

# Sunday Morning Worship at Eleven O'clock Scout Sunday; Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany – February 5, 2023

# **GATHERING**

#### **PRELUDE**

**WELCOME** 

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

**TOLLING OF THE HOUR** 

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Praise the Lord!

Happy are those who worship the Lord, who delight in God's commandments.

The righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.

\* We invite you to rise in body or in spirit where there are asterisks \*

We invite you to read all **bold** words aloud with the community

We start services with a "Call to Worship" to establish the context for worship as an encounter with the Holy One who calls all things into being.

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of heaven and earth, you sent Jesus into this world not to abolish the law and prophets but to fulfill them. Fulfill your purpose in us, that your will may be done on earth as in heaven; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

# \*HYMN #314

"Christ, Be Our Light"

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.Longing for truth, we turn to you.Make us your own, your holy people,light for the world to see.
- Refrain:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.Longing for hope, many despair.Your word alone has power to save us.Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. (Refrain)
- 4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. (Refrain)
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. (Refrain)

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

People of God, in the covenant of baptism we are claimed in Christ and called to be saints.

Therefore, with faith and confidence let us confess our sin and ask for God's grace, calling on the name of our Savior and Lord.

We turn from communal praise to corporate confession, not for shame nor in guilt, but to wrestle honestly with the impact we have on each other. We do so with the knowledge of God's grace for all people.

# **PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (unison)

Holy One, in your presence, we confess our captivity to sin and our resistance to your way.

You have chosen what is foolish to shame the wisdom of this world, but we boast in our knowledge and ignore the insights of others.

You have chosen what is weak to shame the powers of this world, but we boast in our strength and refuse the gifts of others.

You have chosen what is despised to shame the values of this world, but we boast in our merits and reject the worth of others.

Forgive us, Holy One.

Renew and reshape our lives with the message of the cross.

Teach us to boast in nothing but the crucified and risen one: Jesus the Christ, our Lord.

# **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Christ is the wisdom of God. Christ is the power of God. Christ is the glory of God. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

As Christ has forgiven us, let us forgive one another: The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** 

#### \*RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen. (sing 3 times)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

#### HONORING OUR SCOUTS: THE SCOUT LAW

The Scout Law is a guiding light to millions of boys and young adults throughout the world today, but the principles of the law have been brought to us from ancient days. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Ex. 20:16)

# **Scouts: A Scout is trustworthy.**

He who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and he who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. (Lk. 16:10)

**Scouts: A Scout is loyal.** 

You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself (Lev. 19:18). For the poor will never cease out of the land; therefore, I command you, You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to thy needy and to the poor, in the land. (Dt. 15:11)

# Scouts: A Scout is helpful.

Love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor (Rom. 12:10). Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! (Ps. 133)

# **Scouts: A Scout is friendly**

Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear. (Ephesians 4:29)

# **Scouts: A Scout is courteous.**

A righteous man has regard for the life of his beast, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel. (Pr. 12:10)

#### Scouts: A Scout is kind.

Children obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor thy first commandment with promise; that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth. (Eph. 6:1-3)

#### Scouts: A Scout is obedient.

A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken. The mind of him who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly. All the days of the afflicted are evil, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast. (Pr. 15:13-15)

#### Scouts: A Scout is cheerful.

Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer or ruler, she prepares her food in summer, and gathers her sustenance in harvest. (Pr. 6:6-8)

# **Scouts: A Scout is thrifty.**

Be strong and of good courage, do not fear or be in dread of them: for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you. (Dt. 31:6)

#### Scouts: A Scout is brave.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of his salvation. (Ps. 24:3-5)

#### Scouts: A Scout is clean.

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. (Mk. 12:30)

Scouts: A Scout is reverent; he is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties and respects the convictions of others in matters of customs and religion.

