

May 11, 2025



**First Presbyterian
Church**
of Pittsburgh



WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:45 am
MOTHER'S DAY



****Please stand as you are able***

Prelude: “*Erbarm Mich Mein, O Herre Gott*” BWV 721
(*Have Mercy, Lord, Forgive Me*)
Johann Sebastian Bach

Craig Dobbins, *organ*

Time of Welcome

Rev. Dr. Daniel B. Merry, *Interim Senior Pastor*

***Responsive Call to Worship**

Leader: Unnumbered multitudes gather in many places
to praise the God whom Jesus reveals.

**People: We are among the crowds responding in faith,
hungering and thirsting for bread and living water.**

Leader: In our tribulation and in our triumphs
we are drawn to the throne of grace.

**People: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might be to our God.**

Leader: The promises of God made to our ancestors
are meant also for us and for today's world.

**People: We have come to hear this good news
and to prepare ourselves to share it with others.**

All: Let us worship together this Sabbath morning.

***Hymn:** “*How Firm a Foundation*” (*located in this bulletin*)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Merry

O God of Abraham and Sarah,
we have listened without hearing
and heard Your Word without understanding.

We have understood without heeding or following Your way.

We have pretended to follow while our hearts were far from You.

Heal the divisions within our lives,

so we may relate with integrity to one another and to You.

Time of Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, ³ now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him— ⁵ you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” ⁷ Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” ⁸ and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "*Building on the CORNERSTONE...*"

Rev. Merry

*Affirmation of Faith – The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the
Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
We confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and we look forward to the resurrection of
the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

***Communion Hymn:** "*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*" (located in this bulletin)

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Pastoral Prayer 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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

Call for the Offering (*Online giving available, scan code on back*)

Rev. Merry

Anthem: "Upon This Rock"
by Gloria Gaither and Dony McGuire

Jackie Guthridge, *soprano*

*When others see with earthly eyes just what they want to see,
you will see the things that never die.
You will know and recognize by simple, childlike faith
the priceless truth that others will deny.*

*When others say I'm just a man who liked to dream his dreams –
When others call a miracle a myth —
You'll listen for eternity in moments as they pass
And see with spirit eyes what others miss.*

Chorus:
*Upon this Rock I'll build My kingdom.
Upon this Rock forever and ever it shall stand.
And all the powers of hell itself shall nevermore prevail against it,
For Satan's thrones are built on sinking sand.
Upon this Rock I'll build My kingdom.
And on this Rock forever and ever it shall stand.
Upon this Rock of revelation I'll build a strong and mighty nation,
And it shall stand the storms of time upon this Rock.*

*If in a simple carpenter you see the Son of God –
If you choose to lose when you could win –
If you will give your life away for nothing in return,
then you are where My kingdom will begin. (Chorus)*

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia.

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Merry

Officer Installation and Ordination

*Hymn: "In Christ Alone" (*located in this bulletin*)

*Invitation, Charge and Benediction

Postlude: "Trumpet Tune in F Major"
David N. Johnson

Craig Dobbins, *organ*

How Firm a Foundation

ISAIAH 43:1-5

D G Am7 Bm Em G/D Am7/E D

1 How firm a foun - da - tion you saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose

G C D C7 G/D D7 G

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 > the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow,
 my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

D/F# G Em C/E G/D Am7/C D

What more can he say than to you he has said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 > for I will be with you in trou - ble to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

G Am7 Bm Em G/D D7 G

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 > and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

Unison G C/G D/G C/G G C/G Gmaj7 C/G

1 All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun - ger, nev - er stran - gers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
 3 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

G C/G D/G C/G G C/G Gmaj7 C/G

Come from wil - der - ness and wan - dering. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lon - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been led.

G Bm7 Cmaj7 Am7 G Bm7 Cmaj7 D

You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.

