



First Presbyterian Church



PRES NOTES

February

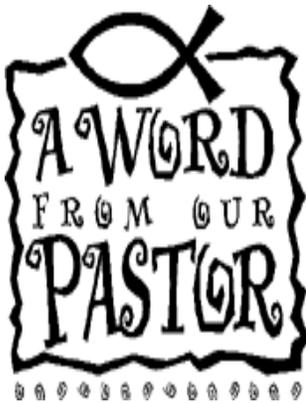
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"In Praise of Praise"

*"It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name,
O Most High."*

-- Psalm 92:1

It wasn't very difficult at all to find a verse about praising God to begin this article. I literally opened the Bible in the middle and it fell open to the Psalms—prime hunting ground for praise! In fact, the first verse of the first chapter my eyes fell upon was perfect. The facility of finding praise in the first hymnbook of God's people is no coincidence. Praise figured mightily in the life of the congregation of the newly rebuilt Temple. That's not to say that the people's songs didn't also include lament and longing, confession and contrition—other essential elements in our relationship with God.

But praise—praise almost has to precede any other activity, whether it's stated or assumed. You're not going to vent and complain to someone you don't think is powerful enough to do something about it. Likewise, you're not going to humble yourself and admit your faults to someone who's not worthy of your accountability. Praise is a sign of acknowledging who we are and who we're not. We are not God.

Only God is God, and our praise is all about saying or singing that so that everyone—especially God—can hear. It's why we begin our worship services with calls to worship (or more rightly stated, calls to *praise*). It's why our first hymn is a hymn of *praise*.

Not only does praise work wonders if you're going through an identity crisis, it's a sign of a healthy soul inside a healthy body. These words of Christian writer C.S. Lewis say it best:

The most obvious fact about praise—whether of God or anything—strangely escaped me. . . I had not noticed how the humblest, and at the same time most balanced and capacious minds, praised most, while the cranks, misfits and malcontents praised least. The good critics found something to praise in many imperfect works; the bad ones continually narrowed down the list. . . The healthy and unaffected man, even if luxuriously brought up and widely experienced in good cookery, could praise a very modest meal. . . the snob found fault with all. Praise almost seems to be inner health made audible.

Praising God,

Pastor Cheryl Ann

FREE COMMUNITY DINNER



Friday, February 8th
4:30PM

FEBRUARY WORSHIP INFORMATION

- 3 Communion and Ordination/Installation of Church Officers**
Isaiah 60:19-22; Colossians 1:11-20
"Sharing in the Inheritance"
- 10 Scout Sunday**
Isaiah 6:1-8; Luke 5:1-11
"The 12th Law"
- 17 Exodus 16:2-15; Matthew 20:1-16**
"Any Complaints?"
- 24 Mark 2:13-17; 2 Corinthians 3:1-6**
"Living Letters"

On February 3rd, we will celebrate the sacrament of Communion and also ordain and/or install church officers.

On February 10th, we will celebrate Scout Sunday along with churches in many places. First Presbyterian Church has been a home to the Scouts and we are delighted to have them join us in worship and assist in the leadership of worship.



February

	Lay Reader	Head Usher	Coffee Hour
3rd	Jan Stillman	Guy Stillman	Deacons
10th	Ellen Benedict	Doug Day	Community Meal
17th	Judy McIntosh	Jim McIntosh	B & G/ Mission
24th	Marty Oldfield	Joe Matejka	Christian Discipleship

February 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
					1
3 10:30a Worship Service 1:00p Appleridge Service	4 10:00a Coffee & Conversation 6:30p PNC	5 10:00a Bible Study	6 6:00p Bell Choir 7:15p Choir	7	8 4:30p Community D
10 10:30a Worship Service	11 10:00a Coffee & Conversation 6:30p PNC	12 10:00a Bible Study	13 6:00p Bell Choir 7:15p Choir	14	15
17 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Session Meeting	18 10:00a Coffee & Conversation 6:30p PNC	19 10:00a Bible Study 1:00p LBA (widow & widower's group)	20 6:00p Bell Choir 7:15p Choir	21	22
24 10:30a Worship Service 11:30a Deacon's Meeting	25 10:00a Coffee & Conversation 6:30p PNC	26 10:00a Bible Study	27 6:00p Bell Choir 7:15p Choir	28	