



*First Presbyterian Church of Murrysville  
3202 North Hills Road  
Murrysville, PA 15668  
724-327-0728*

*Our mission is to worship and honor God,  
and to bring people to Christ.  
It is our joy to be stewards  
of the Good News of the love of God in Jesus Christ.*

*March 9, 2025  
11:00 a.m.*

11:00 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 9, 2025

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG OF PREPARATION #373

*“Change My Heart, O God”*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come near to God and he will come near to you.

**Wash your hands and purify your hearts.**

Grieve your sins and you will be forgiven.

**Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.**

\*HYMN #461

*“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”*

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

**Eternal God, whose covenant with us is never broken, we confess that we fail to fulfill your will. Though you have bound yourself to us, we will not bind ourselves to you. In Jesus Christ you serve us freely, but we refuse your love and withhold ourselves from others. We do not love you fully or love one another as you command. In your mercy, forgive and cleanse us. Lead us once again to your table and unite us to Christ, who is the bread of life and the vine from which we grow in grace.**

\*PRAYERS OF PERSONAL CONFESSION

\*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

\*GLORIA PATRI

HYMN #734

ANTHEM

*“Come Find Forgiveness and Love”*

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:6-9

O.T. Page 685

Mark 1:1-15

N.T. Page 34

SERMON

*“Why?”*

Rev. Edward Gray

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. AMEN**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY**

*“The Soul That Thirsts for God”*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**HYMN #34**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE INVITATION**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE PRAYER OF PREPARATION**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*(Worshippers are requested to **hold each element** until directed to partake together, symbolizing our communion with Christ and one another.)*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER**

*(see Prayer List)*

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Say *“Peace be with you”*

**\*HYMN #354**

*“Just As I Am”*

**\*BENEDICTION & CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**#492**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

\*POSTLUDE

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- **Large Print bulletins are available from an usher.**

Rev. Edward Gray, Pastor

Ruth Poscich, Director of Music

Eddie Gray, Audio/Video Technician

This morning we are blessed with the following participants and volunteers:

8:30 a.m. Worship Leader: Betty Lou Lamers

11:00 a.m. Worship Leader: Jim Stange

11:00 a.m. Musicians: The Chancel Choir; Michael Bellavia, guitar



**March 9, 2025 through March 16, 2025**

<b>Today</b>	<b>Communion</b>	
	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship Service – Laird Hall</b>
	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday School – Conference Room</b>
	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship Service – Sanctuary</b>
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Cantata Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Rangers Breakfast, Fellowship Dicks Diner</b>
	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b>
	<b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Fun &amp; Fellowship Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Sew What</b>
	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Joy Ringers Rehearsal</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Stewardship and Finance Meeting</b>
	<b>1:15 p.m.</b>	<b>Moms-In-Prayer</b>
	<b>3:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship Service – Laird Hall</b>
	<b>9:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Sunday School – Conference Room</b>
	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship Service – Sanctuary</b>
	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Cantata Choir Rehearsal</b>

**\*\*Meals on Wheels every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday in Laird Hall**

**\*\*Friends' Kitchen is the first Wednesday of each month at Laird Hall**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

### **DEACONS' PRAYER LIST**

Lift-up in prayer those affected by the wildfires in California  
and the wildfires in South Carolina.

Prayers for our local, state and national leaders.

We have tickets available for the August 15 show of **NOAH** at Sights and Sounds Theater in Lancaster, PA. The cost of the tickets is \$85/seat.  
Please contact the office if you are interested in purchasing tickets.

## Announcements

**The Session Meeting** has been postponed until Wednesday, March 26.

We have a new Sunday School book we will read and study through Lent, *The Message of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton. It is a book that will explore some of the important themes in Jesus' teachings. Copies are available in the Narthex.

The **Murrysville Cantata Choir** is preparing for their Lenten Cantata presentation, "Blessed: A Holy Week Journey Through the Beatitudes" by Joel Raney. Practices are on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. The concert is Sunday, April 13, at 4:00 p.m.

There will be a communion service for the residents and families at Redstone Highlands, Murrysville, on Friday, March 12.

The March Presbytery meeting will be held on March 25. The Presbytery will formally welcome the new interim Presbytery leader at the meeting.

On Sunday, March 30, the First Presbyterian Church will host the Murrysville Presbyterian Preschool students and their families at the 11:00 worship service. Everyone is invited to Sandwich Sunday immediately following the worship service.

The Deacons are collecting Personal Care Items and non-perishable food items and paper products for Loaves & Fishes. **There is a need for Paper Towels, please.** We have, again, committed to collecting Laundry Detergent for the Food Bank. The items may be brought to the church at any time between 9:00 and 1:00 Monday through Friday or on Sunday mornings. Thank you very much for the support you have shown to both of these vitally important mission programs.

**Pine Springs Camp** has announced some of their Camps available this summer. PSC fliers are available on the back table of Laird Hall and in the Narthex.



Our Lenten Sunday School text is The Message of Jesus by Adam Hamilton.  
Copies can be found on the table in the Narthex.

**\*\*UPCOMING EVENTS\*\***

MAR 19	LUNCH BUNCH
MAR 16	COLLECTION SUNDAY
MAR 21	REDSTONE HIGHLANDS COMMUNION
MAR 26	WARM HUGS
MAR 30	PRESCHOOL SUNDAY / SANDWICH SUNDAY
MAR 31	SESSION MEETING
APR 2	FRIENDS' KITCHEN
APR 13	CANTATA CHOIR CONCERT
APR 16	LUNCH BUNCH
APR 17	MAUNDY THURSDAY
APR 18	GOOD FRIDAY
APR 20	EASTER SUNDAY