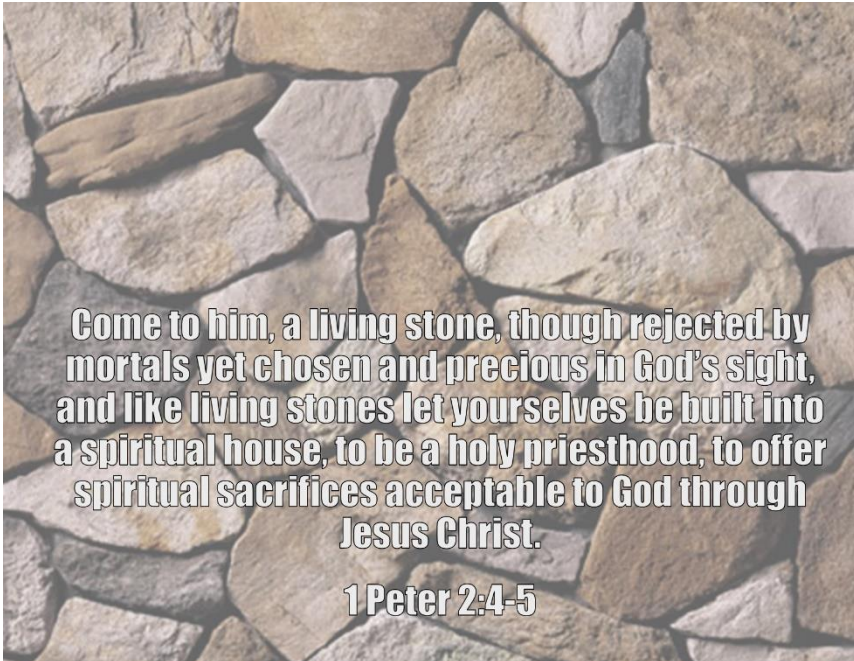


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Stockton, CA

MAY 3, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.



Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:4-5

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

As God's family through Jesus Christ, we seek:

- *to know God through prayer, worship, and Bible study*
- *to be open to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit*
- *to share God's love with each other, our community, and the world*

~Gathering the Family of God~

Prelude Gottfried Stölzel: Bist du bei mir **Diego Bustamante**
(All are invited to enjoy the Prelude as part of our worship service. We request that voices are kept to a whisper to allow for a meditative atmosphere.)

Choral introit

Welcome/Call to Worship

Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec

One: God of grace and peace, in Jesus Christ you stand among us,

All: Our assurance of healing, hope, and joy in our fearful, wounded world.

One: Living God, in Jesus Christ we have seen the marks of your saving love

All: Help us open our eyes to recognize your presence with us, our risen Savior

One: Once again, let us lift up our heads and meet the eyes of our Good Shepherd who calms our troubled hearts and fills them with peace.

All: Jesus our Messiah is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Opening Hymn

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

#509

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.

You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.

Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.

Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

~Bringing our Whole Selves in Worship~

Call to Reconciliation:

Carol Dietrich

One: We have celebrated Easter with flowers and eggs which represent new life and hope. Let us continue join with creation in the process of rebirth, by dying to sin and rising to new life in the footsteps of the risen Christ.

All: Jesus, your resurrection invites us to hope for more than the sin we find in our own lives and in the patterns and structures of this world. We long for what is wrong to be made right. We yearn for lives marked by reconciliation and peace and joy. So we bring you our broken hearts and regrets, the mistakes that keep us up at night and the wounds that keep us living in a defensive posture. We place into your hands the hurts and injustice of our world. We ask for healing for when we have been mistreated or hurt, and the courage to stop the cycle of retaliation. Spirit of God, bid us to rise as we follow Jesus from the grave into this new day our Creator has made. (Moment for silent reflection)

Proclamation of Forgiveness and Hope

Carol Dietrich

One: Jesus is risen! Let us lift our heads to find and embody the new life springing up all around.

All: Like grass which springs up from charred earth and all kinds of resilient life which adapts to their environments, we claim our place in God's good creation, continually crafted by God's grace. Hallelujah!

Passing of the Peace

One: One: When the risen Jesus appeared to his disciples who were terrified behind locked doors, he greeted them with the words "Peace be with you!" May our voices echo with that greeting as we share the grace we have received. Friends old and new, May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And also with you

One: Amen. Let us turn and greet each other with Christ's peace.

Children's Message and Blessing

Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec

One: As our children head off to Sunday school, we send them with this blessing:

All: May God be with you there.

One: And our children say: **Kids:** May God be with you here!

~Listening to Scripture~

Song of Preparation Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore #721 vs. 1-3
Verse 1: Lord, you have come to the lakeshore looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones; you only asked me to follow humbly.

Refrain: O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me, and while smiling have spoken my name; now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me; by your side I will seek other seas.

Verse 2: You know so well my possessions; my boat carries no gold and no weapons; you will find there my nets and labor. Refrain.

Verse 3: You need my hands, full of caring through my labors to give others rest, and constant love that keeps on loving. Refrain.

Prayer for Understanding God's Word

Carol Dietrich

One: Holy Spirit, thank you for your word. Open our hearts and minds to hear what you are saying to us today.

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 62:5-12

Carol Dietrich

One: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Reading from the Early Church

1 Peter 2:1-10

Rev. Ashley L.Skrabec

One: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Song of Reflection

Take, O Take Me As I Am

#698

*Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

~Responding in Faith~

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec

One: God of grace **All: Hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

(Please feel free to pray the words below or use the language of your heart.)

