

The First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301-2487
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www.firstpresby.com

Pastors:

Dr. William G. McCoy
Rev. Christian J. Johnson

Ministers:

All members of the congregation



The Celebration of Worship Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 19, 2017

10:30 AM

Worship is broadcast at 11 AM on WCHS-580AM

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship here today.
Large print hymnals, Bibles, hearing devices,
and information about child care are available from any usher.

If your hearing aid has a button for telephone use, turn it on now
to receive sound directly to your hearing aid.



All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.
Clipboards, children's Bibles and books to borrow during worship are located at the entrances.

The asterisks (*) invite you to stand in body or in spirit.

We Gather

TIME FOR PREPARATION

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he has mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

Psalm 123

PRELUDE

Thanksgiving Medley
Paula Legge, organist

arr. Held/Langlois

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

We Praise God

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill McCoy

*HYMN 647

Give Thanks

GIVE THANKS

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Christian Johnson

*RESPONSE 626

As the Deer

AS THE DEER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ginna Taylor

Merciful God, it isn't easy for us to follow the commandments of loving. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and to love our neighbors. But we have allowed misunderstanding, fear, hatred, and prejudice to cloud our spirits, turning them away from those who need our love. We place a test before You, asking that You prove Your love to us, or we threaten not to believe in You. Please forgive us for this foolishness and stubbornness. Give us the courage to be people who will care for others. Let us dedicate our lives in Your service, always aware of Your awesome love for us. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Please continue to pray silently.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WELCOME AND CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP

Bill McCoy

Please sign the friendship pad placed at pew's end, so we may greet each other by name.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Bill McCoy, Sallie Daugherty and Dina Mohler

For Sarah Elizabeth Symonds, daughter of Joel and Jane Symonds and for Evelyn Claire Clarke, daughter of Charles and Stephanie Clarke.

(Children may come forward for the baptism.)

Leader: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye:
I hide me, hide me in the shadow of Thy wings.

People:

Leader:

Keep me,

People:

Leader:

Hide me;

People:

Welcome by congregation

Evelyn and Sarah, with joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church. As we are all one in Christ, we promise to love, cherish and support you, to share the good news of the Gospel with you, and to help you to know and follow Christ.

*PASSING THE PEACE

(Children in grades 1-5 are dismissed to Children's Bible Study.)

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

We Declare our Faith

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Bob Newman

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 everlasting. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

HYMN 581

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

We Give Thanks to God

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bill McCoy

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. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

Offertory

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

arr. William Hussey

The Capella Bells; Kathy Lynch, director

*Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bill McCoy

God our Father, we thank You for the many ways You bless our lives. Receive these gifts this day for the blessing of Your children, the edification of Your church, and the redemption of the world. In Jesus name. Amen.

The Word is Proclaimed

ANTHEM

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Healey Willan

*Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise. With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise!
By Him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move. Sing to the Lord of harvest a song of happy love!*

*By Him the clouds drop fatness; the deserts bloom and spring. The hills leap up in gladness; the valleys laugh and sing.
He filleth with His fullness all things with large increase. He crowns the year with goodness, with plenty, and with peace.*

*Heap on His sacred altar the gifts His goodness gave. The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls He died to save.
Your hearts lay down before Him when at His feet ye fall, and with your lives adore Him who gave His life for all!*

The Geneva Choir

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| OLD TESTAMENT LESSON | Leviticus 19:9-18; Pew Bible OT, p. 106 | Bob Newman |
| EPISTLE LESSON | Romans 13:8-10; Pew Bible NT, p. 162 | |
| GOSPEL LESSON | Matthew 22:34-40; Pew Bible, NT, p. 24 | Christian Johnson |
| SERMON | Defining Characteristics | Christian Johnson |
| *CONCLUDING HYMN 643 | Now Thank We All Our God | NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT |
| *INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BENEDICTION | | Christian Johnson |
| *HYMN OF PARTING | | HYMN 541 |
| <i>God be with you till we meet again. Loving councils guide, uphold you, With a shepherd's care enfold you. God be with you till we meet again.</i> | | |
| POSTLUDE | Harvest Thanksgiving March Paula Legge, organist | J. Baptiste Calkin |

We gather to worship,
We scatter to serve,
In the relentless love of Christ.

The asterisks (*) invite you to stand in body or in spirit.

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• *In worship leadership last Sunday:* We thank Sam Keller for chiming the Trinity and James Odin for
• serving as acolyte during worship November 12.
• *Restrooms and water fountains* are found through the double doors to the left of the chancel; please
• accompany children.
• *Childcare:* Nursery and Rooms 112 and 114
• *Elder visitation:* Courtney Persinger, Dave Pitchford
• *Greeters today:* Naomi Krieg, Dave and Lori Nolan, Susan Watkins
• *We are thankful* for the gifts given this week to our church music program.
• PLEASE FEEL FREE TO KEEP THIS BULLETIN OR DROP IT IN THE RECYCLING BOX AS YOU EXIT. THANK YOU!
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