

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

Sunday Worship

To watch online during the 8:30am service visit: <u>forestgate.org/sunday-services</u> or YouTube

Forestgate Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God and make disciples of Christ in northern El Paso County:

By **Exalting** our Lord in joyful biblical worship
By **Encouraging** each other to love and good deeds
By **Equipping** each other for service in the church and in the kingdom
By **Engaging** the culture around us

Live Stream available at 8:30am with announcements prior to service.

Order of Worship

*Indicates congregation standing, if able.

Welcome & Announcements:

Doug Lee

We are a worshipping church — Welcome! We are glad you are able to join us this morning. The live stream of this service will be made available via <u>forestgate.org/sunday-services</u>. Once the service is concluded, the recording will continue to be available during the week from that link.

We are a praying church – We continue to seek the Lord's guidance through prayer & petition. Send your prayer requests to be shared with the prayer chain by email to prayer@forestgate.org. If your request is confidential and only to be shared with the elders, send your requests to confidential@forestgate.org.

We are a caring church – If you know someone in the Forestgate church family or others with a need during this time, or should you have a need for assistance of any kind, please email help@forestgate.org. Our deacons and a team of helpers are ready to assist.

*Call to Worship: "Blessed Be Your Name"

Beth Redman | Matt Redman © 2002 Thankyou Music

Blessed be your name
In the land that is plentiful
Where your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name When I'm found in the desert place Though I walk through the wilderness Blessed be your name

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your glorious name

Blessed be your name When the sun's shining down on me When the world's all as it should be Blessed be your name

Blessed be your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be your name

Every blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your glorious name

You give and take away
You give and take away
My heart will choose to say
Lord blessed be your name

Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your name Blessed be the name of the Lord Blessed be your glorious name

*Invocation: Doug Lee

*Responsive Catechism & Scripture Reading:

Leader: Q. 137 What sign is used in the Lord's Supper?

All: A. Eating bread and drinking wine to remember the suffering and death of Jesus.

Leader: Q. 138 What does the bread represent?

All: A. Christ's body sacrificed for our sins.

Leader: Q. 139 What does the wine represent?

All: A. Christ's blood shed for our sins.

Leader: Q. 140 Who may rightly partake of the Lord's Supper?

All: A. Those who repent of their sins, trust in Christ, live a godly life, and profess

their faith before the Church.

AND

All: Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 11:28-29

*Song of Praise: "Jesus Strong and Kind"

Colin Buchanan, Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, and Rich Thompson © 2019 CityAlight Music

Jesus said
That if I thirst
I should come to him
No one else can satisfy
I should come to him

Jesus said
If I am weak
I should come to him
No one else can be my strength
I should come to him

For the Lord is good and faithful He will keep us day and night We can always run to Jesus Jesus strong and kind

Jesus said
That if I fear
I should come to him
No one else can be my shield

I should come to him

Jesus said
If I am lost
He will come to me
And he showed me on that cross
He will come to me

Confession of Sin: Matthew 5:5 Pastor Matt Giesman

All: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Assurance of Pardon: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 Pastor Matt Giesman

Leader: But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

*Song of Assurance & Benevolence Offering:

(The Benevolence Offering occurs once a month on Communion Sunday to assist with needs both within the congregation and the community.)

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio © 2006 sixsteps Music | Vamos Publishing | worshiptogether.com songs

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood his mercy rains
Unending love
Amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood his mercy rains
Unending love
Amazing grace

My chains are gone
I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood his mercy rains
Unending love
Amazing grace

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: For Tithes and Offerings: For information on how to give in-person or electronically, please go to <u>forestgate.org/give</u>.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

2 Corinthians 8:9

Congregational Prayer:

Pastor Josh Harstine

(Please Note: There is <u>no</u> Children's Church on Communion Sunday.)

Proclamation of the Word:

"Mighty Man of Valor?"

Judges 6

Pastor Matt Giesman

Sermon Text

¹ The people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, and the LORD gave them into the hand of Midian seven years. ² And the hand of Midian overpowered Israel, and because of Midian the people of Israel made for themselves the dens that are in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds. ³ For whenever the Israelites planted crops, the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East would come up against them. ⁴ They would encamp against them and devour the produce of the land, as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel and no sheep or ox or donkey. ⁵ For they would come up with their livestock and their tents; they would come like locusts in number—both they and their camels could not be counted—so that they laid waste the land as they came in. ⁶ And Israel was brought very low because of Midian. And the people of Israel cried out for help to the LORD.

