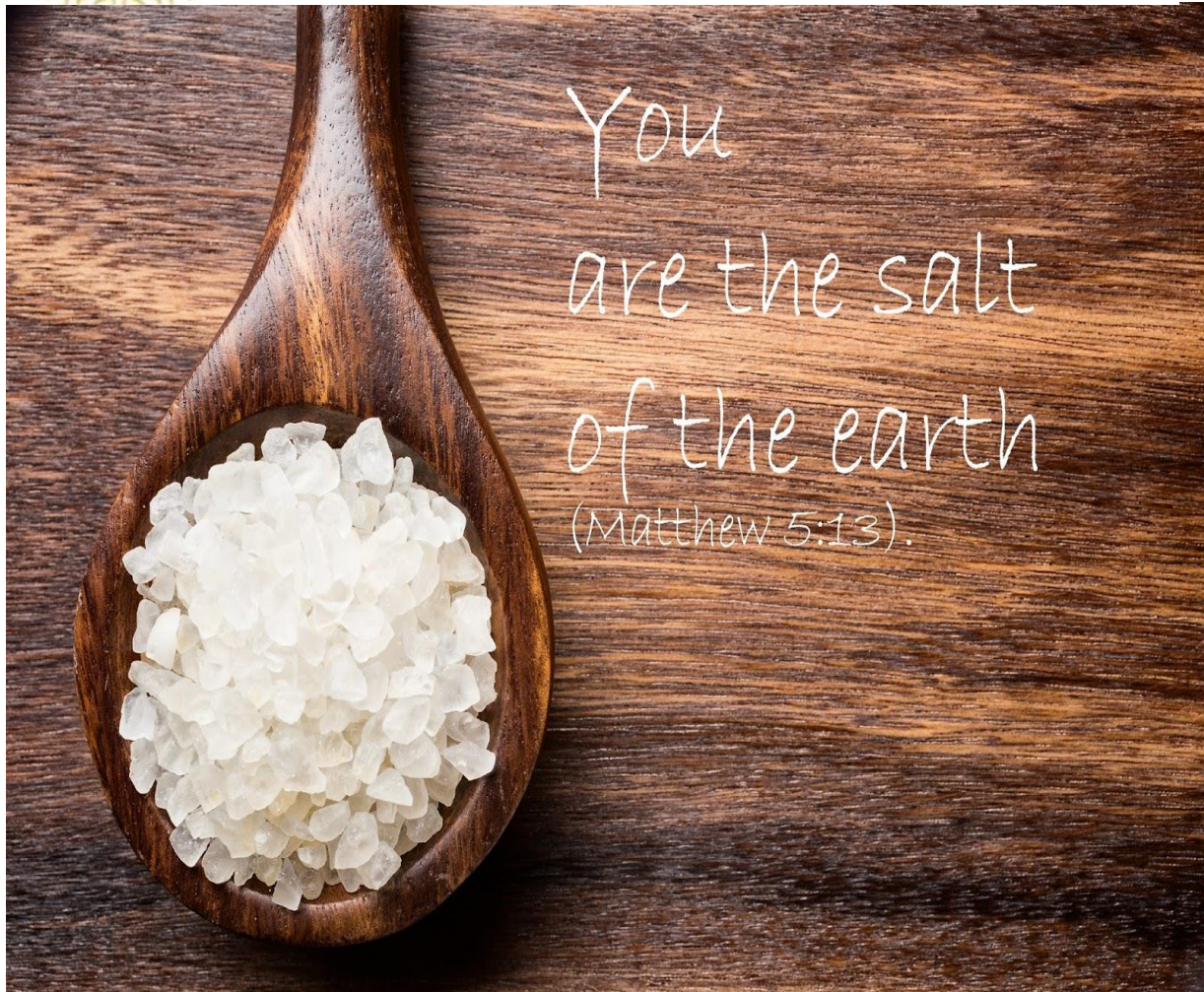




First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



¹³ Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

Matthew 5:13

Communion Sunday May 3, 2026

All of God's children are welcome, including their wiggles and giggles!

Please be seated, silence all devices, and quiet yourself for worship.

◆ **PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

PRELUDE

Prelude on Holy Manna

FPCL Handbell Choirs

~~~ **GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE** ~~~

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Murray

◆ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*The Peace of Christ be with you!*      **And also with you!**

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

Karen A. Meersman

*Beloved of God, we gather as people being made new.*

**Not by our own effort,**

*but by the grace that calls us salt of the earth  
and light of the world.*

**We are not hidden.**

**We are not meant to blend in.**

*God has called us to bring flavor where life feels dull,  
and light where shadows still linger.*

*Come —*

**let us worship the One who gives us a new identity,  
and sends us out to shine.**

◆ HYMN 1

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

Congregation

***Children are invited forward as we sing the final verse.***

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Murray

~~~ LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD ~~~

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Fantasia on "Azmon"

FPCL Handbell Choirs

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Karen A. Meersman

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 58:6-10 (The Message)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*we begin in silent confession and then pray together*)

God of new life, you have called us salt — yet we lose our flavor when we stay silent in the face of injustice. You have called us light — yet we hide when shining feels risky or uncomfortable. We confess that we have chosen safety over witness, comfort over compassion, and invisibility over courage.

