



**Welcome to First Presbyterian Church
Online Worship for November 15, 2020**

This service is one of two options during the Coronavirus time of physical distancing in which worship is happening only online. At 9:00 am on Sundays we will livestream through ZOOM an informal conversational time of worship like our First Light Worship. You can find the link to that on our website or Facebook page: fpcboise.org or [facebook.com/fpcboise](https://www.facebook.com/fpcboise)

This service is live streamed at 10:45 am from our Sanctuary and you can follow along with this bulletin or use this bulletin to guide your own service of worship. The live stream is available for view at <https://www.youtube.com/fpcboise> or [facebook.com/fpcboise](https://www.facebook.com/fpcboise)

Prelude *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* J. S. Bach

Welcome

This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Choral Introit *Cause Me to Hear* Melvin West

*Cause me to hear Thy loving kindness in the morning, for in Thee do I trust.
Cause me to know the way wherein I shall walk, for I lift up my soul to Thee.
--Psalm 143:8*

Call to Worship (adapted from 1 Thessalonian 5:8)

Clothe yourselves with faith and love;
Let us be confident in our salvation in Christ Jesus.
The Lord is with us! Let us worship God.

***Hymn 846** *Fight the Good Fight* DUKE STREET
(insert on next page)

Fight the Good Fight 846

1 Fight the good fight with all thy might.
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace;
 3 Cast care a-side; lean on thy guide.
 4 Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.

Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
 lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.
 God's bound-less mer-cy will pro-vide.
 God chang-eth not, and thou art dear.

Lay hold on life, and it shall be
 Life with its way be-fore us lies;
 Trust, and thy trust-ing soul shall prove
 On-ly be-lieve, and thou shalt see

thy joy and crown e-ter-nal-ly.
 Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
 Christ is its life, and Christ its love.
 that Christ is all in all to thee.

The opening phrase here (based on 1 Timothy 6:12) is not a military image but an athletic one, from a Greek verb meaning "struggle" or "grapple" or "wrestle." The sports context continues in later stanzas reflecting the experience of a runner (recalling Hebrews 12:1-2).

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused, we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others, we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws. O Lord, have mercy on us... (Silence) Forgive us, O God, and move us to trust, that we may boldly live your grace and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

Friends, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves. But to say we are first and foremost sinners goes too far. Our identity rests not in our brokenness but in God's love. Know that, whatever you believe separates you from God, God's love is more than enough to bridge the gap. Jesus died for you, rose for you, lives and reigns in power for you. Jesus is praying for you. The good news of all that is? We are forgiven. You are forgiven. So be at peace.

Anthem

I Lift My Eyes (Psalm 121)

Dan Forrest

Prayer for Illumination

Shine your light on your Word, O Lord; by your Spirit let us see your wonder. For your justice outruns our sense of fairness; your love overwhelms our deepest affections. Open our eyes, unstop our ears, and show us your way, Amen.

Listen to the Word: Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Reflection on the Word and Life:

“Great Expectations: a two-part sermon on Expectations, Resentment, and Gratitude”

*Affirmation of Faith (adapted from the Brief Statement of Faith)

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!"

Offertory

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee
Handbell Choir

Kevin McChesney

***Doxology** (Tune: Old Hundredth, Hymn 607)

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.

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Prayers of the Community

The Lord's Prayer (traditional)

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 629**

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

ST. AGNES

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Response

May the Words of My Mouth

Melvin West

*May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.*
--Psalm 19:14

Postlude

"Fanfare" Fugue in C Major

J. S. Bach

Leading Worship

Rev. Dr. Andrew Kukla

Luann Fife, Pianist

Annette Matlock, Handbell Director

Ryan Dye, Minister of Music

Susan Knights, Liturgist

Chancel Ensemble Choir

Micaela Hulsey

Anne Marie Boyd

David Le

Erik Noyce

Heather Dye

Veronica Noyce

Colin Cho

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee 629

1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of thee
 2 Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
 3 O hope of ev - ery con - trite heart,
 4 But what to those who find? Ah, this
 5 Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou,

with sweet - ness fills my breast. But sweet - er far thy
 nor can the mind re - call a sweet - er sound than
 O joy of all the meek, to those who fall, how
 nor tongue nor pen can show. The love of Je - sus,
 as thou our prize wilt be. Je - sus, be thou our

face to see, and in thy pres - ence rest.
 thy blest name, O Sav - ior of us all.
 kind thou art! How good to those who seek!
 what it is none but his loved ones know.
 glo - ry now, and through e - ter - ni - ty.

The sweetness celebrated in this anonymous 12th-century Latin poem is not cloying or sentimental; it is more like an antidote to bitterness and a source of hope and healing. The best-known 19th-century translation is set here to a tune composed especially for these words.