Hymn Glory to God \*Affirmation of Faith

 **In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the One Triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

 **In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

 From: A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (USA)

\*Hymn No. 803 *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

\*Charge & Benediction

**Offering:** Giving does not buy you God’s love—that is free. Today’s giving supports queer youth through GLYS of WNY. See below for QR Code. You may also offer cash, check, or go directly to their website.

**Benediction** is a fancy word for blessing.

**Worship Notes**

Some of today’s liturgy is used with permission from *enfleshed.*

Music is printed and recorded under the CCLI #CSPL121737 & 11497292

\*Share the Peace of Christ

**Go now in peace, go now in peace, May the love of God surround you everywhere, Everywhere you may go.**

**Worship Leaders**

Jamie Owens, [Kristen DeGuehery](https://www.facebook.com/kristen.deguehery), The Rev. Abigail Trautmann, The Rev. Laura Norris Buisch, The Rev. Fred Powell-Haig, The Rev. KC Clark-Porter, The Rev. Holly Clark-Porter

**Music Worship Leaders**

Today’s offering goes to GLYS of WNY. GLYS provides a safe and positive environment for LGBTQ+ youth to learn more about themselves through peer interaction and educational experiences. The organization creates opportunities for emotional growth and community awareness. www.gylswny.org

After worship, all are welcome to sit on the lawn and watch the parade or join up with Westminster Presbyterian Church or University Presbyterian Church to walk in the parade.



Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church

June 1, 2025

Pride Celebration Sunday



**Prepare for Worship**

Welcome to worship, where God gathers us in the name of love. A special thank you to the folx of Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church for hosting us. You Are Awesome! Welcome queer folx, allies, and those learning. Get out your glitter and get ready to sing your heart out!

**Gather**

**Reformed worship** centers around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word incarnate. Worship, then, is our communal and individual response to the Word.

**Bold text** is read by the congregation in one voice.

**\***Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Confession** isn’t to prove you’re pious. It’s to help rebuild connections between you and God, you and yourself, you and others, and us and the world.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements - Jamie Owens

\*Call to Worship -

One: Come, people of every gender and story; Come, seekers and skeptics,

saints and survivors. Come, drag queens and Sunday school teachers;

Come, lovers and loners, allies and activists.

**All: We come, each as beautiful things God has made.**

One: Come, you who have been told you are too much, too loud, too soft, too

strange, too real.

**All: We come as we are, because who we are is as beautiful as each**

**expression of the sky turning from dawn to dusk.**

One: Let the rainbow remind us of promise. Let the fire in our bones burn with

justice. Let the breath in our lungs sing of joy.

**All: This is the day our God has made—Different and holy, Tender and**

**fierce, Glad and free. So, let us** **gather as a family, chosen and**

**choosing, rooted in God’s extravagant welcome!**

\*Hymn No. 401 *Gather Us In*, vs 1 & 2

Call to Confession and Silent Confession *(You are invited to share your wrongdoings and sorrows with God).*

Unison Prayer of Confession

**God of justice and joy, we confess the harm the Church has done to queer communities. We have twisted scripture to exclude. We have clung to binaries and overlooked the radiant spectrum of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple that shines through your creation.**

**We have asked people to hide who they are to make church people feel more comfortable. We have urged silence and invisibility so we would not have to change, grow, or be challenged.**

**For those of us who are complicit—past or present—we come with repentance. We know that the harm we’ve done cannot be healed in one Sunday. When we are tempted to say, “the work is finished,” stir in those with power the courage to speak and act for true and lasting welcome.**

**For those of us who carry anger and grief, we come seeking healing and the strength to forgive.
Help us repair the breach—between “us” and “them”—until there is only *we*. Amen.**

*(a time for silence confession)*

Assurance of Pardon

Waters of Belonging

One: Church, will you join your voices with mine as we bless our sibling, Abigail?

**Congregation: We bless you, Abigail. You are made in the image of God. You are called by name. You are seen. You are known. You are loved.**

*(prayer continues…)*

One: Abigail, may this name bring you strength. May it remind you that you belong—to God, to yourself, and to this community that walks beside you. And may we all remember: God’s not finished with any of us yet. We are still becoming.

**Congregation: You are loved. You are whole. You are home.**

**Word**

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Text: Portion of Psalm 139

Greek Text: The Story of Philip and The Eunuch found in Acts 8:26-40

Sermon

**Engage**

**Scripture**: The Revised Common Lectionary, is an ecumenical, Biblical reading program. This helps the Holy Spirit move into places we might otherwise miss.

**The Lord’s Prayer:** We use “debts and debtors” in the Lord’s Prayer. If you’re more comfortable with the “trespass” language, please use it. Or if this prayer is meaningful to you in a different language, pray it that way. We all get to “Amen” together.

**Communion:** Anyone, regardless of age or membership, is invited to partake. We use non-alcoholic grape juice. Gluten free bread is available with its own cup. If you're nervous, just ask someone. You can't mess this up (although sometimes, we do make a mess and that's okay too!)

Invitation to Communion

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

(The Great Prayer continues…)

**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.**

Communion & Prayer after Communion

Call for the Offering

Offertory *Beautiful Things*, written by Gungor

Unison Prayer of Dedication

**Take these gifts, O God, and bless them for the work of justice and joy. May they lift up the lowly, heal the hurting, and build communities of belonging. And may we be generous not only in what we give, but in how we live. Amen.**