

## *The Service of Worship*

August 3, 2025

### Chimes

### Prelude

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*  
Elsie Fetzner

arr. Don Phillips

### Greeting and Announcements

### Introit

*Here I Am, Lord*  
Mason Boeff

Daniel L. Schutte

### **\*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 Worship the King, All Glorious Above! (vv. 1, 3 & 5)*

**#41**

### **\*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**

Isaiah 32:15-18

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Praise the Lord, He Never Changes*  
Mason Boeff

Stormie Omartian & Ron Harris

**Scripture Reading**

Romans 8:18-28

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Cede and Bloom*

Jeff Underhill

**\*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.**

**\*Hymn of Response**

*God of Grace and God of Glory (vv. 1, 3 & 4)*

**#307**

**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**

*Yield Not to Temptation*  
Elsie Fetzner

Horatio Palmer

**\*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 self control;  
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**

*Light Dawns on a Weary World* (vv. 1 & 3)

**#79**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response**

*Be Strong and Take Courage*  
Mason Boeff

Basil Chiasson

**\*Chimes**

**\*Postlude**

*I Shall Not Be Moved*  
Elsie Fetzer

Traditional

*\*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 August 3 2025**

### **Military Personnel**

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

### **Presbytery of Plains & Peaks**

Personnel Committee

### **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—August 3, 2025***

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

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### **At a Glance**

August 3	10:30	Worship Service
	11:30	Fellowship Coffee
August 4	5:15	Fellowship Committee Meeting
August 5	5:00	Zumba
August 6	10:00	Worship & Sacraments Committee Meeting
August 7	4:30	Zumba
August 8		Church Office Closed
August 10	10:30	Worship Service
	11:30	Fellowship Coffee with Birthday Celebration

**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.

**SAVE THE DATE — September 8** is Blessing of the Backpack and Fall Kickoff Sunday!

**Thank you to guest preacher, Jeff Underhill.** Jeff Underhill is a creative and counselor by heart. He enjoys his days living internationally. Most recently, Jeff has served seven years in India as school counselor for children ages 3-12. He has lived in seven countries and taught in 13 schools, and is planning a (re)transition to the Middle East to teach fifth graders at American School of Kuwait in September. A Sterling native, Jeff grew up at First Presbyterian, attending Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Highlands Camp, and mission trips. Some of his fondest memories include attending church with his grandparents Ruth and Hollis Jackson, with his grandmother Lee Chapman in the choir. Presently, Jeff is making efforts to grow his online socialemotional coaching consultancy HelpKidsWin.com, as well as developing his volunteerism through online classes for ashram children in India. With a servant mindset, Jeff strives to be grateful in all circumstances.

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## First Presbyterian Church

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

### *Church Staff*

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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*

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Liturgists	Jeff Underhill, preacher Pat Borner, liturgist
Acolyte/Bible-Bearer	Ted & Penny Propst
Ushers	Laura Guenzi, Jill Vollmer
AV Techs	Justin Cranwell (Sound), Jacob Paiz (Slides)
Count Offering	Bob Smith
Fellowship Coffee	Women's Bible Study
Bulletin Delivery	Jacob Paiz



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