⁷ When the people of Israel cried out to the LORD on account of the Midianites, ⁸ the LORD sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the

house of slavery. ⁹ And I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. ¹⁰ And I said to you, 'I am the LORD your God; you shall not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.' But you have not obeyed my voice."

¹¹ Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. ¹² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor." ¹³ And Gideon said to him, "Please, my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." ¹⁴ And the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" ¹⁵ And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." ¹⁶ And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man." ¹⁷ And he said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speak with me. ¹⁸ Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay till you return."

¹⁹ So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. ²⁰ And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. ²¹ Then the angel of the LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight.
²² Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." ²³ But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die." ²⁴ Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD Is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

²⁵ That night the LORD said to him, "Take your father's bull, and the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it ²⁶ and build an altar to the LORD your God on the

top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down." ²⁷ So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the LORD had told him. But because he was too afraid of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he did it by night.

²⁸ When the men of the town rose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah beside it was cut down, and the second bull was offered on the altar that had been built. ²⁹ And they said to one another, "Who has done this thing?" And after they had searched and inquired, they said, "Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing." ³⁰ Then the men of the town said to Joash, "Bring out your son, that he may die, for he has broken down the altar of Baal and cut down the Asherah beside it." ³¹ But Joash said to all who stood against him, "Will you contend for Baal? Or will you save him? Whoever contends for him shall be put to death by morning. If he is a god, let him contend for himself, because his altar has been broken down." ³² Therefore on that day Gideon was called Jerubbaal, that is to say, "Let Baal contend against him," because he broke down his altar.

³³ Now all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East came together, and they crossed the Jordan and encamped in the Valley of Jezreel. ³⁴ But the Spirit of the LORD clothed Gideon, and he sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him. ³⁵ And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, and they too were called out to follow him. And he sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali, and they went up to meet them.

³⁶ Then Gideon said to God, "If you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said, ³⁷ behold, I am laying a fleece of wool on the threshing floor. If there is dew on the fleece alone, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall know that you will save Israel by my hand, as you have said." ³⁸ And it was so. When he rose early next morning and squeezed the fleece, he wrung enough dew from the fleece to fill a bowl with water. ³⁹ Then Gideon said to God, "Let not your anger burn against me; let me speak just once more. Please let me test just once more with the fleece. Please let it be dry on the fleece only, and on all the ground let there be dew." ⁴⁰ And God did so that night; and it was dry on the fleece only, and on all the ground there was dew.

Sermon Notes

"Mighty Man of Valor?" | Judges 6

- 1) A Plague upon Israel, 1-6
- 2) A Prophet not a Savior, 7-10
- 3) A Mighty Man of Valor, 11-17
- 4) A Tale of Two Altars, 18-32
- 5) A Tale of Too Many Signs, 33-40

Reflection questions:

- 1) Are locusts (see Judges 6:5) usually a good sign in the Bible? What does Joel 1-2 have to say about the locusts and about God's presence amidst the locusts? (See Joel 2:25-26, especially.)
- 2) Why does the Angel of the Lord call Gideon "mighty" multiple times when Gideon appears so scared and faithless initially?
- 3) When Jesus told his disciples that they had "little faith," did He correct them, encourage them, or both? See Matthew 6:25-34.

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

LEADER: Christian, what do you believe?

ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; the third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Communion

Explanation of the Elements & Words of Institution

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Bread: The Matzo wafters are gluten free.

The Cup: Grape juice is served.

Prayer

*Closing Song:

"Revelation Song"

Jennie Lee Riddle © 2004 Gateway Create Publishing

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain Holy holy is he Sing a new song To him who sits on Heaven's mercy seat

Holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of Kings
You are my everything
And I will adore you

Clothed in rainbows
Of living color
Flashes of lightening
Rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength
And glory and power be
To you the only wise King

Holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of Kings
You are my everything
And I will adore you

Filled with wonder
Awestruck wonder
At the mention of your name
Jesus your name is power
Breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery

Holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come

Praise to the King of Kings
You are my everything
And I will adore you
Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of Kings
You are my everything
And I will adore you

With all creation I sing

Prayer & Praise

Email <u>prayer@forestgate.org</u> or <u>confidential@forestgate.org</u>
Thank you for the privilege of letting us pray for you!