(sung to the tune of "The Church's One Foundation")

- 1 We thank you, God, for values that guide us day by day that help us learn to follow your faithful, loving way.
  We thank you, too, for Scout Troops where youth are taught to be mature and moral leaders in each community.
- 2 For Scouts earn trust from others; they're loyal to the end. They're helpful, friendly, courteous to strangers and to friends. They're kind and they're obedient, they're cheerful, thrifty, too; They're brave and clean and reverent in all they try to do.
- 3 We thank you, God, for values that send our youth outdoors for hiking and canoeing, for cookouts, and S'mores.

  As youth go out exploring, they learn Creation's worth.

  They care for what you've given the water, sky, and earth.

# **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Send your Spirit, O God, to search us and teach us.
Help us to understand the wisdom of your way.
Give us the mind of Christ—
by whose gracious word we live
And in whose holy name we pray.

Amen.

We read Scripture when we gather because we dare to believe that God continues to speak to us through it. Reading, hearing, preaching, and affirming the Word are central to Christian worship and essential to the Service for the Lord's Day.

FIRST READING Isaiah 58:1-9a NRSVUE

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side.

"Why do we fast, but you do not see?

Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"

Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers.

You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a [cattail in the wind] and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord?

Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke,

Lectio Divina

As we read these passages, allow your mind to focus on one sentence or word—you don't need to comprehend it all! How might the Spirit be speaking to you today through these ancient words?

to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

# The Word of the Lord. Thanks Se to

**PSALM 112:1-9** (responsive) Praise the Lord.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands.

Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.

Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.

Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.

Surely the righteous will never be shaken; they will be remembered forever.

They will have no fear of bad news; their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever; their horn will be lifted high in honor.

Amen.

ANTHEM "Light of the World"

arr. Benjamin Kornelis

**GOSPEL READING** Matthew 2:1-12 NRSVUE

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the

**RGP** 

Coming to us from the worship of ancient Judaism, the psalms have been at the heart of Christian prayer and praise across the centuries. Throughout its history, the Reformed tradition has given a special place to singing the psalms in worship. The Psalm is not intended as a reading but a response to the first reading.

least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

MESSAGE Rev. Jason Dauer

### \*HYMN #377

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

# Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. (Refrain)

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith, 1983

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good

and makes everyone equally in God's image,

male and female, of every race and people,

to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments.

we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,

accept lies as truth,

exploit neighbor and nature,

and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love,

the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry,

God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still,

God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,

like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place,

# we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (FOR SCOUT SUNDAY)

Let us pray for Scouts, for Scouters, and for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

Because we have failed in the trust others placed in us, we pray for forgiveness and for renewal to be trustworthy. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For strength to be loyal to our calling in baptism as his disciples in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For forgiveness when we saw the need to help and passed that need by, when we failed to ask if we could be helpful to a friend or a stranger. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For the spirit to be friendly to all people and even to those who are unfriendly to us. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For the gift of courtesy to all people but especially to the elderly, the disabled, and little children. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For a heart that rejoices in being kind to people, to animals, and to earth on which we live. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For the will to discipline ourselves to be obedient to the will of our God, and not to our selfish desires. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

Leader: For a cheerful spirit to see us through disappointing events in our lives, for a faith that believes God will bring some good even from events that cause us pain and sadness. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For an appreciation that all that we have is the gift of our gracious God, for a mind and a heart that will be thrifty in managing the resources God has entrusted to our care. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For the courage not to be afraid of doing what is right and to be brave in working for justice. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For the will to work to keep clean our minds, our hearts, and our land. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

For the gift of reverence for God who values all that he has created; for reverence for people, for animal life, for the earth and all its resources—all precious in God's sight. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all the people and all the needs we bring before you in our prayers, praying for [our community]. We trust in your mercy and offer these needs to you, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

# RESPONDING WITH THANKSGIVING

# OFFERING OF OUR LIVES, GIFTS, AND GOODS

Who are the righteous of the Lord?

They are gracious and merciful;

they deal generously with others and conduct their affairs with justice;

they freely share what they have and give to those who are in need.

Let us share in the work of the saints by offering our gifts to God.

