Third Sunday after Pentecost June 18, 2023 10:30 a.m. Worship



Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid John 14:27

First Presbyterian Church

Mailing address: P.O. Box 2729; San Bernardino, California 92406 909.882.3308

www.fpcsb.net

MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT: REV. DR. SANDRA R. TICE MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

COMMISSIONED LOCAL PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB PASTOR EMERITUS: REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC; WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST; AMY GANO, BELLS

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

This service is being livestreamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. Large-print copies of this order of service, as well as audio enhancement devices are available from the ushers.

We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:

- To seek God- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- To practice Community rejoice w/those who rejoice, weep w/those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- To listen for our Call- often an invitation to go out and <u>be</u> or <u>do</u> or <u>remember</u>. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website **www.fpcsb.net**, along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are **welcome** in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, June 25th.

Our deacons will set the table so all may be made welcome.

Morning Worship[†]

REFLECTION before the SERVICE

I could preach what one of my friends calls a "listen, you" sermon – and take this chance to admonish you to come to church more, and to give more money, and for God's sake just sign up for the monthly jobs already. But I can't bear to...

It is grace that God would again and again scoot over and make room for our hearts and hurts and prayers and say to us, "You are mine and you are enough."

After over a decade as pastor for this congregation I know one thing—that there is only grace, my sweet friends. Everything else is a measure of worthiness. Everything else leads to insiders and outsiders. Everything else can fail us. But oh to grace how great a debtor daily we're constrained to be. I love you. Amen.

--Nadia Bolz-Weber, Final Sermon, House for All Sinners and Saints

We have organized this service with the framework we have used for every memorial service for the last decade.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *It Is Well with My Soul arr. William Carol Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.*

INTROIT This Is The Day 1 James Christensen
This is the day the Lord has made, Rejoice and sing to God's name.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN 749

Come Live in the Light

WE ARE CALLED

TIME with the CHILDREN

[Children are always welcome in worship. There are activity bags and books in the narthex.

Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery at any time.]

[†] The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

^{*} Stand if you are able The congregation will read.

 $^{^1}$ Text & Music: James Christensen. @1983 National Music Publishers, admin. Fred Bock Music Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254. Page $\mid 3$

For a canvas of colors, for a concert of sound; for the unfolding seasons, the earth spinning round. For the birth of each sunrise, for the sky set ablaze; for these simple gifts, we give simple praise. Simple praise for the Giver, and thanks to the One who has given us breath each morning, each sun. To the Giver of blessings for all of our days, our days, for these simple gifts, we give simple praise. For the love of a mother, for the touch of a hand; for the deeper emotions we can't understand. For the lessons we learn from the trials we face; for these simple gifts, we give simple praise. The heart of the Giver, the hand of the One from whom ev'ry blessing of living has come; for measureless mercy and limitless grace, for these simple gifts we give simple praise.

SCRIPTURE John 14:25-27

New Testament, page 109

This is the word of faith that we proclaim **★ Thanks be to God.**

WORDS of REMEMBRANCE

Sheila Denton Sandy Tice

HYMN Be Not Afraid ³ Bob Dufford

You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand.
You shall see the face of God and live.
Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

When you pass through raging waters in the sea You shall not drown, If you walk amid the burning flame You shall not be harmed

² Text: Pamela Martin. Music: Craig Courtney. ©2005 The Lorenz Publishing Corporation. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

 $^{^3}$ Text based on Isaiah 43:2-3; Luke 6:20 ff. ©1975, 1978 Robert J. Dufford, SJ and Oregon Catholic Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of One License #A706254. Page $\mid 4$

And if you stand before the pow'r of Hell And death is at your side, know that I am with you through it all-Be not afraid. I go before you always. Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

And blessed are your poor for the kingdom shall be theirs Blessed are you that weep and mourn for one day you shall laugh And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me Blessed, blessed are you! Be not afraid.

I go before you always.
Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

WORDS of HOPE

Sandy Tice

THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

(We offer our gifts as a response to God's Word, to be part of God's purposes in the world. You may place gifts in the plates as they are passed. You may always give by mail or online.)

BELL OFFERTORY

GIVING THANKS for FAITHFUL PARTNERSHIP

As a young person, you walked into a church youth group and found hospitality, community, and the love of God. You have spent your life sharing the love of God through camp ministry, children's and youth ministry, seminary teaching, retreats, spiritual direction, and, since 2006, pastoring this community. We give thanks that you answered that call and have shared your gifts and love.

You have led us in worship. You created liturgies that helped us see and hear God in many ways. You chose music that lifted our praises to God. You helped prepare the beauty of the space. You invited us to see where God was at work. We thank you for leading us in worship. We will continue to seek God, listen for our call, and practice community together.

On these steps, you helped us to learn from the stories of scripture. We felt your warmth and welcome. You made time with the children fun. We thank you for loving us and understanding us.

You have welcomed children onto this campus and led preschoolers in chapel time. You have made sure kids can learn and explore and discover God's love. You've made sure learning opportunities are available for adults to grow in our understanding of social justice, scripture, and prayer. We thank you for nurturing us.

At this font you baptized me and many others: babies, children, youth, and grown-ups. In the sacrament you made God's grace visible. You reminded us that we are beloved, invisibly and permanently marked as God's own. You invite us to gather around and welcome our brothers and sisters into this family. Thank you for baptizing us.

At this table you invited us to the joyful feast of the people of God. Jesus has met us here as he always meets his disciples. We've shared meals after worship, at Session meetings, at youth group, and on Monday mornings. We thank you for breaking bread with us; this bread will sustain us on our journey.

