

Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...
And pray to the Lord on its behalf

Jeremiah 29:7



First Presbyterian Church

16 Leon Sullivan Way
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Pastor:
The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers

Ministers:
All members of the congregation

The Worship of Our Lord

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 25, 2022
10:30 AM

Welcome to First Presby! We are grateful you chose to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign in via the Friendship Pads located at the end of the pews. We use this information to keep in touch about church events. We hope you will take a moment to read the electronic newsletter "First Presby Press" and the weekly Green Sheet. Please share news and notes with your friends and neighbors. Thank you!

REFLECTION FOR WORSHIP

The following scriptures and reflection are provided for silent meditation during the prelude.

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31

When we see social relationships controlled everywhere by the principles which Jesus illustrated in his life—trust, love, mercy, and altruism—then we shall know that the kingdom of God is here. To say what this society will be like in exact detail is quite hard for us to picture, for it runs so counter to the practices of our present social life. But we can rest assured that it will be a society governed by the law of love.

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
"The Christian Pertinence of Eschatological Hope"

* indicates congregation standing, as able

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO . . .

PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

More Love To Thee, O Christ

LANI SMITH

WELCOME

Pastor Myers

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

PRAISE ALMIGHTY GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Dina Mohler

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God's presence with singing!

All: For the Lord is good. God's steadfast love endures forever and God's faithfulness to all generations. Let us worship God!

CONFESS TO OUR FORGIVING CREATOR

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Pastor Myers

One: We are a people born of water and the Spirit. We have made promises to be Christ's faithful disciples and to show his love to our life's end. Although we often fail to keep our promises, God's steadfast love endures forever.

All: Confident of God's grace, let us confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Holy God,
God of justice and righteousness,
You lift up the lowly and fill the empty;
Yet we adore the high and mighty.
You reach out to the poor;
Yet we ceaselessly pursue wealth.
You talk about treasure in heaven;
Yet we want dollars in our bank accounts today.
Correct our misguided ways.
Forgive our lack of generosity.
Free us from striving for more and more.
Change our hearts
so that we can tend to things that matter
And find our life in Jesus Christ.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

All: God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #279 Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove (vs. 4)

ST. AGNES

*Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove,
With all thy quickening powers;
Come, shed abroad a Savior's love,
And that shall kindle ours.*

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 (OT p. 708) & Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (NT p. 208)

Dina Mohler

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

Finnish folk melody

*We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land, but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;
God sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain, the breezes and the sunshine, and soft, refreshing rain.*

*You only are the Maker of all things near and far; you paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star;
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed; much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread.*

*We thank you, then, Creator, for all things bright and good, the seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;
Accept the gifts we offer, for all your love imparts, and what you most would welcome, our humble, thankful hearts.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 16:19-31 (NT p. 79)

Pastor Myers

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Myers

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Pastor Myers & Dina Mohler

Thomas Grant Uldrich, Sara Rhodes Pauley & Benjamin Daniel Pauley

Kelly Irene Uldrich (Spouse) Matthew Daniel Pauley (Spouse and Father)

SONG OF JOY

One: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

All: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

One: Keep me,

All: Keep me,

One: Hide me,

All: Hide me. Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of thy wings.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Thomas and Kelly Uldrich, Matthew, Sara and Benjamin Pauley, Shelia Buss, Devon and Laura Stewart, Joshua Higginbotham, and Wallace and Cindy Taylor, 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.

(Children in ages 4-10 are dismissed to Children's Church in Room E-117 or they may remain in the sanctuary with their parents.)

SERMON

"Creating Our Future with Hope"

Pastor Myers

*HYMN #766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

MC KEE

DEDICATE OUR LIVES TO GOD

JOYS & CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Pastor Myers

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.

SUNG RESPONSE TO PRAYER #291 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness (refrain)

SPIRIT

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
Blow through the wilderness,
Calling and free.*

*Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
Stir me from placidness,
Wind, wind on the sea.*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Pastor Myers

Offertory

When Morning Gilds the Skies
(Please bring your offering forward during the offertory.)

JASON D. PAYNE

*Offering Response #607

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

*HYMN #765

May the God of Hope Go with Us (3x)

ARGENTINA

First Time – *All*

Second Time – *Call & Response*

Choir – *May the God of hope go with us every day,*

Congregation – *filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.*

Choir – *May the God of justice speed us on our way,*

Congregation – *bringing light and hope to every land and race.*

Choir – *Praying, let us work for peace;*

Congregation – *singing, share our joy with all;*

Choir – *working for a world that's new,*

Congregation – *faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

Third Time – *All*

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Myers

*POSTLUDE

O God, Our Help In Ages Past

UNKNOWN

Our worship continues in our service to others.

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship today.
May the gift of worship we offer today honor God and serve as a blessing to you.
Worship is broadcast at 11AM on WCHS-580AM
Worship is also available on our YouTube channel.

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. William C. Myers
Dina Mohler

THE MUSIC TODAY

Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Randall Peters, guest organist
The Sanctuary Choir

ALSO SERVING TODAY

Chiming the Trinity: David Cottrell
Greeters: Dwayne and Judy Price

Audio & Video: Byron Goodew & David Cottrell
Custodial Services: David Feibelmann

WORSHIP NOTES

Please remember that we worship every Sunday Sabbath Day, and that is available via YouTube and the radio broadcast. Thank you for connecting for worship with First Presby.

Staff of First Presbyterian Church

William Myers, Pastor/Head of Staff
Jayson Keeton, Director of Music & Organist
Jenny Pitchford, Financial Services Manager
Diana Vorhees, Office Administrator

Anne Moses, Director of the Preschool
Christina Belcher, Assistant Director of the Preschool
Bernard Wooten, Preschool Custodian
Tim Kidd, Custodian