Those wishing to make offerings by electronic transfer may use this QR code or go to fpcedgewood.org/donate



#### **RESPONSE #518**

"Lamb of God"

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

# THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER INVITATION TO THE TABLE GREAT THANKSGIVING & LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

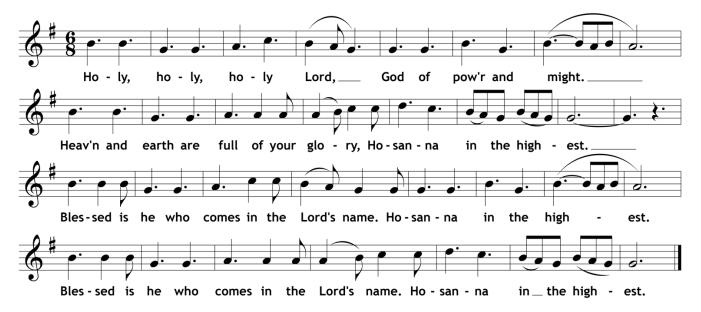
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

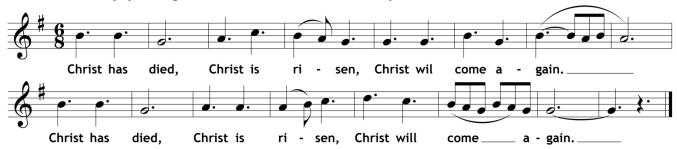
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. From generation to generation, you have cared for your people. You bless the poor in spirit with the kingdom of heaven. You bless those who mourn with your comfort and peace. You bless the meek and lowly with the inheritance of the earth. Therefore, with joy and gladness we join with all the saints in singing thanks and praise:



Blessed are you, O God, redeemer of the world. Into this life of sin and sorrow you sent Jesus the Christ to save us. He blesses those who hunger and thirst with righteousness. He blesses those who are merciful with your abundant mercy. He blesses the pure in heart with the revelation of your glory.

Therefore, with joy and gladness we offer ourselves to you as we share this sacred meal.



Blessed are you, O God, sustainer and source of all life. On your epeople and in this meal you pour out your Holy Spirit. Now bless the peacemakers with the name "children of God." Now bless those who are persecuted with the reward of the righteous. Now bless all who suffer evil with the welcome of your eternal realm. Then with joy and gladness we will glorify you together, on God, forever and ever.

And now, with the confidence of the children of God,

let us pray, in the languages closest to our hearts, the prayer Jesus taught, saying:

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.

# BREAKING THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE All are welcome at Christ's table.

All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age, understanding, or baptismal status. The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love.

Gluten-Free wafers are available by asking.

Please come down the center aisle to receive the elements and partake, then deposit your cup in the basket at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat.

#### COMMUNION ANTHEM

"Bread of Heaven"

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

Gracious God, at this table you have blessed us with your presence. Now send us forth in your Spirit to be a blessing in the world; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The many-faceted meaning of this sacrament is seen in the names given to it. The title Lord's Supper recalls Jesus' *institution of the sacrament* with his disciples. Eucharist (thanksgiving) reminds us that we receive all of the benefits of God's grace with joy. Holy Communion reminds us that in this sacrament we are made one with Christ and with each other. The Breaking of the Bread describes the sacramental action by which Christ is known to his disciples.

# **SENDING INTO THE WORLD**

#### \*HYMN #65

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.

- Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
  Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
  Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
  I will ever give to thee.

# INVITATIONS TO BE THE CHURCH TOGETHER

The Sharing of Church Life

#### **BLESSING & CHARGE**

**POSTLUDE** 

Please be seated as we partake in a time of contemplation.

When the music ends, we invite you to join us in the Gathering Place for coffee hour!

#### SERVICE IN THE WORLD

Christian worship and service does not end at the conclusion of the Morning Service; we go forth to love and serve the Lord in daily living.

In so doing, we seek to fulfill our chief end: to glorify and enjoy God forever.

