

# First United Presbyterian Church

Sunday, March 9, 2025

*"Celebrating The Gifts Of Women Sunday"*



**Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor**

**Email : [pastorfarmer@fupcc.org](mailto:pastorfarmer@fupcc.org) ~ [Mobile#: 919-740-2281](tel:919-740-2281)**

**406 N. College Street ~ Charlotte, NC 28202**

**Phone: 704-376-8014 ~ Fax: 704-376-8329**

**Email: [FirstUnitedCLT@fupcc.org](mailto:FirstUnitedCLT@fupcc.org) ~ Website: [www.fupcc.org](http://www.fupcc.org)**

*"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"*

# Order of Worship

## 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday In Lent

*\*Congregation Stands/Rise In Spirit*

### GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*INTROIT #174 (AA) ..... "We Have Come Into This House"**

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

**LEADER:** In the morning of creation, when chaos reigned and the earth was formless and void, the Spirit of God moved over the face of the waters and whispered, "Come, you are welcome in this place."

**PEOPLE:** In the dry and desperate desert where the people fled, seeking freedom, the daughters of Miriam danced, water burst forth out of the rock of Horeb and Holy Wisdom beckoned: "Come, you are welcome in this place."

**LEADER:** By the waters of Babylon, where exiles wept bitter tears and could not find their voices, the Spirit of justice spoke: "Come, you who long for home, you are welcome in this place."

**PEOPLE:** Out of the River Jordan, where the prophet called, brother Jesus arose, dripping, from the waters of baptism, calling: "Come and follow me – you are welcome in this place."

**LEADER:** Near the crystal river that flows through the new Jerusalem, by the tree of life, whose leaves are for the healing of the nations, the Spirit and bride say, "Come, all you who are thirsty, drink from the springs of the water of life and know you are welcome in this place."

**ALL:** Let us worship God!

**\*OPENING HYMN #105 (AA) .....  
"Blessed The Lord, Oh My Soul"**

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

**Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. We thank you gracious Father that you give us such a hunger and thirst for justice and perseverance in striving for peace, that by our words and deeds the world may see the promise of your kingdom, revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us drawer near to God with sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, our guilty hearts sprinkled clean, our bodies washed with pure water. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

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

**Weaver God, we come to you, or more the truth, you find us, disconnected and out of sorts. We are disheartened by our failures, discouraged by our weakness, and little that we do seems worthy of your grace. Restore our fortunes. Restore our future. Weave for us the tapestry on which our lives are stretched. Give us patience with the endless back and forth of shuttle, hand and effort. We look too closely, seeing only strands and knots and snarled threads of too much truing or none at all. Grant us eyes to see the whole of which we are a part. In the end, we ask for gentleness with ourselves, acceptance of our less than perfect ways. We pray that what we do and what you weave form patterns clear to all, of mercy in the warp of it and love throughout. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Leader:** Good people, most royal greening verdancy. Rooted in the sun you shine with radiant light. In this circle of earthly existence you shine so finely. It surpasses understanding. God hugs you. You are encircled by the arms of the mystery of God. Siblings in Christ, children of creation, believe the good news:

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

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER**

**SPECIAL SELECTION..... FUPC Women’s Ensemble**

**"Let Praises Rise" by Trey McLaughlin**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION ..... Rev. Serenitye Taylor**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS ..... Rev. Serenitye Taylor**

**OLD TESTAMENT: Psalm 138**

**NEW TESTAMENT: Acts 9:36-43**

**SERMON ..... "My People, Get Up! " ..... Rev. Serenitye Taylor**

**INVITATIONAL HYMN #451 (GG) .....**

**"Open My Eyes, That I May See"**

**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 life everlasting. Amen.**

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY SELECTION ..... FUPC Women's Ensemble**

**"Trust In You " *by Anthony Brown***

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*CLOSING HYMN #326 (AA)..... "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"**

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION ..... Rev. Serenitye Taylor**

**CHORAL RESPONSE ..... "Threefold Amen"**

**POSTLUDE**