Our Parent(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.

Communion Song

All Belong Here

Verse 1: When you're not sure who you really are

When all you feel is the shape of your scars

And you have more wounds than you can count

Open your eyes, look all around. You aren't alone, this is your home

Chorus: Come and remember who you are here

Do this to remember who I am

Come and remember you belong here. All belong here

*Verse 2: When you don't know how to forgive
When locked doors seem like the only way to live
And you've got more questions than you can count
Open your eyes, look all around. You aren't alone, this is your home. Chorus*

*Bridge: At this table come as you are, broken and bleeding's ok
At this table eat and be filled. Come and drink in this grace. Chorus*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec

Invitation to the Offering

Doxology

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

~Going Forth to Love and Serve the Lord~

Sending Hymn How Firm a Foundation ##463 vs. 1,3,5

*Verse 1: How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*Verse 3: "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.*

*Verse 5: "The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."*

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude

Meredith Willson: Till There Was You, from The Music Man

(All are invited to enjoy the Postlude as part of our worship service. If you choose to leave during the Postlude, please do so quietly.)

Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec

Announcements

Church Meetings

This Week:

Monday – May 4th Monday Evening Refresh 7 pm on Zoom

Thursday – May 7th Bible Study 10 pm at FPCS

This Month:

May 10 Spiritual Growth Committee 4 pm Zoom

May 12 Presbyterian Women 12:30 pm

May 17 Pastor Ashley's 40th Birthday Celebration/Potluck 12:30 pm

May 19 Hospitality Committee 10 am

May 20 Finance, Building, and Grounds Committee 9:30 pm

May 24 Worship Assistant Meeting following worship

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers!

Hospitality after Worship Setup/Cleanup

May 3: Sylvia, Gretchen, Marilyn F.

May 10: Carol, Gretchen, Marilyn F.

May 17: Birthday Celebration!

Worship Assistants

May 3 - Carol Dietrich

May 10 - Eleanor Lawrence

May 17 - Bill Alessio

May 24 - Gail Herron

May 31 - Carol Dietrich

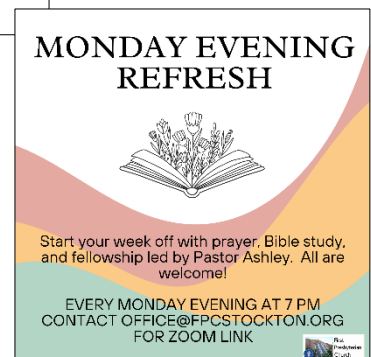
Sunday School Volunteers

May 3 - Kimberlee Roider

May 10—Autumn Alessio

May 17—Yeji Cha

May 26—Kimberlee Roider



Prayer Requests

The Church Office and members of the church receive several prayer requests each week. Please pray for:

- Pastor Ashley thanked the congregation for prayers for her recovery from pneumonia.
- Charlie asked for continued prayers for his recovery from pneumonia and gratitude to be released from the hospital.
- Pastor Ashley asked for prayers for peace and a ceasefire in the areas of war. Prayers for guidance, justice and peace.
- Charlie asks for prayers for healing and comfort for his partner Michael who has a severe foot infection.
- Prayers for our former office manager, Holly Capoy, who sent a very sweet letter stating how much she enjoyed working here at First Pres and with all of us. We continue to hold her and her family in prayer as she navigates health issues.
- Rosalie asked for prayers for peace and comfort for her and family and friends of her friend Kathy who just heard that her cancer has returned and has spread. Prayers for healing, and God's mercy and peace on all involved as they cope with this sad news.
- Charlie ask for prayer for his friend Sean Richardson who lost his youngest brother James in a car accident. Prayers for comfort as the family grieves.
- Sheryl celebrated her daughter Shelia's birthday and asked for prayers for her as she works hard to help take care of others.
- Charlie request prayers for his dear friend Shane Humphrey who's cousin Mercedes is in the hospital with cancer and end of life complications. Prayers for strength and comfort and knowledge to make the proper decisions for Mercedes' comfort in these difficult times.
- Prayers also for Nicole, who has agreed to work part time in our office while we search for a new office manager. Prayers for Nicole, the Personnel Committee and our church.
- Radi asked for prayers for her son Sid, who is home from the hospital and needs continued healing for the tumor in his lungs and his overall health.

If you have a prayer request, please contact the Church Office or Pastor Ashley. Joys and concerns are added to the prayer list of the people who have signed up to be members of the WE CARE PRAYER TEAM. If you would like to be a part of the WE CARE PRAYER TEAM, contact Cheryl Hunt or call the Church Office.



First Presbyterian Church

31 E. Vine St.

Stockton, CA 95202

209-465-2653

Email: office@fpcstockton.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am -12 pm

www.fpcstockton.org

Board of Elders (Session)

Sylvia Cavanaugh, Cheryl Hunt, Jane Knoop, Gretchen Loudon and Janet Sepiol

Committee Chairs

Gretchen Loudon - Spiritual Growth Co-Chair

Doug Hunt - Finance, Buildings & Grounds

Janet Sepiol - Personnel and Support & Endowment Co-Chair

Cheryl Hunt & Sylvia Cavanaugh - Hospitality Co-Chair

Jane Knoop - Nominating and Support & Endowment Co-Chair

Janet Sepiol - Clerk of Session

Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec - Pastor

Ministers—all the members of the church

First Presbyterian Church is committed to loving and serving all people, including those from diverse generations, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, and life experiences. Whatever your story, you are welcomed by Jesus Christ and by this church family.