# Participants in this worship service:

Rev. Jason Dauer, pastor | Deacon Wayne Dean, liturgist | Scout Troop #23 & Pack #23
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music | Sunny Sakai, pianist | The Sanctuary Choir
John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our YouTube channel, or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood





# Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

THERE WILL BE A WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING immediately following this morning's worship service in the Pastor's Study.

THIS AFTERNOON FPCE WILL HOST a Zen Shakuhachi Concert and Meditation at 4:00PM in the Sanctuary. Edgewood resident and certified Grandmaster (dai shihan) Cornelius Boots presents the living tradition of *shakuhachi* -- the rare bamboo flute from ancient Japanese Buddhism. The old monastic repertoire shares the program with robust solo compositions that slowly emerged as the bamboo was integrated into Boots' original training as a creative jazz woodwinder in the lineage of John Coltrane, Eric Dolphy and Rahsaan Roland Kirk. Meditation, music and nature form the roots of this earthy and ephemeral performing art. Natural bore (jinashi) and larger, low-pitched flutes (bass or alto) flutes are featured on this program: they provide a strong connection – for both the player and the listener – to a deeper, almost primeval past: echoes from the ancient days of the Earth. Tickets are available at the door: \$20/General, \$10/Students and Seniors.

OUR TUESDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP continues to meet each Tuesday at 10:00AM at the Apessos home, three blocks from the church, 361 Maple Avenue, reading "Man Seeks God" by Eric Weiner. Drop by for conversation and coffee!

ON THE CHRISTIAN LIFE: What does it mean to be Presbyterian? Who is Jesus? What is the Church? How do we live together? Starting February 26<sup>th</sup>, join us after our worship service to discuss these questions together. Everyone is welcome, but if you are considering taking the next steps in your faith journey, you are especially invited. See Pastor Jason if you have any questions!

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR will start soon, but before Jason sets up regular hours, he would love to take the time to meet with people more directly. Look at your calendar and think of a time you'd like to get together. We can talk about whatever you'd like! This is just a chance to catch up, share ideas about the church, to ask questions about the Bible, or to talk about the latest movie you saw! Call, text, email, or use his Calendly to set up a time: <a href="www.calendly.com/pastorjasondauer">www.calendly.com/pastorjasondauer</a>

WILKINSBURG COMMUNITY MINISTRY has several opportunities to volunteer for various projects in the area, including their weekly mobile pantry distribution. Visit https://app.involvemint.io/projects to find out more information or scan the QR code to the right.



# **CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

AH=Apessos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room, CE=CE Office, GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study, S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

# Today, Sunday, February 5

12:00PM Fellowship (GP)

12:00PM Worship Committee Meeting (PS)

4:00PM Zen Shakuhachi Concert/Mediation (S)

# Monday, February 6

6:30PM Scouts (Sc/SR)

7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

# Tuesday, February 7

10:00AM Book Club (AH)

7:00PM Edgewood Symphony (S)

# Wednesday, February 8

7:30PM Zoom Bible Study

# Thursday, February 9

2:00PM Writing Class (L) 3:45PM Flute Lesson (CE)

7:00PM SAA (L)

7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

#### Friday, February 10

4:15PM Flute Lesson (L)

8:30PM AA (SR)

# Saturday, February 11

8:30PM AA (SR)

#### Next Sunday, February 12

9:30AM Choir Rehearsal (S)

11:00AM Worship (S), Youth Sunday School (GP)

12:00PM Fellowship (GP)

# How can you become involved?

As we reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising
   ...please contact a member of our FPCE

   Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

# **OUR FPCE FAMILY**

Pastor.....The Rev. Jason Dauer

pastorjason@fpcedgewood.org

# Office & Cleaning Manager

.....Judy Mysels
office@fpcedgewood.org

Building Manager ..... Rob Mysels

building@fpcedgewood.org

Minister of Music .....Shaun Cloonan

music@fpcedgewood.org

Pianist.....Sunny Sakai

Sunnysakai4@gmail.com

Ministers.....The Entire Congregation



Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ, our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.