

✧ *welcome* ✧



First Presbyterian  
Church *of* Dunedin

**SANCTUARY SERVICE WORSHIP GUIDE**

**December 28, 2025  
First Sunday of Christmas**

*Celebration*

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*of God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**\*Opening Sentences**

Ken Huff, Liturgist

Praise the Lord from the heavens and in the heights;

**Praise God, sun and moon!**

God's name alone is exalted;

**God is above the earth and heaven.**

**\*Hymn 40 – "Joy to the World"**

in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**God of compassion, you promise new life,  
but we confess that we are in love with our old ways;  
with hurts that we nourish, hatreds that hold us hostage,  
and fantasies that restrict our faithful living.**

**You offer to us unconditional love,  
but we reject our neighbors  
and live apart from you and one another in many ways.  
Recreate us in the image of your son,  
and for your glory's sake, forgive us.**

(pause for silent confession)

**Amen.**

## **\*Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**\*Response (Hymn 23)      Gloria, in excelsis Deo;  
   Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

## *Discovery*

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*of God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.*

## **Prayer for Understanding**

Please pray with me:  
**Almighty God, in the beginning was the Word;  
And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

**On this day of discovery and light; we long to hear your holy Word.  
Open our ears to the call of your voice.  
Open our eyes to the dawning of a new day.  
Fill us with anticipation for your future. Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 63:7-9**      Pew Bible, page 605  
**The Word of the Lord!/Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn 27 – “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”**      in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**Psalm 148**      Pew Bible, page 508  
**The Word of the Lord!/Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn 47 – “Still, Still, Still”**      in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**New Testament Reading - Hebrews 2:10-18**      Pew Bible, page 971  
**The Word of the Lord!/Thanks be to God!**

**Hymn 48 – “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”**      in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 2:13-23**      Pew Bible, page 784  
**The Gospel of the Lord!/Praise to you, O Christ!**

**\*Hymn 49 – “Once in Royal David’s City”**      in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

## Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

p. 16, at the front of *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**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.**

## Action

*for God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.*

### Call - To creation, to others, to self

We invite you to consider the ways you are called  
to serve each focus this week.

	<b>Your offering helps us build God's beloved community and change lives.</b>					
	<i>We are sincerely grateful for your giving.</i>					
<b>IN PERSON</b> Offering plates can be found at the exits		<b>ONLINE</b> Via your bank or fpcdunedin.org, click "Give"		<b>VOLUNTEER</b> Ask for a flyer or call our office 727.733.2318		<b>MOBILE</b> → Scan this QR code
<small>Please consider leaving First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin a gift in your will or estate plans. For more information about our Alexander Anderson Legacy Society please contact Rev. Dr. David K. Shelor, Pastor at our church office: 727-733-2318.</small>						

### Prayer of Dedication Please pray with me:

**God, our Love and our Life, receive our gifts as seeds of gratitude for your gift to us in Christ Jesus. Bless these seeds with growth so that love will embrace people who feel lost and alone in this season, and places fearing they will be overlooked amid so much need. Be their love and their life, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 29 – “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”** in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**\*Benediction & Sharing Peace**

**\*Postlude**

***Thank you for worshipping with us today!  
You are invited to share in a time of fellowship and refreshment  
in Hager Hall.***

***Hearing assistance devices and large print hymnals are available upon  
request. An usher would be glad to assist you.***

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fpcdunedin.org**