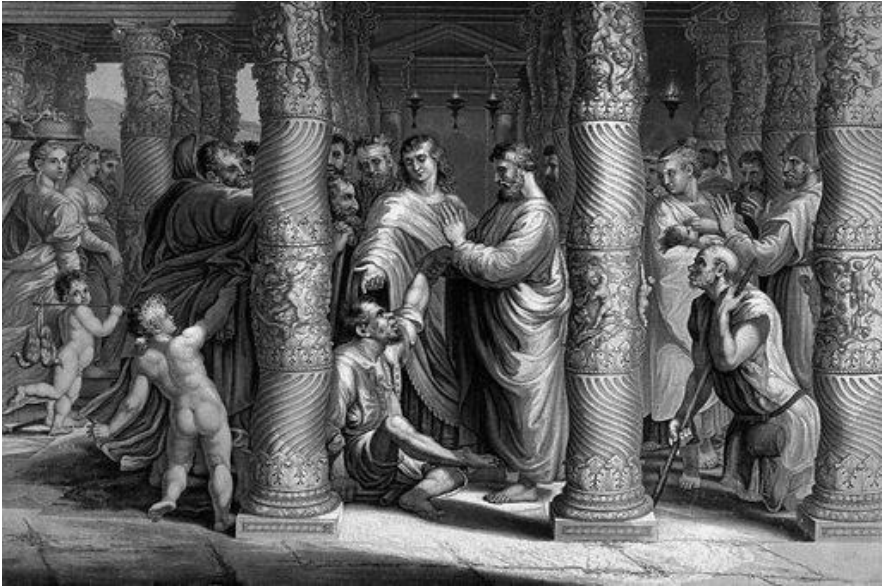


Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 16, 2023 **10:30 a.m. Worship**



So in the present case, I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone; because if this plan or this undertaking is of human origin, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them—

Acts 5:38-39a

First Presbyterian Church

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

909.882.3308

www.fpcsb.net

COMMISSIONED LOCAL PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

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 be or do or remember. 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, August 6th.
Our deacons will set the table so all may be made welcome.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Mindy Rueda

REFLECTION before the SERVICE

At the doorway to worship are those whose very presence should discipline praise and guide hope. Before praises go up to God the poor and lame, sick and pained must be seen. This lame man lay in the path toward praise which is also the path of the disciples. This route was established by Jesus. This man is precisely the person Jesus will see and demands his disciples see. Peter and John find themselves without an option: time to see with the eyes of Jesus.

-- Willie James Jennings

Acts (Belief: A Theological Commentary on the Bible)

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

The Disciple's Resolve

W. Zeitler

Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

*CALL to WORSHIP¹

Let us worship the eternal God,
the source of love and life, who creates us.

✘ **Let us worship Jesus Christ,
the risen one, who lives among us.**

Let us worship the Spirit,
the holy fire, who renews us.

✘ **Let us worship our triune God together!**

*HYMN

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!²

DARWALL'S 148TH

**Come sing, O church, in joy!
Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us
through the ages long!**

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

*** Stand if you are able** **✘ The congregation will read.**

¹ Adapted from Iona Abbey Worship Book, ©2001 Iona Community/Wild Goose Publications. All rights reserved. Used by Permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

² Text: Brian Dill, 1988. Music: John Darwall, 1770. Text ©1989 Brian Dill. All rights reserved. Used by Permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

Refrain:

In bold accord,
come celebrate the journey now
and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone,
and still God reigns supreme,
empowering us to catch the vision,
dream the dream! *(Refrain)*

Let courage be our friend;
let wisdom be our guide,
as we in mission magnify
the Crucified! *(Refrain)*

Come sing, O church, in joy!
Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er
the ages long! *(Refrain)*

PRAYER of CONFESSION³

✘ O Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom.

(Moment for silent reflection and confession)

Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

✘ In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.

³ <https://thirdmill.org/files/english/html/worship/pray.confess.html>

(We stand and sing Alleluia)

***ALLELUIA**

William Zeitler

Musical score for Alleluia, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written on a single staff with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. The score includes two endings. The first ending is marked with a '1.' and leads back to the beginning of the piece. The second ending is marked with a '2.' and leads to a final cadence. Chord symbols are provided above the staff: Em, B, Em, D, G, D, Em, B, Em, Bm, Em.

TIME with the CHILDREN

[Children are always welcome in worship. There are activity bags available. Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery at any time.]

MUSIC for WORSHIP

Gymnopedie no. 1

Erik Satie

Susan Addington, flute; William Zeitler, piano.

SCRIPTURE Acts 3:1-10

(Peter and John carry on the work of Jesus.)

One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the hour of prayer, at three o'clock in the afternoon. And a man lame from birth was being carried in. People would lay him daily at the gate of the temple called the Beautiful Gate so that he could ask for alms from those entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he asked them for alms. Peter looked intently at him, as did John, and said, "Look at us." And he fixed his attention on them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." And he took him by the right hand and raised him up; and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong. Jumping up, he stood and began to walk, and he entered the temple with them, walking and leaping and praising God. All the people saw him walking and praising God, and they recognized him as the one who used to sit and ask for alms at the Beautiful Gate of the temple; and they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him. While he clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's Portico, utterly astonished.