Forgive us. Restore in us a sense of who we are — not what the world names us, but who you have called us to be. Renew our identity in Christ, so that our lives might reflect your love, your justice, and your hope. Amen.

HYMN 575 *LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US* Congregation
*Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS Karen A. Meersman
...Believe the Good News: In Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

◆ HYMN 582 *GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME* Congregation
*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.*

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

◆ GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:13-16 (The Message) Pastor Murray
*This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.***

MESSAGE *New Identity*
Sermon Series: *New Life*

HYMN 853 *We Are Marching in the Light of God* Congregation

~~~ RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD ~~~

CALL OF THE OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY *Take My Life* FPCL Handbell Choirs

◆ HYMN Doxology Congregation
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

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; 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 ever-lasting. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Lift up your hearts **We lift them up to God!**
Let us give God praise **It is right to give God thanks and praise**

...And when the time was right, out of your great love for the world, you came to us, lived among us, lifting up humanity, to heal our brokenness and redeem us.

**We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who by his life, death, and resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.**

...We believe that in sharing these elements of bread and grapes that our faith will grow as we are united with Christ.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us that the sharing of the bread that we break and the cup we drink may be for us the Christ's real presence.

We remember that Jesus took bread, blessed, broke, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

"This is my body, given for you."

So also we remember that Jesus took the cup, saying,

"This is the new covenant poured out for you."

*Do this in remembrance of me." For every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of our risen Lord,
Until he comes again.*

*Renew us with your life, O Christ, that we may take root in your risen life and bear fruit in your world.
Amen.*

INVITATION TO RECEIVE GOD'S GIFTS

If you embrace the hope through God for the world, then you, too, are welcome to receive God's gifts. It is Christ who invites us to come, by grace through faith, and the one who invites us will in no way cast anyone out.

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS (*ALL BREAD IS GLUTEN FREE*)

As you pass the plate to your neighbor, please offer them "the bread of life" or "the body of Christ" and "the cup of salvation" or "the blood Christ". Our response is always "thanks be to God".

GIVING THANKS FOR THE GIFTS OF GOD

PASTORAL PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER 35

Pastor Murray

◆ HYMN 744

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Congregation

~~~ *CARRYING GOD'S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD'S WORLD* ~~~

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

*Celebrate with Joy*

FPCL Handbell Choirs

*Where in your everyday life do you feel most called to shine right now — and what might that actually look like this week?*

*The flowers today are in honor and celebration of Henry R. K (our "son and brother-in-love"). His birthday is today, and he will graduate next week from the Colorado School of Mines with a second Engineering degree! The flowers are given with much love and many hugs from the M family!*

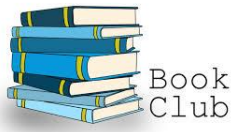
## Sunday Bible Study **TODAY**



Open Door Circle will be meeting every 3rd Thursday, at 10:30.  
All women are welcome. Please call Hedy L with any questions.



Tuesday Evening Shabby Sheep Women's Bible Study  
On a break for now  
Wednesday Morning Shabby Sheep Women's Bible Study  
Six-week study on *Acts*, started on April 8<sup>th</sup>



FPCL Book Club meets in Ayers' Parlor or Zoom on the Second Thursday of each month at 12:30. All are welcome.

Please join the Men's Ensemble rehearsal for Mother's Day on Sunday, May 10 at 8:30am on the fourth floor before we sing at the 10:00 am service.  
No choir experience or music reading necessary. Hope to see you there.



We are in need of a variety of different items to complete our supplies and decoration checklist for Vacation Bible School 2026! Look for the sign-up sheets in Chandler Hall to see what all we need, and as you sign-up, please indicate whether the items are being donated or loaned. Supplies can be dropped off in the Children's Sunday School room. And don't forget to label your loaned items! Those will all be returned to you right after VBS! Thank you!

**Office Hours** 9am-2pm Tuesday-Thursday \*Appointments Encouraged

**Office Phone Number** 303-798-1389

**Office Email** [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)

**Pastoral Care Emergency Line** 720-662-7277

**Staff Members**

**Pastor Jonathan Murray**, Minister of Word and Sacrament

**Pastor Blakeley Winslow**, Pastor of Christian Discipleship

**Lydia Cooper**, Office Manager

**Mary Dailey**, Director of Worship Arts

**Karen A. Meersman**, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

**Joan Lund**, Financial Secretary

*Worship Plans*

**Sermon Series for the Season of Easter: *New Life***

**May 10: *New Courage***

**Matthew 16:21-28** Men's Ensemble

**May 17: *New Calling***

**Matthew 28:16-20** Chancel Choir

**Today's Service**

Director of Handbell Choirs

Karen A. Meersman

Music

Memorial Handbell Choir and Tintinnabulation Ringers

Liturgist

Karen A. Meersman

Trustee

Don M

Cover Image

Honest Talk with God

Usher

Teagan W

**Mission Statement:**

***We Believe the Good News that all of Littleton is called Beloved by Jesus Christ and together we Belong to God's Kingdom.***



**First Presbyterian  
Church of Littleton**

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