

# First United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 16, 2025



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***“Helping Others See Jesus’ Grace In Me”***

# Order of Worship

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday In Lent

*\*Congregation Stands/Rise In Spirit*

### GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*INTROIT #105 (AA) ..... "Bless The Lord"**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**LEADER:** The Lord is my light and my salvation;

**PEOPLE:** Whom shall I fear?

**LEADER:** The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

**PEOPLE:** Of whom shall I be afraid?

**LEADER:** Come, Children of God, let us draw near to God in this time of worship

**\*OPENING HYMN #634 (GG) ..... "To God Be The Glory"**

### **\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION** *(unison)*

**Friends, this is the Lord's Day! God of all creation, we come before You with open hearts and minds, seeking to worship You in spirit and truth. As we gather, remind us of Your unwavering love and faithfulness, that we may feel Your presence deep within us. When life feels heavy, may we turn our eyes to You, the source of our hope, our strength, and our peace. Let Your light fill our hearts, leading us to genuine worship of You, our Heavenly Father. In the name of Jesus, we offer this prayer. Amen**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears. Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

**Eternal God, As enemies surround us and fear grows within, We feel the distance between us as absence, And in our hearts, we wonder if You are hidden from us. Forgive our doubts, O Lord, Forgive us when we lose sight of Your presence and Your promises. Forgive us for seeking only what You can do for us, Rather than how we are called to serve You and walk in right relationship with You. Restore us, renew us, and lead us back to Your steadfast love. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God does not forsake us in times of trial. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love. Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**SPECIAL SELECTION..... FUPCC Choir - "Lord I've Tried"**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION ..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

Merciful God, open us to your Word and your way. Help us to seek you, your truth, and the message you intend for us today. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS ..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

**OLD TESTAMENT: James 4:7-10**

**NEW TESTAMENT: Deuteronomy 4:29-31**

**SERMON ..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

**"The Wilderness Experience "**

**INVITATIONAL HYMN #463 (AA) .....**

**"Lord, I Want To Be A Christian"**

**INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/ LORD'S PRAYER**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Unison*)

**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; 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**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING** (Collectors asked to come forward)

God calls us to lives of grateful generosity. Let us praise the giver of all good gifts through our offering today. *You may give online @ fupcc.org, mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202, or give to the officers as they pass the collection plate. Remember, all we have, and all we are, belong to God. Let us give with a cheerful heart. Amen*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION** ..... **FUPCC Choir**

**"If It Had Not Been For The Lord On My Side "**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of grace, you provide for us in amazing ways. May our offerings provide for others and be used to further Christ's ministry and mission. Amen.

**\*CLOSING HYMN #313 (AA)**..... **"I've Got A Feelin' "**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** ..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

Wait for the Lord. Be strong. Let your heart take courage. May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you now and always. Amen.

**RESPONSE** ..... **"Let The Church Say Amen"**

**POSTLUDE**