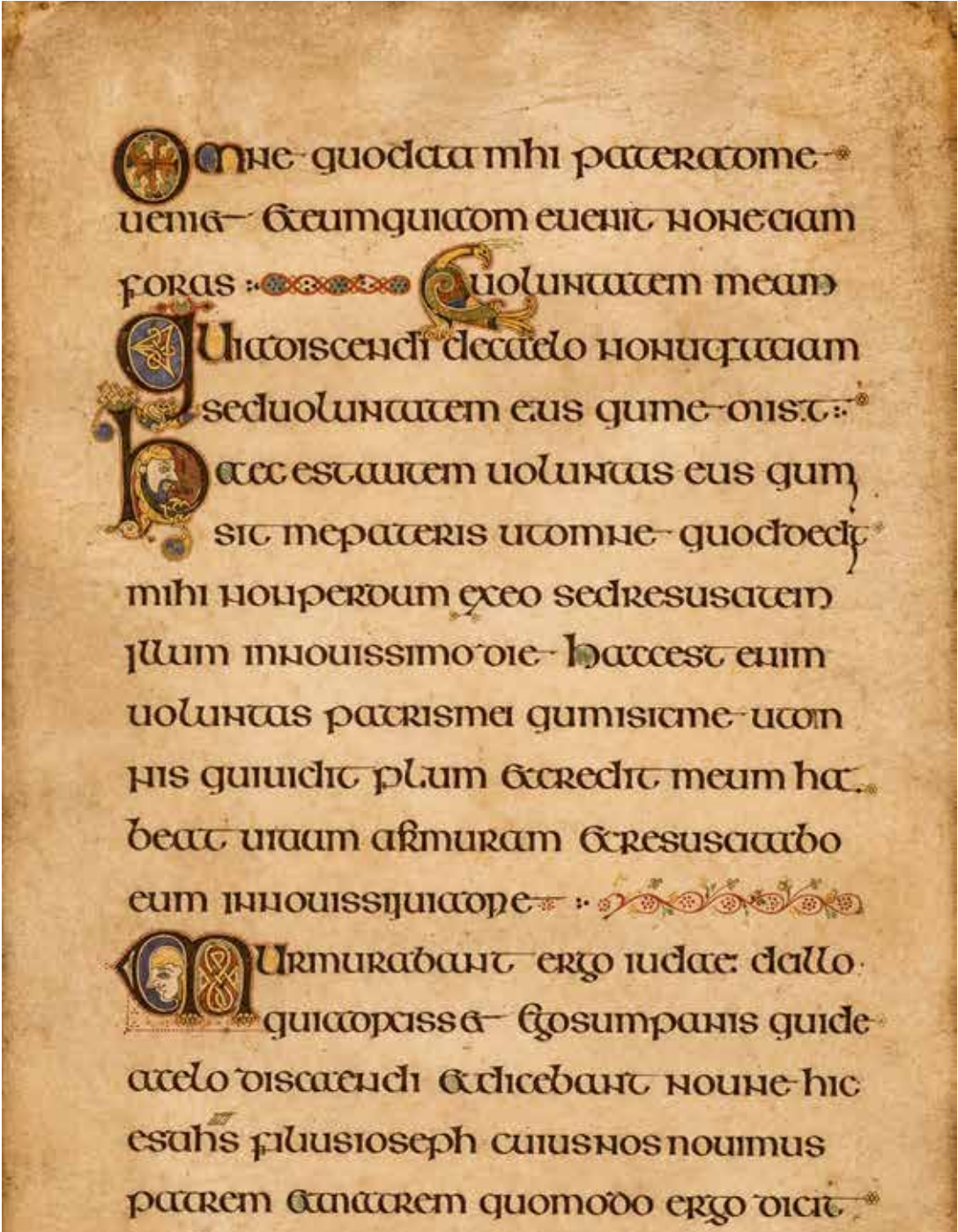

the Gospel of Luke

order of worship

Sunday, November 22, AD 2026

11 am

Cover Art: Book of Kells, 9th c., Trinity College, Dublin

GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting with Worship: Kelly Wood

Prelude

"This Is My Father's World" arranged by Robert Hughes
Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Psalm 130

Out of the depths we cry to you, O LORD! O Lord, hear our voice!
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of our pleas for mercy!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

We wait for the LORD, our souls wait, and in his word we hope;
Our souls wait for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

Hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.
He has redeemed us from all our sins. Let us break open our hearts and pour out our worship at his feet.

