



# Worship for The Lord's Day

First Presbyterian Church

**February 2, 2026**

**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

**10:00 A.M. Worship**

**WELCOME!** Whether you are a long-time attendee or if this is your first time at this place, may we all discover the depth and power of God's hospitality and invitation. May our worship and praise glorify the Lord and inspire all of God's people.

Please provide your contact information and any questions or requests you have in the "Friendship Booklets" as these are passed through the rows.

## GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER TO WORSHIP

**PRELUDE**

"Fur Elise"

Beethoven

## PERSONAL PREPARATION AND MEDITATION

*"What does the Lord require of you, but to seek justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)*

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Oh Lord, Your Word is a wonder and we follow in delight.

All: **Your revelation is a shining light, giving understanding to Your people.**

Leader: Turn and look on us with grace.

All: **Keep my steps on Your path, and do not let sin get the better of me.**

Leader: Save us from oppression, so that we may follow You freely.

All: **Smile upon us in Your glory, and teach us Your perfect way.**

**Let us worship our Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**    "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"

No. 712

**\*PRAYERS OF CONFESSION** *(In Unison, then Silently)*

Please God! Save us. There are communal sins which have hurt people and communities within our community. I have personally and intentionally sinned. I have sinned out of all-too-human emotions and motivations. I have sinned unintentionally and carry such regrets.

Only You can save. Only You can redeem. Without Your merciful power, we would struggle to return to paths of righteousness. Yet, because of Your overwhelming love, we can hope and promise and a new life.

Kind Lord, listen to Your people praying.....

*(A quiet moment for silent individual prayers)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(Worship Leader and In Unison)*

Leader: Put your trust in the good news of the Gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are fully forgiven!**

**\*CELEBRATION SONG**      “Glory Be to the Father”

No. 581

**GOD’S WORD IS READ, SUNG, AND PONDERED**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Exodus 20: 2-17

“I am the Lord your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before Me.

“You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth.

“You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject Me <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

“You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses His name.

“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work .... For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea,

**and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.**

**“Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.**

**“You shall not murder.**

**“You shall not commit adultery.**

**“You shall not steal.**

**“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

**“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”**

## **ANTHEM**                    “My Soul Longs for Thee, O Lord”                    Beethoven/Hopson

## SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

**SUNDAY MESSAGE**      **“Make Our Choices”**      **Rev. Greg Gillispie**

## **\*PROFESSION OF FAITH**

### *from the Heidelberg Catechism (1563)*

Q. Why can't our good works be our righteousness before God, or at least a part of our righteousness?

A. Because the righteousness which can pass God's judgment must be entirely perfect and must in every way measure up to the divine law. But even our best works in this life are imperfect and stained with sin.

Q. How can our good works be said to merit nothing when God promises to reward them in this life and the next?

**A. This reward is not earned; it is a gift of grace. Those grafted into Christ through true faith produce fruits of gratitude. The Holy Spirit produces faith in our hearts by the preaching of the holy gospel and confirms it by the use of the holy sacraments.**

**It is through faith alone that we share in Christ and share all the Lord's benefits. *Thanks be to the God of love and mercy!***

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOOD NEWS

\*HYMN

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

No. 729

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

## INVITATIONS AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

## WE OFFER TO GOD OUR GIFTS AND COMMITMENTS

**OFFERTORY**

“Sonatina No. 1 in G Major”

Beethoven

\*DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

No. 606

\*OFFERING PRAYER *(In Unison)*

*written by Gill Le Feuvre*

Ever-faithful God, You lead us through the wilderness of this world. You promise to care for and sustain us. We worship You with praise and thanksgiving. You are with us when we face hardships and when we sense Your abundance.

Bless our offering and our service, so that we might help others in their times of need. Magnify our ministries, so that others may come to know Your redeeming love. Accept our gifts and commitments, so that through these acts of faith we might renew our hearts, renew our souls, and renew the world You have entrusted to us. Amen.

## GOD'S PEOPLE GO FORTH TO WORSHIP AND SERVE

\*HYMN

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

No. 649

## \*A CHALLENGE AND BLESSING

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Amen”

## **\*WE SHARE A BLESSING WITH EACH OTHER**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you

All: **And also with you.**

## **\*POSTLUDE**

“Sonatina No. 2 in F Major”

Beethoven

---

**THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL** are dedicated to the **Glory of God** and in honor of **JoAnn Rubrake's dedication and service to our Food Pantry.**

**RECEPTION:** The Deacons will be hosting a reception **today**, after worship, in Fellowship Hall to thank **JoAnn Rubrake** for her many years of service and dedication to our Food Pantry. JoAnn has trained several volunteers to take on the duties involved in providing groceries and a hot lunch for our community in need. Join us!

**RADIO MINISTRY** is funded by **Ray and JoAnn Rubrake**. Our service is broadcast at 10:00 a.m. Sundays on 1570 AM and 97.7 FM and talk 977.com. Donations for the Radio Ministry may be placed in the offering plate; contributions may also be mailed to the Church Office with “Radio Ministry” in the memo of the check.

