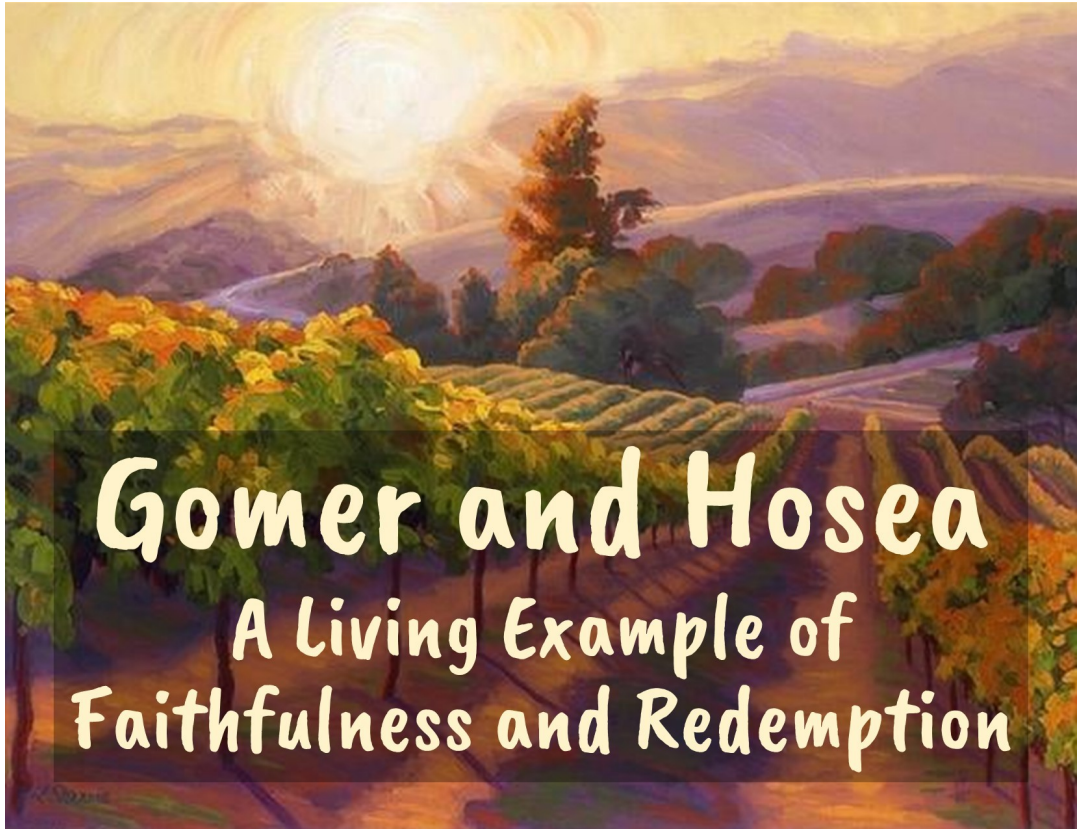


**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Stockton, California**

**July 27, 2025 - 11:00 a.m.**



**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**      **Domenico Scarlatti, Sonata in A Major K.208**      **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 L. Skrabec**

One: Come, bring your heart to the One who knows you and loves you without condition.

**All: God's faithfulness and goodness stretch higher than the sky.**

One: Come, bring your hurts and hopes to the Savior who came not for the healthy, but for the sick.

**All: Jesus Christ came to preach good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim freedom to captives.**

One: Come, bring your questions and your needs to the great Comforter of our souls.

**All: The Spirit of God is surely here, giving us life and leading us in paths of righteousness.**

One: Amen, let us wake up our spirits in song.

**Opening Hymn**      **God is Here!**

**#409**

*(All are invited to stand in body or spirit)*

V1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

V2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

V3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

V4. Lord of all of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

## **Prayer of Reconciliation**

**CRAIG HOLMES**

One: While we come from many different backgrounds and carry diverse life stories, we all have this in common: we all need God's forgiveness and grace.

**All: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

## **Moment for Contemplation**

*(This single minute of quiet is offered to encourage you to share your personal thoughts with God as well as listen to God through the presence of the Holy Spirit.)*

## **Assurance of Forgiveness**

**CRAIG HOLMES**

One: Can you feel it? The Spirit of God is blowing like a mighty wind through this place, assuring us that we are held in God's grace.

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free. Hallelujah!**

## **RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

## **We Fall Down**

**#368**

*(All are invited to stand in body or spirit.)*

We fall down we lay our crowns at the feet of Jesus:  
the greatness of mercy and love, at the feet of Jesus.  
And we cry holy, holy, holy.  
And we cry holy, holy, holy.  
And we cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb. **Repeat**

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CRAIG HOLMES**

One: When the Spirit of the Lord fell upon the early church, each person felt the love of God speaking to them in the language of their heart. Let us share that unending, beautiful welcome with each other. May the peace of Christ be with you all!

**All: And also with you**

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

## **Children's Message and Blessing**

**Rev. Ashley L. Skrabec**

Sunday School is provided for children in preschool through 5th grade. All kids in this age range are invited to come up for the Children's Message and to follow Miss Melanie after the blessing.

