

The flowers on the altar this morning are dedicated to the glory of God and given

in loving memory of Chuck Marciniak by Chuckie Marciniak.

Music—One License A-731491

Offertory Lyrics—*Beloved*—Mark Miller

You are my beloved, you are my child and I will be with you always, yes I will.
When you see the lightning flashes and you hear the thunder roll,
just remember my promise, peace be still.
God go with me, God stay by me, give me comfort through the night,
till the dawn of morning light.
When you sense the storm is passing, and you pause look to the sky,
through the rain you'll see the rainbow.
God go with me, God stay by me, give me comfort through the night,
through the dawn of morning light.
You are my beloved, you are my child, and I will be with you always, yes I will.
Yes, I AM.

**Please stand as you are able.

Clergy & Staff

Jon Priebe, Lead Minister

Howard Pippin, Associate Minister

Marvin Brown, Senior Minister Emeritus

Dean Wagner, Director of Music/Organist

Tim Zuschin, Assistant Chancel Choir Director

Donna Curfman, Director of Children's Ministries

Jennifer Brooks, Director of *Weekday Christian Preschool*

Contact Information

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330-923-5241

Office Hours: M-F 9am-3pm

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www.firstchurchcf.com



Sunday Worship Service and Live-streaming at 10:45 am.

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

10:45 am

January 12, 2025

GATHERING

The people of God come together in the Lord's name.

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude—*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*—Alice Jordan

Introit—*My Tribute*—Andre Crouch

Call to Worship

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters

The God of glory thunders, the Lord upon many waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful.

The voice of God is full of majesty. Let us praise the name of the Lord!

Opening Hymn 152** —*I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

Invocation (please be seated)—

Living God, when the Spirit descended on Jesus at his baptism in Jordan's water, you revealed him as your own beloved Son. You anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior now and forever. Amen.

PROCLAMATION

The Word of God is read and proclaimed for all ages.

Scripture Reading—*Psalm 29*

Gloria Patri—*Glory Be to the Father* (Hymnal p. 70)

God's Word for Young Disciples

Anthem—*Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring*—J.S. Bach

Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading—*Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon—"In You I Am Well Pleased"

Pastor Jon Priebe

RESPONSE

The People of God respond to the Word.

Hymn of Response 357**—*Just as I Am, Without One Plea*

Discipleship Moment

Offertory—*Beloved*—Mark Miller

Epworth Choir

Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of the People/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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

The people of God are sent forth to serve others and witness to their faith.

Closing Hymn 98**—*To God Be the Glory*

Benediction—*Into the Coming Days*—Ruth Elaine Schram

Postlude—*Prelude in E-Flat Major*—J.S. Bach

OPENING HYMN

Hymn #152, I Sing the Almighty Power of God

1. I sing the almighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.
2. I sing the goodness of the Lord,
who filled the earth with food,
who formed the creatures thru the Word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky.
3. There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne;
while all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care;
and everywhere that we can be,
thou, God, art present there.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Hymn #357, Just as I Am, Without One Plea

1. Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
2. Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
3. Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
4. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
sight, riches, healing of the mind,
yea, all I need in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
5. Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
6. Just as I am, thy love unknown
hath broken every barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

CLOSING HYMN

Hymn #98, To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
(Refrain)
3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.
(Refrain)

PRAYER REQUESTS

Scott Adie	Lee Miller
Bob Ahonen	Lee Minier
Joanne Ames	Becky & Jerry Pecko
Debbie Amundsen	Becky Petty
Mary Ellen Atwood	Sandi Robinson
Dorothy Bates	Holly Ross
Mark & Cindy Blaser	Kathi Sawyer
Suzanne Callahan	Todd Schneider
Mary Griest	Kathy Walker
Jim Henes	Betty Wenk
Jeff Iula	Mike Yeager
Dwight Konic	Rose Ann Youngkin
Judy Lewis	Tim Zuschin
Kristopher Lewis	
Marge Magee	
Delores Marefka	
Bonnie Michaud	

In our greater world: We pray for those returning to school. We pray for those fighting and affected by the LA wildfires. We lift up Macedonia UMC, and Mogadore UMC.

CHURCH NOTES 1-12-25

Winter Gear Collection: We need some winter gear! Any scarfs, hats, and gloves, donated for the clothesline outside can be placed in the collection area near the Library. Thank you!

Holiday Nuts: We still have a few bags of nuts for sale in the office (stop in during office hours to pick them up, you may want to call ahead 330-923-5241).

Women's Bible Study: All women of the church are invited to join in a study of "Nehemiah" by Kelly Minter. Learn from his courage and faith and let God move you to be the hands and feet of Jesus, in a lost, hurting world. Classes meet on Tuesdays (7-9 pm) and Wednesdays (10am-noon) beginning Feb. 4 and 5. The cost of the book is \$18. **Please register in the church office by Thursday 1/16.**

2025 Altar Flowers: We are taking orders for Altar Flowers for 2025. The cost is \$40 and the church takes care of ordering and delivery. If you would like to reserve a date contact Christy Meyers, 330-923-5241, or cmeyersfallsumc@gmail.com.

2025 Toddler Time: A program for toddlers aged 2 and their caregivers. This interactive class will feature music and songs, fingerplays and stories, art activities, and play. We have openings for 2025. Please contact Jennifer at 330-923-5243.

Soup-er Bowl Potluck: FUMC is joining the *Church Square* community at the First Christian Church on Saturday, February 8, 2025 from 5-7PM for a "Soup-er Bowl" potluck dinner! Please bring a dish to share, and plan to have a great time of food and fellowship.

Pasta Dinner Date Change: The date of the dinner has been moved to March 15.

New Member Class: Thinking about joining First Church? We want to help you get connected through our Discipleship Pathway. Classes on the book *Disciple Like Jesus* begin February 2, at 9:30am in the parlor, led by Jim Kimble and Pastor Pippin. For questions and to sign-up, please see or contact Pastor Pippin, fallsfirstpippin@gmail.com.

Binders: If you have any gently used (2 inch and larger) binders laying around, the church office would love to have them. Thank you!

A Voice From Home

vs. 21 – What has Jesus done to make God so pleased?

It's uniquely human to withhold affection to show displeasure

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

vs. 22 – God's pleasure is not based on our performance

We can't earn God's favor, God loves us first

Questions for Reflection:

How do you think if affected Jesus to hear God's voice telling him he was beloved at this point in his life? When have you experienced this kind of unconditional love and how did it affect you?

Questions for Discussion:

When have you felt love for someone that didn't depend on their performance?

Memory Verse:

1 John 3:1 – "See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him."

Readings for this Week:

John 2:1-12, James 1, Ephesians 2