**THE DEACONS** would like to thank all who remember the Deacons’ Cupboard while shopping. They are requesting **frosting, toilet tissue, paper towels, and toothpaste** for the month of **February**. You may leave your items in the Deacons’ box in Fellowship Hall.

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING will be held today, after worship in the Parlor.** Are you currently a caregiver for a loved one? Have you been a caregiver? Is there a probability that you will become a caregiver?

**If you answered “yes” to ANY of the above questions, you will be an important part of this group.** There are so many decisions to be made when we care for a loved one. Many of us start this without any idea of what to expect. If you’ve done this already, the knowledge that you have is invaluable to others. Please support the formation of this important group and attend.

**MIRIAM-ESTHER CIRCLE** will meet **Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.** in the Parlor to continue with Lesson 5 of “Finding Resilience, Joy, and our Identity.” Please bring a bag lunch; dessert will be provided.

**A NEWCOMER’S INFO GATHERING** happens after worship on **February 22**. If you are new or want to find out more about FPC, plan to stay for a bonus “half hour.”

**ONE-DAY WORKSHOP: GRACIOUS LIVING & HOSPICE 101:** The Presbytery Resource Committee is hosting a special one-day workshop on Saturday, **February 7, 9:00 a.m.** at United Presbyterian Church in Cuyahoga Falls. Led by Rebecca McCurdy, who brings 30 years of experience from Ohio's Hospice LifeCare in Wooster. This is open to church leaders—pastors, CReEs, Ruling Elders, Deacons—and anyone interested in learning more about this heartfelt ministry. Our Christian Education Team is providing carpooling to the workshop. Sign up in Fellowship Hall, or speak with Sharyn Common or Sue Dennis.

**FIRST SUNDAY SPEAKER** will be on **Sunday, February 8**, after worship in the Parlor. Our first speaker of 2026 will be founder and CEO of Inspiring Minds, Deryck Toles. Deryck suffered a career-ending injury to his professional football dreams. While spending hours each day in therapy, Toles reflected on the good and bad moments in his life. Inspired by his memories, Toles began meeting with several students once a month in Warren, to talk about their future. Once a month turned into once a week, and those students started bringing their siblings and their homework. One day, one of those students said he wanted to go to college but didn't know how to apply; Inspiring Minds was born.

**CHILI COOK-OFF** - Join your fellow church friends on **Sunday, February 15**, after worship and Congregational Meeting in Fellowship Hall as we celebrate “**FAT SUNDAY.**” We will kick-off our Lenten activities this year with our famous *Chili Cook-off*. The fee is \$5 to enter your special chili, and all your sampling is free. There will be prizes to the top three winners! If you just like to sample all the delicious chili and be part of the festivities, the fee is \$4 for adults over 12; children under 12 eat free! All proceeds will benefit our Deacons’ Local Missions. *To enter your chili, please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Space is limited, so don’t delay!*

**SAVE THE DATE: The Annual Meetings of the Congregation and Corporation** will be held in the Sanctuary on **Sunday, February 15**, in conjunction with that morning’s worship. Please exercise your ecclesiastical citizenship and plan to be present.

**LENT:** The holy season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18**. Make plans now to be at FPC for a simple supper at 6 pm and a special worship experience at 7 pm.

PASTOR:

*Rev. Greg Gillispie*

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

*Melanie A. Vlad*

DIRECTOR OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

*Marissa Welke*

WORSHIP LEADER:

*Jenny Annandono*

RADIO, LIGHTS AND SOUND SYSTEM:

*Alexis Musgrove*

VIDEO PROJECTION:

*Bob Stahl*

## WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

Sun, Feb. 1	- <b>2 Cents a Meal</b>	
	- <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> .....	8:30 am
	- <b>Worship</b> .....	10:00 am
	- <b>Deacons' Reception, FH</b> .....	11:00 am
	- <b>Caregivers Group Organizational Meeting, P</b> .....	11:15 am
Mon, Feb. 2	- OA, P .....	10:00 am
	- Girl Scouts, B.....	5:30 pm
	- AA, MC .....	7:00 pm
Tues, Feb. 3	- Al-Anon, MC .....	9:30 am
	- Girl Scouts, FH .....	5:00 pm
	- Girl Scouts, B.....	5:30 pm
	- NA, MC .....	7:00 pm
Wed, Feb. 4	- Crafters, B .....	10:00 am
	- AA, MC .....	6:30 pm
	- <b>Church Growth Meeting</b> .....	7:00 pm
Thurs, Feb. 5	- <b>Miriam Esther Circle, P</b> .....	11:00 am
Fri, Feb. 6	- <b>Church Office Closed</b>	
Sat, Feb. 7	- Graceful Living Event, Cuyahoga Falls.....	9:00 am
	- AA, MC .....	11:00 am
Sun, Feb. 8	- <b>Choir Rehearsal</b> .....	8:30 am
	- <b>Worship</b> .....	10:00 am
	- <b>Sunday School, B</b> .....	10:15 am
	- <b>First Sunday Speaker, P</b> .....	11:15 am

FH-Fellowship Hall MC-Mable Culver P-Parlor B-Badger Hall T-Tieffle Lounge Z-Zoom

*With the weather-related changes to our worship schedule, our next celebration of Communion will return to the first Sunday of the month, **March 1**.*