### **~ Hearing God's Word ~**

#### **Prayer for Understanding God's Word**

**CRAIG HOLMES**

*(a moment is given before each scripture reading to invite all to find the passage in the pew Bibles)*

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 Gospels**

**Luke 11:1-13**

**CRAIG HOLMES**

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

#### **Reading from the Hebrew Prophets Hosea 1:1-10**

**Rev. Ashley L. Skrabec**

One: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

#### **Sermon Gomer and Hosea: A Living Example of Faithfulness and Redemption**

**Rev. Ashley L. Skrabec**

#### **Reflection Song**

**God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us**

**#436**

- V1. God of compassion, in mercy befriend us,  
giver of grace for our needs all-availing.  
Wisdom and strength for each day ever send us,  
patience untiring and courage unailing.
- V2. Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,  
stilled our rude hearts with your word of consoling.  
Wrap now your peace, like a mantle, around us,  
guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.
- V3. How shall we stray, with your hand to direct us,  
you who the stars in their courses are guiding?  
What shall we fear, with your power to protect us,  
we who walk forth in your greatness confiding?.

## Joys and Concerns

### 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.

### Invitation to the Offering

Doxology

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

### ~GOING FORTH TO SERVE GOD~

### Sending Hymn

### Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#475

- V1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!
- V2. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
- V3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

### BENEDICTION

Rev. Ashley L. Skrabec

### CHORAL AMEN

**POSTLUDE** Rodgers and Hammerstein, *You'll Never Walk Alone* from *Carousel* Diego B.  
*(All are invited to enjoy the Postlude as part of our worship service. If you choose to leave during the Postlude, please do so silently.)*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be No Zoom Coffee Hour today.

### **This Week:**

- ◆ Session Meeting - Today right after church service, July 27
- ◆ Weekly Prayer Zoom Meeting - Monday, July 28 at 7pm
- ◆ Bible Study Meeting - Thursday, July 31 at 10:00am

### **Next Month:**

- ◆ Food Pantry Distribution - Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday, from 2-3pm inside the gym
- ◆ Family Promise - August 31-September 7
- ◆ Potluck - Salad Spectacular, Aug. 10
- ◆ Hospitality Meeting - Tuesday, Aug. 19 at 10am
- ◆ UOP Service Day - Thursday, Aug. 21



## **REQUESTED PRAYERS**

The Church Office and members of the church receive several prayer requests each week.

### **Please pray for:**

- Sylvia asked for continued prayers for her brother-in-law, Jim, who has recovered from his symptoms and has moved to a Physical Therapeutic Rehab to improve his condition.
- Rosalie requests prayers for her friend who has gone missing. She needs God's protection and his safe return.
- Jacquelyn Lay requests prayers for Mayor of Stockton Fugazi and Crime Stoppers of Stockton
- Sheryl Stagg asked for prayers for her daughter and her daughter's friend Marty's family, after he passed away from illness.
- Gretchen reported Charlie had prayers of thanksgiving after learning that he is able to stay permanently in his apartment.
- Sylvia also reported that Frances McPherson is now in the Noble Care Facility, 2740 N California Street in Stockton and asks for prayers and cards.
- Tola shared a Joy that she and her grandson Chase are so thankful that he has received a generous scholarship from First Pres.
- Pastor Ashley asked for prayers for all those affected by the terrible flooding in Texas.
- Pastor also asked for prayers for our country and its leaders, asking for peace and justice for all during this turbulent and difficult time in our country and our world.
- The Roider's ask for continued prayers for the Creamer (pronounced, Cray-mer) family. Don was scheduled for another chemo treatment on Monday, but because his white blood cell count was so low, the appointment was canceled. Don (cancer) and Geri (dementia) live with daughter Jenny, who is so devoted to her parents. We pray for hope, strength and improved health. Thank you for your prayers.
- Bud expressed his gratitude for God providing St Mary's housing for him and Atlas and their help on finding permanent housing for them. Bud also asked for prayers for Atlas's mother, Jessica, for healing from her addiction.
- Pastor Ashley requests prayer for all asylum-seekers and immigrants who are living in fear and for all who have been detained or deported without due process.
- Alex asked for prayers for the children in the county facilities (Children's Home and Mary Graham Hall and others) who have no opportunity to attend church and hear of God's love for them.

*To keep the list of prayer requested current, would you please update your requests as the subject of your request improves or transitions. Of the requests that remain static they will be moved off the list after a month until further information on them is available. Please contact the Church Office or Pastor Ashley, if you have any questions or concerns.*

## **First Presbyterian Church of Stockton**

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Stockton, CA 95202

209-465-2653

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

[www.fpcstockton.org](http://www.fpcstockton.org)

Email: [office@fpcstockton.org](mailto:office@fpcstockton.org)

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or on **YouTube** at @FirstPresbyterianStockton 

### **Board of Elders (Session) - Committee Chair**

Charlie Briggs -	Spiritual Growth Co-Chair
Carol Dietrich -	Finance, Buildings & Grounds
Cheryl Hunt -	Hospitality Co-Chair
Jane Knoop -	Nominating and Support & Endowment Co-Chair
Gretchen Louden -	Hospitality Co-Chair
Kim Roider -	Spiritual Growth Co-Chair
Janet Sepiol -	Personnel and Support & Endowment Co-Chair
Clerk of Session -	Janet Sepiol
Pastor -	Rev. Ashley Love Skrabec

### **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.

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