

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEBASTIAN



*“Work hard and do not be lazy. Serve the Lord with a heart full of devotion.”  
Romans 12:11*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025**

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[www.WeLoveFirst.org](http://www.WeLoveFirst.org) [Facebook.com/WeLoveFirstSebastian](https://www.facebook.com/WeLoveFirstSebastian)  
Rev. Jeff Wood    Rochelle Sallee, Music Director

## Carillon Chimes

**Welcome, Announcements, Minute for Mission** (*Dan Sharrow*)

### Call to Worship <sup>1</sup> (*unison*)

*L: I will bless the Lord at all times; God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

**P: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.**

*L: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt God's name together.*

**P: I sought the Lord, who answered me and delivered me from all my fears.**

*L: O taste and see that the Lord is good;*

**P: Happy are those who take refuge in God.**

## Introit

### \*Affirmation of Faith<sup>2</sup>

Apostles' Creed

### \*Hymn 151 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

EIN FESTE BURG

A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe—  
His craft and pow'r are great, And armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,  
Our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right man on our side,  
The man of God's own choosing;  
Dost ask who that may ? Christ Jesus, it is He—  
Lord Sabaoth His name, From age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

And tho' this world with devils filled,  
Should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph thro' us.

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\*Please stand if you are able.

1. Please silence electronic devices

2. Catholic means universal, not the Catholic church

The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him—  
His rage we can endure, For lo, his doom is sure:  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, No thanks to them, abideth,  
The spirit and the gifts are ours Thro' Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also—  
The body they may kill; God's truth abideth still:  
His kingdom is forever.

## Invitation to Confession

### Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Almighty and Gracious God, we confess we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have called evil good and excused our wrongful acts. We have walked in darkness rather than in light. We have not departed from sinful paths. We confess that we quickly forget your promises of strength and hope. Grant us forgiveness of our sins. Do not remember our transgressions and offenses. Cleanse us by your Holy Spirit and aid us by your heavenly grace.**

*(Silence for Individual Confession)*

### \*Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Response #54 *My Tribute*

To God be the glory; To God be the glory,  
To God be the glory for the things He has done.  
With His blood He has saved me:  
With His pow'r He has raised me.  
To God be the glory for the things He has done.

**First Lesson** Psalm 149:1-5 Liturgist: Jane Capo

**Choir Anthem** *O Cleansing Stream* DOUG WAGNER  
Rochelle Sallee, piano

**Sermon Lesson** Matthew 25:14-30

**Sermon** Pastor Jeff Wood

## Invitation to Offering and Offering

## Prayer of Dedication and Lord's Prayer

## Ascription of Praise

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

### \*Hymn 344 *Christ of the Upward Way*

PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL

Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,  
Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;  
And move and march wherever You have trod,  
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.

Give me the heart to hear Your voice and will.  
That without fault or fear I may fulfill  
Your purpose with a glad and holy zest.  
Like one who would not bring less than the best.

Christ of the upward way, My guide divine.  
Where You have set Your feet May I place mine.  
And when Your last call comes serene and clear,  
Calm may my answer be, "Lord, I am here."

### \*Charge and Benediction

Wherever you are, Christ has put you there.  
There is something He wants to do through you there.  
Wherever you go, Christ is sending you.  
The indwelling Christ has something  
He wants to do through you there.  
Believe this and rely on His power,  
His grace, and His love.

*--Adapted from R. Halverson, former Chaplain of the Senate*

### \*Response "Shalom"

**Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

*Next Week: Dedication Sunday & Jesus' Second Surprise*