of the 11 a.m. worship service. Email Jenna Mueller at jdmueller2009@gmail.com with questions or to sign up. Families, please find the sign-in cart upstairs in the Christian Education building by room 204.

Children's Worship Guides are located in the narthex, and Gordon Hall. Pick one up before the service to help your child participate in worship and return the bags to the baskets after the service.

Kids-4-God: Children (K through 2nd) will gather in Room 217 after the Time for Young Disciples to engage with their faith through the end of the service. Families will meet in Gordon Hall following worship. Volunteers are needed. Contact Evelyn Lewis at citytr122@gmail.com.

Multiply Sunday Class: Meet upstairs in room 201 on the second floor of the Education Wing at 9:30 a.m. as we begin a study of the book of Ruth.

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.

May 12	2 Corinthians 8	Bob Bailey
May 19	2 Corinthians 9	Jed Keesling

MEET HUMAN NEEDS

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Jayne Fox, Carol Hayes-Christiansen, Elizabeth Miller, and Marjorie Pedrick. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala.

Noteworthy Sponsors: On June 15, children, youth, and adults from our church will travel to Montreat, North Carolina for the 2024 Worship and Music Conference. Please become a Noteworthy Sponsor. Place a check in the offering plate with the memo, "Montreat Noteworthy Sponsor," or mail a check to the church office. Thank you for your continued support.

Presbyterian Women (PW) delivered three pounds of aluminum pull-tabs to Ronald McDonald House last week. RMcD House uses the proceeds from the tab tops to supply snacks and personal necessities for families staying there while their sick children are being treated at Shands Children's Hospital. This is an easy ministry for anyone to join in to let the families know we care for them. Just collect aluminum tab tops and drop them into the PW plastic hopper on the counter in the narthex.

GCM Pantry Need: As you are able, please bring canned goods to donate to Gainesville Community Ministry. Their stock is low as the summer begins. Donations may be dropped in the metal carts in the narthex and Gordon Hall or brought directly to GCM (238 SW 4th Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601).

Do you enjoy eating cookies after worship? Do you enjoy baking cookies? If your answer is "yes," please join the team of cookie makers (or buyers) providing for sweets and fellowship after worship. Your cookies can be baked or bought in advance and held in the church freezers or brought to church by 10:30 on Sunday morning. If you would like to join in, let the church office know dates and dozens you'll provide. Most Sundays we offer 3-4 batches of 4 dozen cookies. Thanks! The team of 3-4th grade girls is eager to serve the cookies after worship.

Lost & Found: We have a few towels from the lake day at Montgomery if you are missing yours. Contact the church office or pick them up in the back hall.

FPC Weekly Figures

In-Person Attendance 5/5/24	165
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$35,061
Received Week of 5/5/24	\$33,479
Weekly Offering	\$8,239
Designated Offerings	\$25,240
Other Revenue	--
Preschool	--
<u>FPC Fiscal Year: July 2023-June 2024</u>	
YTD Budget Requirements	\$1,577,726
YTD Received	\$1,455,246
YTD Expenses	\$1,382,797

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