



Welcome to
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 19, 2025

JOB'S LAMENT & L055



Welcome to this sanctuary.
Welcome to this time of worship and wonder.
Welcome to this family of faith.

We're glad you're here today and pray that your experience
with us in worship is both challenging and uplifting!

Our ushers are available to assist you as needed.

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, we invite you
to visit our website. There you will find out the ways to keep in touch,
how we live our faith, our different partnerships and so much more.
Our website address is: www.firstpresracine.org

If you're interested in receiving news about the church,
please call 262.632.1686 or email: shelley@firstpresracine.org

Rev. Darren Utley—Church Pastor
pastordarren@firstpresracine.org

TODAY'S SERVICE

PASTOR—Rev. Darren Utley

LITURGIST—Jeff Leavell

MUSICIANS—Alejandro Alumbremos, Mark Paffrath, Pat Badger, Dave Titus, Chancel Choir

BULLETIN & GRAPHICS—Shelley Maurer

MEDIA TECH SPECIALIST—Steve Comeau

*Please stand as you are able.

[Bold type] indicates text to be spoken by the congregation.

[Bold italic type] indicates song to be sung by the congregation.

UNRAVELED

SEEKING GOD WHEN OUR PLANS FALL APART

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Leavell

PRELUDE

Prelude in C Minor | *Henryk Pachulski*
Alejandro Alumbremos

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come in from the night.

It is a new day, and this is where love lives.

Take off your coat, let the weight fall off your shoulders;

For here, you are known. Here, you are loved.

Come in from the rain.

We can do anything together. We can survive together.

When the world unravels from under your feet—come in.

Come in.

Come in.

God is here. You are home. You will never be alone.

Let us worship the God who weaves us together. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness
[GtG Hymn #39]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

[GtG p. 35]

*ACT OF PRAISE

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
[GtG Hymn #802, v. 2]

*Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul he leadeth;
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.*

***PASSING THE PEACE**

As Christ welcomed everyone, no matter what their background or social standing;
as Christ welcomed enemies & friends, outcasts & leaders,
foreigners & neighbors, let us open our hearts and homes and lives.

Let us be like Christ to everyone we meet.

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

CHORAL ANTHEM

O Love That Casts Out Fear | A. C. Lovelace
Chancel Choir, directed by Alejandro Alumbrosos

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Job 28:12-28
[OT 475]

SERMON

Job's Lament & Loss
Rev. Darren Utle

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

The Foolish in Their Hearts Deny

***SONG OF RESPONSE**

It Is Well with My Soul
[GtG Hymn #840]

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in God, the Great Sewer—
Who weaves us together in community,
Collecting our loose ends and turning them into belonging.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit—
Who hems us in before and behind,
Catching us when we fall and writing us into God's holy narrative.**

**And I believe in Jesus Christ—
Who loved and claimed the people society had thrown out,
refusing to disregard anyone as scrap.**

**I believe God has woven part of God's self into the fiber of our being,
Making us inherently worthy of love and belonging.**

**I believe the fabric of my life is weak,
That I am prone to error and need God's handiwork to remind me of love.**

**I believe in the Church, and that like a quilt of different fabrics,
She is designed to be as diverse and beautiful as God's creation.**

**And I believe that when life unravels,
God is there to stitch my wounds together,
To hold me in the palm of God's hand, to tell me of love,
And to invite me into a new journey.
Amen.**

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

O God in a Mysterious Way

*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***

GOING FORTH TO MINISTER

*CLOSING HYMN

A Mighty Fortress is our God
[GtG Hymn #275]

*BENEDICTION

*SUNG BLESSING

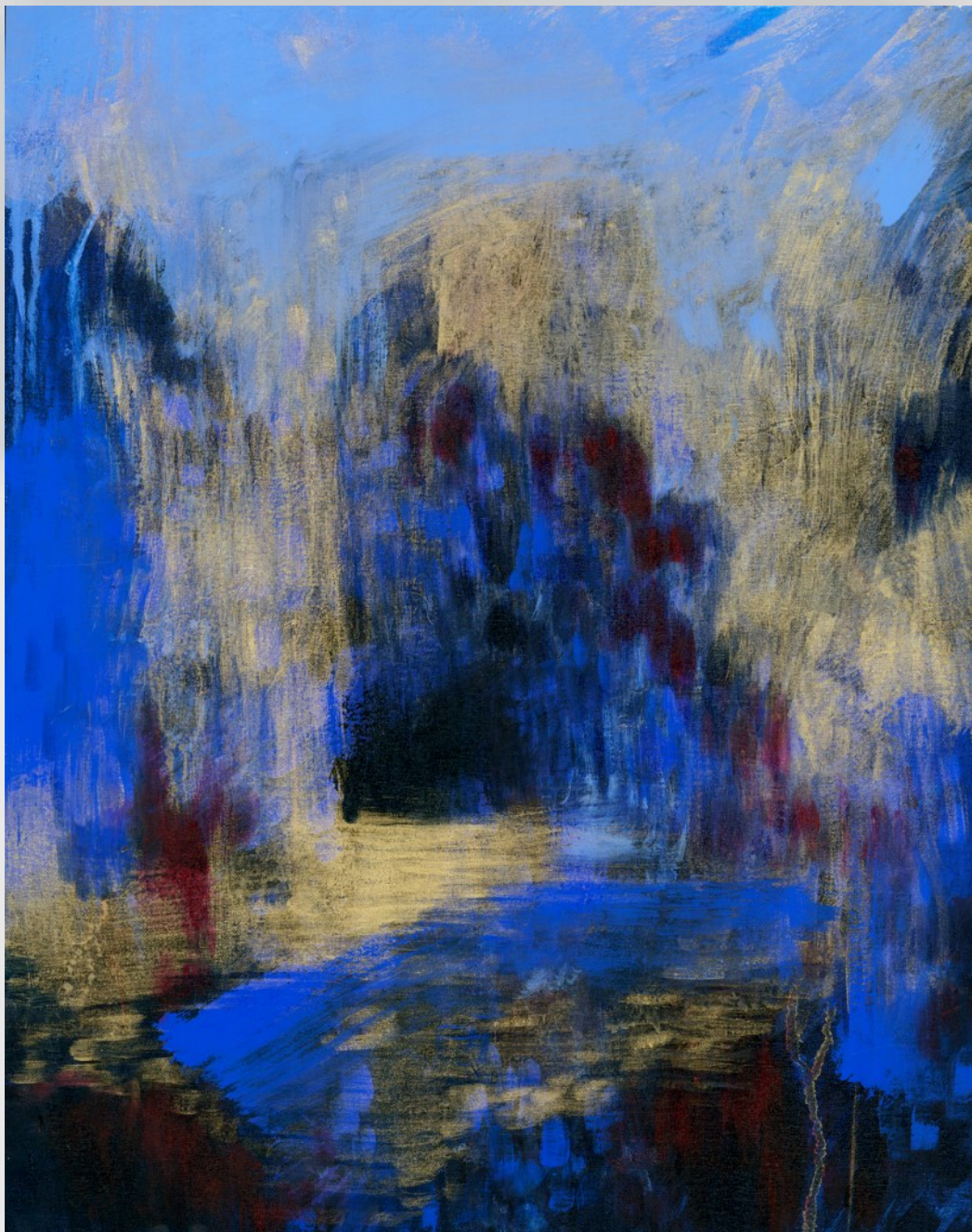
God Be with You Till We Meet Again
[GtG Hymn #541, v. 2]

***God be with you till we meet again;
Unseen wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again.***

POSTLUDE

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind -- Toe Tapping Postlude | *arr. Marla Iyer*

Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org



The Way to Wonder | *Lisle Gwynn Garrity*



UNRAVELED

JOB'S LAMENT & LOSS

*Seeking Understanding When Everything
Has Fallen Apart*

READ // JOB 28:12-28

FROM THE ARTIST // LISLE GWYNN GARRITY

Everything Job holds dear—his property, his family, his wealth, his physical health—has been taken from him. His life has unraveled in every way imaginable. How can we possibly make sense of the pain we endure, especially the pain we don't cause or deserve?

Much of Job's journey requires him to untangle the punitive, quid pro quo theology he has absorbed. *If I do good things, God will reward me. If I do bad things, God will punish me.* On a cerebral level, I disagree with the logic of these words. But I remember how easily I can fall into the trap of feeling these words viscerally and bodily in moments of pain, especially in suffering that is so awful and unfair.

When I first began this painting, I hoped to render Job's hymn to wisdom visually. I imagined being stuck in the deep, as if my body was anchored underwater and I was looking up to the surface. I imagined textures and symbols emerging in the swirl of the dark to portray Job's search for meaning, his grasping to find a way out. But as the painting came together, it was all wrong. The strokes and symbols were too literal, too formulaic. I almost scrapped the canvas altogether, but decided to keep going, to add more layers, more depth, more gold.

A window, doorway, or portal emerged in the middle of the painting. I felt a release and realized that, while I started with lament, I ended with awe. "To fear God is wisdom" (Job 28:28). The Hebrew word for "fear," *yirah*, literally translates to "awesome." True wisdom lies in breathless reverence for God's mystery and expansiveness—for God's presence that is beyond what we can control, or reason, or make far too small.



RESPOND

JOB'S LAMENT & LOSS

*Seeking Understanding When Everything
Has Fallen Apart*



LOOK

Take a few moments to gaze upon the artwork. Breathe deeply in quiet meditation as you observe the visual qualities of what you see: color, line, texture, movement, shape, form.

Now take a deeper look. What parts of the image are your eyes most drawn to? What parts of the image did you overlook?

Now engage your imagination. If you were to place yourself in this scene, where would you be and how would you interact with what surrounds you?



REFLECT

- What has unraveled and/or is unraveling in this story?
- Job searches for an explanation for his suffering. How do you seek to make meaning of your own pain?
- Scholar Michael Coogan writes, "*Perhaps the ambiguity of Job's final reply to Yahweh, and of the book as a whole, is deliberate: No easy answer exists to the problem of suffering, no formula that can adequately explain the justice of God.*"⁴ When have you embraced the mystery of God, even in the midst of suffering?

⁶ Coogan, Michael D. *The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2011. 481.



PRAY

Unravel my need for answers into awe for the wonders of your expansive mystery. Amen.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Sunday, October 19th

9:30^{AM}—Sunday Worship

10:40^{AM}—Fellowship

Monday, October 20th

9:00^{AM}—Staff Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, October 22nd

4:00^{PM}—Food Pantry

Sunday, October 26th

9:30^{AM}—Sunday Worship

10:40^{AM}—Fellowship

SAVE THE DATES...

Advent Begins

Sunday, November 30th

“A Candlelight Concert”

The Choral Arts Society and Music & More Collaboration

Saturday, December 6th at 7:00^{PM}

Tickets \$20 (adult) - \$10 (youth) purchase from CAS

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 24th at 6:30^{PM}

Prayer
 *Changes things*
Let us pray for you with Faith
Believing
HE WILL LIFT YOU UP

Heartfelt thoughts & prayers for all who have recently experienced the loss of a friend or family member. May they know peace and comfort during these difficult times.

Prayers of comfort & healing for Peggy Wagner, Austin Moulds, Sheila Lawrence, Ed Lehmann, Sandra Hopkins, Kay Mahl, Peggy Taylor, Ellen Easley, Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey, Mary Johnson, Leah Fisher, Barb Stevenson, Evelyn Vanderheyden.

As they deal with physical, emotional and/or spiritual issues, please pray for Carol—sister of Ginny Holle; Autumn Eifert's paternal grandmother; Bob—friend of Sharon Campbell; Dan & Joyce—parents of Shelley Maurer; Richard—brother of Steve Comeau; Elena & Ezequiel Romero—parents of Deb Utley; Masako—mother of Fumi Nakayama; John—husband of Sandy Hawley; Mary Ann—mother of Cheryl Nitz; John—son of Mac & Marilyn MacCaughey; Nancy—mother of Gloria Zember; Laurel—niece of the Vollmans; Rudy—Nancy Lechner's brother; Meyer Schaal; the Moes' family and Scott Mohn—friends of the Paffrath family; Steve, Susan, Sandra, John, Liz and Gabby—friends & family of the Galles; Chuck Pehlivanian—Sue's husband; Tim—family member of Sheila Lawrence..

Prayers for those in the service — Col. Jay Brooke, Evan Humphreys, Jared Smith, Jordan Smith, Nicholas Hansen.

Thank you for your continued prayers for everyone. They are powerful!



To learn about the **First Pres Food Pantry**, and the many ways you can help, please visit our webpage at: <https://firstpresracine.org/living-our-faith/first-pres-food-pantry>.

We encourage any vegetable gardeners with an over-abundance of fresh produce to drop them off on Wednesdays by 3:30^{PM}. This is a wonderful seasonal extra which is greatly appreciated by food pantry guests.

What's needed?

We have a hard time keeping in stock are boxed dinners that include pasta (e.g., macaroni & cheese); shelf-stable proteins—including canned or foil pouches of tuna, chicken or ham; cans of hearty soups & stews.

Don't like to shop? Consider making a monetary donation!

- Drop a check in the offering basket. On the memo line, please indicate that it is for the food pantry.
- You can also make a secure, online donation, make a secure online donation at: <https://firstpresracine.org/donate>. Click on SECURE GIVING THROUGH PAYPAL. From the dropdown list, please select Food Pantry.
- Scan the QR code.



WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND CONTINUED SUPPORT!



Save the dates for more
Music & More!

A CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

The Choral Arts Society and Music & More Collaboration

Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 7:00^{PM}

Tickets \$20 (adult) - \$10 (youth) purchase from CAS



2026 Dates for Season 33

SPRING SAMPLER

Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 7:00^{PM}

Early Bird Tickets are \$15; \$20 after May 2, 2026

NOONTIME CONCERTS

June 4, 2026 thru August 6, 2026

Thursdays—Noon to 1:00^{PM}

Ten FREE Noontime Concerts

SEASON FINALE

Friday, August 14, 2026 at 7:00^{PM}

Early Bird Tickets are \$15; \$20 after August 7, 2026