



Forest Grove Presbyterian Church
Sunday Worship
January 21, 2024
Draw near to God
for God is waiting for you.

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The buzz of the world interrupts our lives and fills our ears.

Call us into your way of life, O God.

The complaints of others settle in our mind and cloud our vision.

Lead us into your vision of life, O God.

The cries of the poor, the oppressed and the outcast pierce our hearts.

Guide us in your example of living for others, O God.

Fill our hearts, fill our eyes, fill our ears with your love, O God.

Let us be your hands and feet in the world, O God. Let us worship you together.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Loving God, for you alone our souls wait in silence. You are our shelter in the storm, our hope in times of trial. When our courage falters, be our rock and our fortress. When all hope seems lost, lift us up in the arms of your salvation, that we might lift up others. Be our true home, O God, that silent place in our souls where prayers are answered and peace is found. Amen.

***HYMN #401** Here in This Place

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of your name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery. We are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly; give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water; here we will take the bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion; give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away: here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO CONFESSION AND RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS

God, you call us and sometimes we duck under the table hoping you didn't notice us when you walked into the room. You call us and sometimes we grab a stapler and a stack of papers trying to look too busy to be bothered at the moment. You call us and sometimes we just say, "No!" We know that we aren't expected to do everything but we often forget that you call us to be ourselves in the places where our very self is what is most needed. So give us the grace to say "Yes" to your call.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

... Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.

****GLORIA PATRI***

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. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jonah 3:1-5, 10

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

****HYMN #410*** God Is Calling through the Whisper

1. God is calling through the whisper of the Spirit's deepest sighs,
through the thrill of sudden beauties catch us by surprise.

Flash of lightening, crash of thunder; hush of stillness, rush of wonder
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

2. God is calling through the voices of our neighbors' urgent prayers,
through their longing for redemption and for rescue from despair.

Place of hurt or face of needing; strident cry or silent pleading;
God is calling—can you hear? God is calling—can you hear?

3. God is calling through the music of sublime and human arts,
through the hymns of earth and angels, and the carols of our hearts.

Lift of joy and gift of singing; days and nights our praises bringing;
God is calling—and we hear! God is calling—and we hear!

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Mark 1:14-20

SERMON Building a Team

STATEMENT OF FAITH from *A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA*

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

**engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.**

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

**to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

OFFERTORY

****DOXOLOGY***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

****PRAYER OF DEDICATION***

May these gifts we offer show we recognize your claim upon us, Holy God. Use them so your grace, your love, and your hope may be shared with everyone who needs them. Amen.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND 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.

****HYMN #306*** **Blest Be the Tie That Binds**

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
2. Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.
3. We share each other's woes; our mutual burdens bear. And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.
4. When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

****BENEDICTION***

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, JANUARY 21, 2024

This week's carillon is in memory of George and June Kellett. George and June were faithful members of the church and were always inseparable.

YOUTH GROUP: Tonight, we are going bowling at Thunder Lanes: 1475 West Street Rd. Warminster, PA 18974. Meet us there at 6:30pm. Cost is \$11.00 (food is extra). Talk to Pastor Su or Missi Dell'Orefice if you need a ride.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Next Sunday, January 28 following worship. At that time the annual reports and church budget for 2024 will be received. New Elders and Deacons will be elected and the Pastor's terms of call will be voted on. There will be a potluck lunch following the meeting. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall or call Susan.

NEW BIBLE STUDY – NEW MEETING TIME: We will begin our new Bible Study on Monday January 22 at 9:30 am. This will be an in-person study but will also be available on Zoom. Pastor Su will lead the discussion on Paul's letter to the Philippians. Friends are also welcome. Coffee will be provided.

FRIDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP: Our next Friday night Fellowship will be held on the second Friday, February 9, 2024 at 6:00pm. Please note the change. Our theme is "Pajama Night." In anticipation of Lent, this will be a Pancake Supper prepared by the Youth Group. Our mission project will be to make tied fleece blankets.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: This week we are asking for the following items: Rice, Canned Tuna or Chicken and hearty soup. Donations are to be placed in the wagon located in the vestibule.

Calendar:

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| January 21 | 10:00 am | Worship and Sunday School |
| | 11:00 am | Fellowship Hour |
| | 4:00 pm | Iglesia Pentecostal Asamblea De Dios Worship Service |
| | 6:30 pm | Youth Group - Bowling |
| January 22 | 9:30 am | NEW BIBLE STUDY – in the church building |
| | 7:00 pm | Boy Scout Troop 71 meeting |
| | 7:30 pm | Deacons meeting on zoom |
| January 23 | 7:00 pm | Session Meeting |
| January 24 | 12:00 pm | Bring your Brown bag lunch for Fellowship |

Elder of the month: Amy Raab **Deacon of the month:** Louise Stemplewicz
Ushers: Paul Wachtendorf and Kevin Realley **Fellowship Host:** Emilie Cullerton
Sunday school Teacher: Kim King

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Jim Turner, Violet Sanders,
Mary Lou Humlhanz, Pat Pizza, Kara Holton



Church Staff
Susan Fall, Pastor
Leanne Yerkes, Director of Music
Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator
Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager

