

The Service of Worship

July 27, 2025

Chimes

Prelude

Thy Loving Kindness
Elsie Fetzner

Hugh Mitchell

Greeting and Announcements

Introit

Jesus Strong and Kind
Darla Korrey Gertner

Rich Thompson, Jonny Robinson,
Michael Farren, Colin Buchanan

***Call to Worship and Opening Prayer** (responsive)

Happy are those whose delight is in the Lord.

**They are like trees planted by streams of water
which yield their fruit in its season.**

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Every good tree bears good fruit.

Jesus said, "I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last..."

We have been given the first fruits of the Spirit.

**We are here to be planted by streams of water,
to grow in the gifts of the Spirit.**

Let us pray:

Receive our prayers and our praise today,
and help us to bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

Pour out your living water on us,
that we may grow in the Spirit.

Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer (vv. 1, 2 & 6)

#439

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** (unison)

Holy God,

**we confess that we do not cultivate the fruit of the Spirit
in ourselves or in each other.**

**We confess that we do not trust that you are nurturing these gifts
in us and in others.**

**Forgive us when we are impatient,
when our actions go against your goals for us and for all.**

**Cultivate the Spirit's fruit in us,
that we would be able to see your work in us
and share your gifts with others.**

Amen.

***Declaration of Forgiveness**

Jesus says, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.

God removes every branch in us that bears no fruit.

You have already been cleansed by the word of God."

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***The Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***Response**

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.

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Living God,

**pour out your Spirit upon us like fresh rain,
that we would be nourished by your Word
and that we would bear fruit**

in your name and to your glory.

Amen.

Scripture Reading

Job 6:14-21

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

We Can Be Kind
Darla Korrey Gertner

David Friedman

Scripture Reading

Joshua 2:1-14

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness

Rev. Michelle D. Witherspoon

***Hymn of Response**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#435

***Affirmation of Faith** (responsive)

Jesus is the vine; we are the branches.

Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine,
neither can we unless we abide in Jesus.

Apart from God we can do nothing,

but those who abide in Jesus and Jesus in them bear much fruit.

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,

kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control

God is glorified by this, that we bear much fruit as disciples of Christ.

Amen.

Prayers of the People and 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.

Giving of Ourselves and Our Offerings – A Moment for Grateful Reflection

Kind Jesus
Elsie Fetzer

N.W. Gade

***The Doxology**

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

***Prayer Dedication** (responsive)
Almighty and Merciful God,
from whom comes all that is good,
we praise you for your mercies,
and for all your gifts.

**Nurture us in kindness;
bless the offerings we bring
to fuel the growth and health of your church
as it spreads the good news of the gospel to all.
Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service (vv. 1 & 4)* **#761**

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response** *We Can Be Kind* David Friedman
Congregation

***Chimes**

***Postlude** *What A Friend We Have in Jesus* arr. Franklin Ritter
Elsie Fetzer

**Indicates those who are able, please stand.*

Worship Notes – Sources Used in Today's Liturgy

Call to Worship: Psalm 1:1-3; Galatians 5:22-23; Matthew 7:17; John 15:16; Romans 8:23

Declaration of Forgiveness: John 15:8

Affirmation of Faith: John 15:1-8; Galatians 5:22-23

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Prayer Concerns July 27 2025

Military Personnel

Luke Brigham (Randy & Terry's son)
Thomas Gage Snyder (Kim Schlup's son)

Presbytery of Plains & Peaks

Bridgeport, First Presbyterian Church

Those with Special Needs or Concerns

Florence Annan
Grace Ann (Connie Clark's relative)
David Balabanis Family
Joe Baran (in-law of Ted & Penny Propst)
Jackie Barton and Family
Sharon Bennett (Neblett's son-in-law's mother)
Tye Bennett (Neblett's grandson)
Clark Bernhardt
Norm Blackburn
Brenda Boeff
Randy Brigham
Leah Burt (friend of Judy Rounph)
CEDEPCA (Protestant Ministry in Guatemala)
Cooperating Ministry
Sally Craig (friend of Jackie Reynolds)
Jeanne Crouch & Family
Deb Daughtery (sister of Ken McDowell)
Cierra Davis (friend of Becky Cranwell)
Dave & Marsha Davis
Sarah Davis
Andrew DeSouza (Michelle Hawkins' son)
Gary Espinosa (Arden Fennell's family)
Family Resource Center
Carolee Goldsmith (mother of Brandon Eaton)
Meredith Goodwin (friend of Propsts)
Mike Hawkins (Michelle Hawkins' brother)
Abby Henry & family (friend of Jackie Barton)
Highlands Camp
Sonja Holden (friend of Arden Fennell)
Chris Jutz
Josh Jutz & Kaylee
Robert Koehler (friend of Laura Guenzi)

Debby Korrey (Delinda's & Darla's sister)
Ann Leh and Family
Delinda Korrey McDowell
Susan Kozik (former sister-in-law of Mike Tyson)
Aline Marquez (friend of Becky Cranwell)
Rose Neblett
Dirk Nye and Regine Bendelow (Jackie Barton's
step-father & mother)
Mari Paradise (Jim Neblett's sister)
Jeni Porter (In-law of Blackburns)
Emma Rich (Granddaughter of Gary & Kay Rich)
Sergio Rosado (family friend of Jackie Reynolds)
Cadie, Hailey, and Austen Rose (Jason Rose family)
Agnes Rundus
Betty Scharf
Linda Schoyer (Sister of Connie Sue Clark)
John Seffens (friend of Mike Tyson)
Steven Shinn (friend of Jim Leh)
Darrell Smith and family
Montelle Smith
Becky Stieb, Justin & Torin (friends of Michelle Hawkins)
Charlie & Roseanne Thompson (friends of Nebletts)
Sharon Treacy (mother of Laura Guenzi)
Mike Tyson
Amy & Byron Uhrich (Jill Vollmer's parents)
Under the Umbrella
Robert Vance (Michelle White's dad)
Don and Virginia Werner (Parents of Mike Werner)
Jeff Weskamp
Jean Williamson and family

Prayer List Updates:

Do you have an update on anyone listed on our church prayer list? We'd love to hear the good news of recovery, healing, and answered prayer. If you have a joy to report, let us know!

Announcements—July 27, 2025

We invite you to join us in our work and worship at First Presbyterian Church.

At a Glance

July 27	10:30	Worship Service
	11:30	Fellowship Coffee
	11:30	Nominating Committee
July 28	10:00	Growing in the Spirit
July 29	5:00	Zumba
July 31	4:30	Zumba
August 3	10:30	Worship Service
	11:30	Fellowship Coffee

Church Office hours: Mon/Wed/Fri: 9:00 am—Noon; and Tues/Thurs: 1:00-4:00 pm

Food Pantry Items: Throughout the month of July, we are collecting squeeze bottles of **Sloppy Joe Sauce**, **SPAM** and **Cornbread Mix**. You may bring your donations to the church and put them under the table outside the church office, or in the box in the elevator vestibule.

Tithes & Offerings: Thank you... your support makes mission & ministry possible.
Donate online at tinyurl.com/FPCPayPal or tinyurl.com/FPCSterlingGive



First Presbyterian Church

130 South 4th Street | Sterling, CO 80751 | 970-522-2708
www.firstpressterling.org | Radio Broadcast AM—1230

Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Michelle D. Witherspoon
Music Coordinator/Organist	Elsie Fetzer
Choir Director	Darla Korrey Gertner
Bell Choir Director	Lindsey Jackson
Office Administrator	Rashell Fritzler
Bookkeeper	Karlee Manuello
Property Manager	Janet Kloberdanz

Serving Today

Liturgists	Michelle D. Witherspoon, preacher Bev Cumming, liturgist
Acolyte/Bible-Bearer	Justin and Becky Cranwell
Ushers	Michelle Hawkins, Jackie Barton
AV Techs	Jeff Christenson (Sound), Pam Trimble (Slides)
Count Offering	Linda Meisner
Fellowship Coffee	Board of Deacons
Bulletin Delivery	Jill Vollmer



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