G C/G D/G C/G G C/G D7 G

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

In Christ Alone

G D G A Bm

1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my
 2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh— full - ness of
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

G Em7 A D G D G

light, my strength, my song— this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less babe!— this gift of love and right - eous -
 world by dark - ness slain; then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 power of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fin - al

A Bm G Em7 A D

ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save. 'Til on the
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain! And as he
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No power of

G D A D G Bm7

love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
 cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 hell, no hu - man plan, can ev - er pluck me from his

A G D G A

cease. My com - fort - er, my all in all,
 fied. For ev - ery sin on him was laid;
 me; for I am his and he is mine,
 hand; 'til he re - turns or calls me home,

Bm G Em7 A D

here in the love of Christ I stand.
 here in the death of Christ I live.
 bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

After 3rd verse only:

Refrain

On Christ the sol - id rock I stand, all oth - er ground is
 sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Ongoing/Upcoming Opportunities . . .

Birthday Blessings to: Pam Fazi and Abby Williams

Mother's Day Outreach for Sojourner House MOMS – Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Mother's Day Outreach for Sojourner House MOMS. Because of your kindness, we'll be delivering a sheet cake and 14 beautifully handmade gift bags to encourage and celebrate the women in recovery. Your support helps brighten their day in a meaningful way! During Fellowship Hour, you're also invited to **sign Mother's Day cards** for the MOMS—look for the card table on the stage in the Chapel Area. Thank you for helping brighten someone's day!

Prayercuts – Tomorrow – May 12

Since last September, Semper-Fi Mission has been offering free haircuts and hot meals through the Prayercuts Ministry at FPCP. Guests receive not only a meal and a haircut, but also, hear the Gospel message and experience the love of Christ through the care of volunteer stylists and helpers. The next Prayercuts event is tomorrow, May 12, from 1:00–4:00 PM. If you'd like to be part of this meaningful ministry, please contact the church office or just stop by!

Join Us for Camp Sunday – June 8!

On Sunday, June 8, we'll celebrate Camp Sunday with a special worship service featuring **nearly ninety counselors and summer staff from Ligonier Camp and Conference Center (LCCC)**. **Patrick Myers**, Executive Director of LCCC, will be preaching, and the counselors will lead us in joyful camp songs and music. Together, we'll commission them for the 2025 summer camp season. This year's camp theme is: "**I AM**". After worship, join us for our annual Camp Sunday Luncheon in the cafeteria! Lunch will be catered by Giant Eagle Fox Chapel and will include **fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, and cookies**.

Suggested donation:

- \$10 per adult
- \$5 per child
- \$30 per family (4 or more)

If you are able, please consider **sponsoring a guest or family** who may not be able to contribute.

Please sign up in the Lounge on the clipboard or by emailing **Hannah** at hotoole@fpcp.org, so we can plan accordingly. Please also include how many will attend and submit your donation at the time of sign-up. Donations can be placed in the offering plate (note "Camp Sunday" in the memo), mailed to the church office, or handed in during Fellowship Hour. Questions? Please see any deacon. We look forward to celebrating together!

Samuel and Claire Bell Grant for LCCC Scholarship

Scholarship funds are still available for children and grandchildren of FPCP members to attend Ligonier Camp through the **Samuel and Claire Bell Grant**, thanks to The Pittsburgh Foundation. Children can attend **Little Ligs** starting at age 6 (2-night stay), and **Classic Camp** beginning at age 8 (1-week session). For more details about camp sessions, visit www.ligoniercamp.org. For questions about the Bell Grant, **contact the church office** at 412-471-3436.

Spread the word! Ligonier Camp also has many **additional scholarships** available—friends and non-members are encouraged to contact the camp directly to learn more.

Did you know the camp has a **Wish List**? Help bless campers this summer by donating a tangible item to LCCC! Items support summer programming and can be shipped directly to the camp.

View the list here: www.ligoniercamp.org/wish-list

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Our Sanctuary is open to visitors Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Call to Schedule a Tour!

You can reach the Church Office Monday – Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Call: 412-471-3436 | Email: info@fpcp.org | www.fpcp.org.

Visiting Us Today?



Scan Code to Connect with Us!

Giving Online?



Scan Code to Give!

Need Validated Parking?

Sundays only, get a sticker for your parking ticket at the FPCP Welcome Center in the Narthex (front lobby). Scan both sides of the ticket at the payment booth at the **Oliver, Mellon Square**, and **Smithfield** garages to pay \$1 for parking.