Pray for Our Military (We encourage periodic updates on our deployed family members, too.)

- -<u>Hess Family</u>: Please pray for Chaplain Doug Hess and his wife Amber and their family as they currently await the future of his deployment. Please pray for the situation in Niger and for US troops as they currently await redeployment and potentially moving to a new location.
- -<u>Larsen Family:</u> Hans continues to suffer from multiple severe and compounding health issues since returning from deployment last year. He is thankful for some small improvements and the sweet support from the body of Christ amidst the continued painful challenges.
- <u>-Wright Family:</u> The Wright family is moving to Maxwell Air Force Base in late June for Air Command and Staff College. Pray for Summer, Murray, and Joey, that the move would go well and that they would glorify and enjoy God!
- -Please pray over our Colorado based military chaplains: Chaplain Arrington, Fowler, Hess, Kreisel, Lilevjen, Montgomery, Pyrch, and Wright. Several of these chaplains are members of Forestgate or supported via RUF.

Pray for Our Missionaries of the Month (full updates found HERE)

Kurt and Marlene Schimke, serve with African Bible College, Uganda. They are grateful for the 17 years that they have been allowed to serve in Uganda. Kurt continues to lead the Biblical studies department with a full teaching schedule, all while developing the Aviation department, flying the ABU aircraft, and helping at New City Community Church. He and the team have been developing a new 2-year Diploma program that prepares students to qualify for the University level. It's been a super busy period. Marlene is once again back in the classroom as a Speech teacher, but also super busy with homeschooling Lexi and leading the homeschool co-op that is based at ABU. Some parents have her teach their kids as examples in phonetics.

<u>Tim and Andrea Kay, serve with Edgewood Ministries in East Africa</u>. The focus of our ministry in "equipping African leaders for the African Church." We equip African nationals in the following four areas: Pastor training, University campus ministry (RUF-Global), missional business development, and church planting. Our ministry in East Africa with Edgewood is growing rapidly. We are very encouraged

by the progress in our pastor training ministry in partnership with the Third Mill Institute. RUF has been established on one campus and we are encouraged about the prospects to expand to additional campuses over the next 3 years. Our impact in the area of economic development is also beginning to bear fruit through a missional agri-business project (called RECSEN) that we have helped to launch in Northern Uganda. We continue to train and mentor church planters in Uganda and South Sudan.

Pray for our church plant, Waypoint Church and Steve and Becca Stanton. Pray as Waypoint continues to search for an Associate Pastor, that the search committee would work well together, and that God would bring the right candidate to Waypoint.

Pray for Our Families, Friends, and Neighbors

- **21 Apr:** Anne Urish asks for prayer for James, her 6 yr. old grandson, who has serious respiratory issues. The doctor thinks James may have Primary Ciliary Dyskinesia (PCD), a rare genetic condition but will have to undergo further testing to confirm. Pray for God to have mercy on James and heal him. Also, help his parents to care for him.
- **21 Apr:** Anne Urish asks for healing prayers for her daughter Mimi, after a 4-hour revision surgery. This is Mimi's final step in her anti-cancer treatment! Pray for pain relief and quick healing. Praising God the cancer is gone!

This Week's SWORDFIGHERS

Q. 137 What sign is used in the Lord's Supper?

A. Eating bread and drinking wine to remember the suffering and death of Jesus.

<u>AND</u>

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Forestgate At A Glance

Youth Group | 6:30pm, Wednesdays (7th-12th grade)

Men's Bible Study | 6:30pm, Wednesdays

College & Career Group | 6:30pm, 2nd & 4th Thursdays

Men's Morning Bible Study | 6:45am, Fridays

*See website for more info.



Grad Sunday: We'll be recognizing our Forestgate Graduates and their accomplishments on Sunday, May 19!

Compassion Sunday: Next Sunday will be Compassion Sunday at Forestgate. At the beginning of each service, we will have a short update on the ministry of sponsoring poor children through Compassion International, and there will be an opportunity to sign up to be a monthly sponsor of a child in any of 29 countries where Compassion works.

Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study will be May 28th - July 23rd!We meet at 9 a.m. for fellowship and the study begins at 9:30 a.m. We will be watching a video series called *Everyday Theology* by Mary Wiley. Childcare is provided. There is no cost or homework, however, for those wishing to do further study, the study guide for adults and teens can be purchased at Amazon or Lifeway. RSVP online HERE.

Walk for Life 2024: You can make a difference for local moms this Mother's Day! Join us to participate in Life Network's Annual Walk for Life on Saturday, June 1. This event provides funds for the ministry of Life Network and the Colorado Springs Pregnancy Center, empowering moms facing unplanned pregnancies and supporting them in their motherhood. Visit www.WalkForLife.com to register and build your easy online fundraising page or see Paula Randall for more information (paula_p_randall@msn.com).



Something Missing? Lost and Found items are kept in the lower cabinet in classroom W2. We have several bibles, stainless tumblers, clothes and miscellaneous items. Come and see if your "something missing" was found!.

VBS 2024 July 8-12, 9am-12pm The VBS Summer Funner registration is now open! If you have any questions, reach out to Mindy Mitchell at summerfunnertheater@gmail.com. Promo Codes for Kindergarten-6th grade: FPCCHILD, Teens: FPCTEEN. We hope to see you there! Register HERE.

Nursery Needs: We are looking for a permanent or interim paid coordinator to replace of our current Nursery Coordinator once she leaves for summer. The nursery needs individuals who can take on a shift every now and again or serve on a monthly rotation. Interested in helping, please contact Amy Negaard or apply HERE.

Announcement – Shepherding Committee Update April 28, 2024

The Shepherding Committee of the Rocky Mountain Presbytery met on Thursday, April 25, and heard reports about the change of call status of Stephen Baran. The Shepherding Committee informed the Session of Forestgate that Stephen (who is also a member of the Shepherding committee) does plan to provide a written explanation of his concerns about Forestgate's Session, but as of the RMP meeting, Stephen had not yet provided a written explanation. The Session has already

provided a written explanation of its concerns to the Shepherding Committee. The Session continues to seek reconciliation with Stephen, and has made itself fully available to the Shepherding Committee as the proper oversight body. The Committee communicated to us that they have appointed a subcommittee (in accordance with BCO 31-2) to look into the matters dealing with this subject. The goal of the Shepherding Committee is to pursue the peace, unity, and purity of the church, and the Session supports them in their effort.

*We request that any announcements be sent to <u>aria.rayes@forestgate.org</u> by <u>4pm Monday.</u>
Thank you!

Interested in joining our mailing list for weekly email updates and announcements? Sign up <u>HERE!</u>

Pastoral Staff

Senior Pastor:
Asst. Pastor of Youth & Families:

Dr. Matt Giesman Rev. Josh Harstine matthew.giesman@forestgate.org josh.harstine@forestgate.org

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Bartel de Leeuw, Josh Drake, Daniel Klute, Chris Odell, Craig Odell

Dale Oderman, & Chuck Young

Deacons: Peter Chon, Bill Denham, Kelly Jones, Mike Patterson, help@forestgate.org

Harry Seidel, Derek Smith, David Ulsh, & Bob Welch

Treasurer: Dale Giebink dale.giebink@forestgate.org

Support Staff

Additional staff listed in the Church Directory.

Church Office Administrator:Rhonda Paulkrhonda.paulk@forestgate.orgMusic Director:Gracie Brandtgracie.brandt@forestgate.orgCommunications Coordinator:Aria Rayesaria.rayes@forestgate.orgEvents Coordinator:Shannon Starkec@forestgate.orgNursery Coordinator:Amy NegaardNursery@forestgate.org

Waypoint Church A Church Plant of Forestgate PCA

Services at 10am Skyview Middle School 6350 Windom Peak Blvd. Colorado Springs, CO 80923 waypointcos.org



Mercy's Gate

For current pantry needs, click <u>HERE</u>. Interested in becoming a volunteer? Click <u>HERE</u>.

Links & Information

Online Giving: forestgate.org/givenow

Serving, Ministry Team Information: forestgate.org/our-church

Sermon Podcast: forestgate.org/podcast

Sunday School Recordings: forestgate.org/christian-education

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Questions: office@forestgate.org