

Celebrate What God Is Doing!

Dedication Service

BY KRISTEN CAMPBELL AND SHONDA GALLOWAY

Call to Worship (from Psalm 55)

One: Come into the land of God.

All: We come seeking a land of love.

One: Live as the people of Christ.

All: We gather to grow as a community of love.

One: Follow in the ways of our Lord.

All: We move forward on the path of love.

One: Come, young and old, friend and stranger, for all are welcome here.

All: We come to live and grow in the love of Christ Jesus. Praise God for this wonderful gift!

Hymn Suggestions*

“Here in This Place” (GtG 401)

“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” (GtG 509)

Scripture

“For the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all your undertakings, and you shall surely celebrate.”
—Deuteronomy 16:15b

Meditation

As we write, your Presbyterian Women Creative Ministries Offering Committee (CMOC) just met in Louisville, Kentucky, and had the pleasure of being together, in person. There is nothing like physical presence!

Talk about celebrating what God is doing! Decisions were made and grant recipients were selected, after much discussion with deep, heartfelt emotional sharing (including a few warm, salty tears). Leaders in Presbyterian Women are truly passionate about mission.

In our scripture for this year’s Birthday Offering, we acknowledge God’s blessings and place an emphasis on celebrating. It is easy to Celebrate What God Is Doing! Or is it?

If it’s so easy, how often do we really celebrate what God is doing? C’mon now. God knows we spend plenty of time discouraged, down and out, distressed, disgruntled, even plagued with worry, fear and doubt. But by God’s grace, we are blessed, even when we are distressed! As faithful Presbyterian women, we should rejoice and celebrate God’s blessings so that, through our actions and examples, we encourage others to give thanks and to rejoice and celebrate along with us!

Let’s dig deep in our coin purses and (with God’s help, of course!) just look at what we can do together: This year our PW Birthday Offering has \$300,000 to utilize in furthering God’s glory!

So siblings in Christ, let’s continue the great work of our hearts and our hands. And let us take time, making opportunities to celebrate what God is doing in our midst!

Take a moment right now, in whatever group you’re in, to pause and invite each person present to talk about one wonderful thing God is doing: in your life, in your church, in your PW group, or even in your community, state or country. God is at work in our lives, and we are blessed to see with new eyes all that God is doing!

We *know*, God continues to work through humans, people just like you and me! And when we bless each other, we bless God.

So, keep up the good work, PW. And please, celebrate what God is doing!

May this 2025 Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women continue to encourage and inspire one another to celebrate and bless God, as God continues to bless each of us. Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Dedication

Glorious and Awesome God,

You are our creator, our source of life and we come as your people. Gather us in, united, mindful of the ties that bind us

together in your love. Write your promises upon our hearts and in our minds, that we may be generous and loving daughters, sisters, friends. Strengthen us, Lord, by your Holy Spirit, that we may live loving, blessed lives transformed by your grace. Keep us hopeful and helpful, transforming lives of others for God's glory. We pray in the loving name of Jesus. Amen.

Hymn Suggestions*

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" (GtG 582)

"God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian" (GtG 303)

Charge and Benediction

One: Mighty and magnificent God, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Guide us to become more like you in all we say and do. Siblings in

Christ, go out and show love to God and neighbor.

All: We go forth in the love of God.

One: Go to welcome the stranger.

All: We go forth with love for the whole wide world.

One: May we all go in peace, and all God's people said,
AMEN!

Kristen Campbell is the Synod of the Sun representative and Shonda Galloway is the Synod of Mid-America representative to the Churchwide Board of Directors.

Notes

1 from PW Board of Directors worship service, 2024.

* Hymns marked "GtG" are from *Glory to God* (Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2013)



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
2025 Birthday Offering