Acts 4:5-14

(Peter and John were arrested because they were proclaiming "that in Jesus there is resurrection of the dead.")

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who

were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved." Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✠ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Dr. Wendy Lamb

HYMN

There Is a Longing in Our Hearts, O God⁴

Refrain:

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
for you to reveal yourself to us.**

**There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God.**

**For wisdom, for courage, for comfort:
hear our prayer.**

**In weakness, in fear:
be near; hear our prayer, O God. (Refrain)**

**For healing, for wholeness, for new life:
hear our prayer.**

**In sickness, in death:
be near; hear our prayer, O God. (Refrain)**

⁴ Text & Music: Anne Quigley. ©1978 Anne Quigley. Published by Oregon Catholic Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

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 plate as it comes to you during the offertory – or by mail or online.)

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDRETH

- ✘ Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost, Amen.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE 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

*Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*⁵

Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud;
we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.

⁵ Text: H. Kenn Carmichael, 1985. Music: English Country Songs, 1893; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. Text ©1989 H. Kenn Carmichael. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God
act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

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

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

George Biddlecombe, Noé Falconi

Elders: **Jeanne Clark, Susan Skoglund, Alex Smith**

Deacons: **Chris Thomas, Dan Direen, Robin Edwards**

GREETERS: Jeoff Molcan, Laura Munz

USHERS: Dave Thomas, *Lead Usher*

Mark Adelson, Jim Siegmund, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jul 19 Linda Tiger

Jul 20 Ryan Nord

Jul 21 Donna Garza

Ezra Joseph Morales

Jul 22 Helen Babcock

Dennis & Laurie Stafford

Garcia Center for the Arts cordially invites you to our first-ever Annual Benefit Gala! Join us **Friday, July 28th, 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm** at The Sterling Natural Resource Center, 25318 West 5th Street, San Bernardino. Enjoy an evening of live music, delicious food, and an exciting auction! **Please RSVP by: July 24th, 2023.** For more info email garciacentersb@gmail.com Tickets are \$125.00 Single, \$225.00 Couple, and \$909.00 for a table. Tickets are available at the center. Call 909-888-6400 between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Three food facts:

- 1) Our neighbors are struggling, so our food program is serving more people every month.
- 2) To meet the growing need, we've been distributing proportionally more cold food.
- 3) Interns... A successful food program is now simply unimaginable without interns.

Good news! A new partner, the Rauch Family Foundation, has joined us in these efforts. They have awarded First Presbyterian Church:

- \$10,000 specifically for fresh food.
- And, with great enthusiasm about us employing local youth, another \$10,000 towards intern wages for time spent on the food program.

This pilot program runs from this August to next June. We will be:

- experimenting with how to get more fresh food to participants,
- continuing to employ interns alongside our faithful volunteers,
- and letting our partners know what we are learning.

Your continued financial and volunteer support for the food and internship programs is critical. If you are aware of opportunities for us to get a good value on fresh food, or if you have a few hours to spend in the food program, contact Rick or Marilyn.

Join your food program in our gratitude for this generosity, and in our excitement at the possibilities of this partnership with the Rauch Family Foundation.

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

John Oxenham is one of the pen names for businessman William J. Dunkerly (1852-1941). He trained for his career in business at Victoria University, Manchester, and traveled extensively to Europe, the United States and South America, living in France several years.

Oxenham made his home in the U.S. for a time before returning to England, where he served as deacon and teacher at the Ealing Congregational Church from the 1880s, and then moved to Worthing in Sussex in 1922 where he became the town's mayor. According to hymnologist Albert Bailey, Oxenham began writing "to relieve the tedium of long journeys . . . and soon discovered that he liked writing better than business." He died at the age of 89.

The poem "In Christ There Is No East or West" was originally part of a libretto, "Darkness and Light," prepared in 1908 for an exhibition for the London Missionary Society on the theme "The Orient in London." He then included this poem in his collection, *Bees in Amber* (1913). This popular volume was rejected by publishers; when Oxenham self-published it, the book sold 285,000 copies. From here the hymn found its way into many English-language hymnals, beginning with *England's Songs of Praise* (1931).

English literary scholar and hymnologist J.R. Watson says the hymn takes its opening idea from Rudyard Kipling's famous lines, "Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet" from his "Ballad of East and West." However, Oxenham's hymn asserts precisely the opposite!!

-- William Zeitler



The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional and enduring qualities.

The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames.

As a church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), our congregational life is governed by the Ruling Elders of our current Session:

Jeanne Clark, Susan Skoglund, Alex Smith, Tim Usher, Mary Bolaños,
Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños,
Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough,
and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Sharon Landeros, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord,
Chris Wright-Thomas, Dan Direen, Robin Edwards, Rick Rodriguez,
Katie Smith, Brad Smith, and Dave Thomas