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 88 "Fairest Lord Jesus" CRUSADERS' HYMN

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

O Jesus, we know who we are. We know what we have done. Our sin and shame are big. But your grace is bigger. Have mercy on us. With much regret we fall at your feet. For we know that only there can we find forgiveness and freedom. We love you very much. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

**Standing*

***Response**

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omnisicent, all-knowing he counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
Our sins, they are many, his mercy is more.

***Greeting and Announcements**

Children ages four through kindergarten are invited to Children's Church.

Minute for Mission

Kevin Hoy, The Smiles Foundation

Offertory

"Peace I Leave with You" by Knut Nystedt

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you:
Not as the world giveth, give I unto you.
Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Please place your prayer requests and offerings in the plate as it is passed.

***Response Doxology** OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

***Hymn of Preparation**

No. 334 "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" ARISE

Time with God's Word
Prayer for Illumination

Luke 7:36–50

One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and reclined at table. And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

The secret things belong to the LORD our God.
But what has been revealed belongs to us, and to our children forever.
That we may do all the words of this law.

Sermon
Darin Travis
"Getting Closer"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Hymn of Response**
"Rise, My Soul, the Lord Is Risen"

Pastoral Prayer 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.

BENEDICTION

***Response**

Blessed be the LORD I AM, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, amen!

Postlude

"Nun danket alle Gott (Now Thank We All Our God)" by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Prayer Time: Join us at 10.10 am each Sunday for additional prayer in the Prayer Room (just to the left of the elevator in the Sanctuary building). One or more pastors/elders, along with others willing to intercede on your behalf, will welcome you.

Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of their parents, Florence and Mack Gregorie and to honor of their dear Aunt, Nita K. Harris by Ann K. Gregorie and Nancy Sue Burton.

Scripture for Next Week: Luke 1:5–25

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's Not Too Late! There's still time to rededicate your gifts and talents in reply to God's beautiful grace. Estimate of Giving cards are available in the pews, online at *fpcbr.org*, or you may email Courtney Hilton (*courtney@fpcbr.org*).

Angels Are Still Available. Help us to bless the children of incarcerated parents this Christmas. Volunteers are needed to provide a Christmas present for children or to help with gift delivery. Visit Scott Kirkpatrick at the Connection Center today to pick up the name of a child.

Prime Time December Luncheon. The annual Prime Time Christmas Luncheon is Friday, December 4 from 11.30 am to 1.30 pm at Mike Anderson's. Registration closes this Wednesday, November 25 at 11.55 pm. The cost is $35 per person. Visit the Reception Room to register in person or visit *fpcbr.org*.

Advent Mid-Week Worship. Please join us for mid-week Advent worship in Dunham Chapel on Wednesday, December 2, 9 and 16 at noon.

Live Nativity: December 5! On Saturday, December 5, baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, angels, wise men and shepherds will re-enact Jesus' birth. Show times for this First Presbyterian tradition are 5.30 and 6.30 pm in the Terraced Garden.

Women's Advent Brunch, December 12. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Three gifts presented to Jesus by the wise men. Join us on Saturday, December 12 at 11.30 am as we reflect on the significance of these gifts and what they reveal about Jesus as our King, our Great High Priest, and our Savior. Register online or scan the code.

Advent Poinsettia Donations. Help decorate the Chapel and Sanctuary by purchasing a white poinsettia in memory or celebration of a loved one. The cost is $35 per plant. Please place your order by Monday, December 14. Visit the Connection Center or online (*fpcbr.org*). Poinsettias may be taken home after the 6 pm Christmas Eve service.

Stay Informed. We've created a unique communications group for those who wish to receive updates regarding our response to the EPC's ongoing discussions about ordination standards. Email Kelly Wood to join (*kelly@fpcbr.org*).

Christmas Bags for Malachi Dads. Items are being collected for Christmas bags to be distributed to the Malachi Dads (prisoners) at Hunt Correctional and Angola State Penitentiary. Please drop off donations at the Connection Center: Irish Spring soap, anti-perspirant, shampoo, lotion, body wash, white socks or baby powder. Cash/check donations also accepted.

200th Anniversary Commemorative Ornaments. Rooted & Reaching is selling special 200th anniversary Christmas ornaments to decorate your tree. Visit the Connection Center or to place an order. Ornaments are $35 each.

Purple Cow Donations. The Perkins location of Purple Cow, a ministry of the Christian Outreach Center, is ready for gently used clothes and house ware items. For large items, pick up is available.