

HEARING THE WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN / CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

We invite children to come forward for a moment in worship designed for them. Following that, they may go to Children's Chapel and return to the worship service during the hymn following the sermon.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, that through your word we may be guided into the love of God for all the world. That by your power and provision we may walk the way of Christ. Amen.

GOSPEL LESSON: JOHN 15:1-8

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

ANTHEM

The Morning Trumpet

from *The Sacred Harp*
arr. Lloyd Larson

*O when shall I see Jesus and reign with Him above,
and shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning,
and from the flowing fountain drink everlasting love,
and shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning?*

*O shout, shout "glory!" I'll mount above the skies,
when I hear the trumpet sound in that morning.*

*So put on the gospel armor of faith and hope and love,
and you'll hear the trumpet sound in that morning.
And when the combat's ended He will carry you above,
and you'll hear the trumpet sound in that morning.*

*Our ears shall hear with gladness the hosts of heaven
sing, and shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.
Our tongues shall speak the glories of our immortal
King, and shall hear the trumpet sound in that morning.*

SECOND LESSON: ACTS 8:26-40

²⁶Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." ³⁰So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³²Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. ³³In his humiliation justice was

denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”³⁴The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”³⁵Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus.³⁶As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?”³⁸He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.⁴⁰But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

REFLECTION ON THE WORD AND LIFE: “Eustress and the Sound of Silence”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Hymn 257

The Risen Christ

WOODLANDS

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (excerpt from The Confession of 1967)

God’s reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. They are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God’s love for humanity. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God’s reconciling work. The risen Christ is the Savior for all. Those joined to him by faith are set right with God and commissioned to serve as God’s reconciling community. Christ is head of this community, the church, which began with the apostles and continues through all generations. The same Jesus Christ is the judge of us all. His judgment discloses the ultimate seriousness of life and gives promise of God’s final victory over the power of sin and death. To receive life from the risen Lord is to have life eternal; all who put their trust in Christ face divine judgment without fear, for the judge is their redeemer.

OFFERTORY

Prayer

Amanda Harberg

Sally Uthoff, flute

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Thank you for your support!



***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY & LORD’S PRAYER

We invite you to fill out a written prayer request and place it in the donation box in the Narthex so we may keep you and yours in prayer and follow-up as requested.

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.

SENDING

*HYMN 254

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Send Me

Rachel Aarons

Here am I, send me.

- Isaiah 6:8

POSTLUDE

Toccata in F Major, BuxWV 157

Dietrich Buxtehude

Following worship, join us for the Final Sunday Funday of the 2023-24 year with food, fellowship, and fun!

The flowers in worship today are given by Susan and Greg Knights in celebration of 45 years of marriage.

LEADING WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Andrew Kukla, *Pastor*

Susan Knights, *Liturgist*

Ryan Dye, *Minister of Music*

FPC Chancel Choir

Luann Fife, *Pianist*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 4 at 7:30 p.m.—Critical Mass Vocal Artists, under the direction of Dr. Michael Porter, present *The Underground Railroad*—a concert of African Spirituals influenced by Colson Whitehead's best-selling book.

Sunday, May 5 at 7:00 p.m.—Boise Music Week's *Community Worship Service* at First Presbyterian. This ecumenical service will feature the choirs of The Cathedral of the Rockies, First Presbyterian, Critical Mass Vocal Artists, Combined Choirs from the Eagle 8th and 9th Wards, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Chords on Delivery Barbershop Quartet, Glory Brass, and homily by the Rev. Dr. Meggan Manlove, Bishop of the Northwest Intermountain Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

First Presbyterian Church—Boise

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