Here you have proclaimed the good news of Jesus Christ. You have offered us words of encouragement, challenge and grace. You have comforted us in grief, celebrated with us in love, and prayed for us. We thank you for the ways in which you have helped us hear God's Word.

You have an office here where you have received us in times of crisis and times of joy. You have laughed and conspired and prayed with us. You have listened to our sacred stories and invited us to listen to God's voice. We thank you for your wisdom and your careful listening.

We've stepped outside these walls and into the world where Christ is at work. We helped create clean water systems in Mexico, and cared for our siblings in Louisiana, New Mexico, and Costa Rica. Our young people have participated in mission in the IE and beyond. We are friends with educators and students, and share groceries with thousands of households in the name of Jesus. Thank you for helping us connect the God at work within us to God's presence in the world wherever there is need.

You have blessed us, and now we bless you on your way. You have encouraged us to spend time in God's Big Book of creation. We invite you to open a page in that book as we offer you these gifts. We, your community, bless you in the name of Jesus.

We bless you and send you forth in God's care. The peace of God be with you always.

PRAYER and OUR LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*HYMN 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God EIN' FESTE BURG
Norm Wallis, Trumpet; Curtiss Allen, Tuba

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE Glory Be to the Father Henry W. Greatorex 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.

POSTLUDE Improvisation William Zeitler

(For health reasons we are not greeting at the door)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK
Judy Steppins, Sandy Garza, Sally Inglis
Elders: Susan Skoglund, Alex Smith, Tim Usher
Deacons: Dan Direen, Robin Edwards

GREETERS: Jeoff Molcan, Shelby Obershaw

USHERS: Tim Usher, Lead Usher

Marilyn Kraft, Jim Siegmund, Security Ushers

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jun 20 Tom Garza

Katrina Johnston

Jun 21 Nick Davies

Sara Hibbs DeLeon

Jun 23 Jorge Carlos

If you would like to have your birthday or anniversary included in our list of celebrations, or if you would like to make a correction to something that is already listed, please contact Mimi in the church office (909-882-3308), or email pres.first@gmail.com with the name and date.

A Celebration of What Will Be. TODAY we gather as a congregation with Sandy for food, reflection, and fellowship. Join us as we celebrate what has been and what will be.

Congregational Meeting. There will be a short Congregational Meeting following Worship **next Sunday, June 25th**, for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship with the Rev. Dr. Sandra R. Tice. Please plan to attend.

More news and announcements are available in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

Music Box

The text to "It Is Well With My Soul" was written by Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) after traumatic events in Spafford's life. First there was the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 which ruined him financially (he had been a successful lawyer and had invested significantly in property in the area of Chicago wiped out by the fire).

His business interests were further hit by the economic downturn of 1873, at which time he had planned to travel to England with his family, to help with D. L. Moody's upcoming evangelistic campaigns. (Moody was something like the Billy Graham of his day.) Having to deal with yet another last minute financial difficulty, Spafford sent his family ahead. While crossing the Atlantic, the ship sank rapidly after a collision with another ship, and all four of Spafford's daughters died (Annie, age 12; Maggie, 7; Bessie, 4; and an 18-month old baby). His wife Anna survived and sent him the now famous telegram, "Saved alone. What shall I do. ...".

As Spafford traveled to meet his grieving wife, he was inspired to write the words to "It Is Well With My Soul" as his ship passed near where his daughters had drowned.

Following the shipwreck, Anna went on to give birth to three more children: Horatio (1875), Bertha (1878), and Grace (1881). Their son Horatio died of scarlet fever at age four. After this final tragedy, and a decade of financial loss and the ordeal at sea, Anna and Horatio Spafford became religious outsiders. Thus began the Spafford's philosophical move away from material success toward a lifelong spiritual pilgrimage. Anna and Horatio soon left the Presbyterian congregation he had helped build and hosted prayer meetings in their home. The press dubbed their group "The Overcomers". (I'll say!)

In 1881, the Spaffords went to Jerusalem to set up the "American Colony". Colony members, joined by Swedish Christians, engaged in philanthropic work among the people of Jerusalem regardless of their religious affiliation and without proselytizing motives, gaining the trust of the local Muslim, Jewish, and Christian communities. At the Eastern front during and after World War I, and during the Armenian and Assyrian genocides, the American Colony supported the Muslim, Jewish, and Christian communities of Jerusalem by hosting soup kitchens, hospitals, and orphanages

Horatio died age 59, and was buried in Jerusalem. After Horatio's death, his wife Anna (1842–1923) assumed leadership of the group until her

death. The Spafford's Children's Center (a charitable home for children) is still a going concern in Jerusalem, with several of the Spafford's grand-children on the board.

The Swedish writer Selma Lagerlof, drawing inspiration from the American Colony, wrote the novel "Jerusalem" which helped her win the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1909 (the first woman to do so).

The tune to "It Is Well With My Soul" was composed by Philip Bliss (1838–1876), an American composer, conductor, writer of hymns and a bass-baritone Gospel singer. He wrote many well-known hymns, including "Almost Persuaded", "Hallelujah, What a Savior!" and "Wonderful Words of Life". Bliss was a recognized friend of D. L. Moody. Bliss died in the Ashtabula River Railroad Disaster on his way to one of Moody's meetings. An outspoken Abolitionist, he served as a Lieutenant during the American Civil War.

— William Zeitler