

# Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Breakfast Church

September 10, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship



*The Best Supper* ©Jan Richardson, janrichardson.com

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When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home."

*Acts 16:15*

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### First Presbyterian Church

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909.882.3308

[www.fpcsb.net](http://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](http://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, October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

# MORNING WORSHIP†

Lector: Irene Sandoval Suverkrup

## REFLECTION before the SERVICE

Leading faithful innovation means cultivating a community of listening on multiple levels inside and outside of the church, of prayer and spiritual practices, and of action learning, whereby people behave their way forward into a new future rather than plan everything out ahead of time. It means lovingly holding space in a community for people's yearnings, fears, anxieties, and hopes, recognizing that your role as a leader is not to fix people, rescue them from the ambiguities they're facing, or tell them where to go. Rather, it means introducing the practices by which people can discover a hopeful future and do the learning themselves while you walk alongside them, helping them interpret faithfully what they are experiencing. In this model, leadership, or influence, comes primarily from God and is worked out through the people of God. Human leaders are cultivators, midwives, communal storytellers, and architects of community life and practice.

-- Dwight Zscheile, Michael Binder, and Tessa Pinkstaff

*Leading Faithful Innovation: Following God into a Hopeful Future*

*Today we are celebrating the beginning of the KidSpace and educational year with Breakfast Church! Please feel free to munch while we worship. If you need something, you may get up and get it.*

## GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME

**PRELUDE**                      *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*                      John Hughes  
*Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.*

*(Today we will remain seated except for the final moments of the service.)*

### CALL to WORSHIP

Praise the Lord!

✘ **Sing to the Lord a new song,  
sing praise among the faithful.**

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

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

Let the people of God be glad;

✘ **let us rejoice, dance, and sing.**

For the Lord rejoices in the people;

✘ **God gives glory to the humble of heart.**

**Let us worship God.**

## **WE SING TOGETHER**

*(Curtiss leads us campfire style  
as we sing fun and familiar church school songs.)*

## **TIME with the CHILDREN**

*[Children are always welcome in worship. After the Time with Children, we invite our children ages 4 to 11 to go to KidSpace in Room 11. Parents, please pick your children up immediately following worship. Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery at any time.]*

## **SCRIPTURE**

*(Paul meets Timothy as he travels to different cities preaching the Good News of Jesus. Later, he writes to Timothy, encouraging him)*

**Acts 16:1-2** Paul went on also to Derbe and to Lystra, where there was a disciple named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer; but his father was a Greek. He was well spoken of by the believers in Lystra and Iconium.

**2 Timothy 1:5-7** I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

*(Back to Acts 16, Paul is now traveling with Timothy, and they are trying to discern where God is leading them.)*

## **Acts 16:9-15**

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to

the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✘ **Thanks be to God.**

## REFLECTION

*Dr. Wendy Lamb*

## MAT INTRODUCTIONS and QUESTIONS

*Jim Morris*

## 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 they are brought around to you during the offertory – or by mail or online.)*

## OFFERTORY

### 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

### *How Firm a Foundation*

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;**

for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

\*MOMENT for REFLECTION

\*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Improvisation*

**GREETERS:** Bobbie Terrell, Meryll Davis

**USHERS:** Al Rueda, *Lead Usher*

**SOUND ENGINEERS:** Dan Direen, Brent Nord

**LIVESTREAM ENGINEERS:** Oliver Lamb, Kevin Lamb

**CAMERA OPERATORS:** Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

**This Weeks' Celebrations**

*Sep 10* Judy Steppins  
Christian Usher

*Sep 12* Laurie Stafford  
Kelsey Smith

*Sep 11* Jane Snyder

*Sep 15* Jennifer Shenton  
*Sep 16* Robert Godby

*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.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK**  
**Sandy Garza, Sally Inglis, Josie Short**  
*Elders: Phyllis Hough, John-Paul Fletcher, Jeanne Clark*  
*Deacons: Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Chris Thomas*

***Music Box***

William Williams (1717-1791) is generally considered to be Wales' most famous hymn writer. As a writer of both poetry and prose, Williams is today considered one of Wales' greatest literary figures. He was equally distinguished as one of the key leaders of the 18th century Welsh Methodist revival.

Williams originally intended to become a doctor, but in 1737 he heard Howell Harris preach and set his heart on the ministry. (Howell Harris (1714-1773) was more or less the Welsh counterpart to Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) here in the colonies — Edwards, president of Princeton University, is best known for his sermon "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"). Williams was ordained an Anglican deacon in 1740, but in 1742 he became involved with the Methodist movement and disapproving parishioners reported his activities to the Archdeacon's Court. In 1743 his application for ordination was denied ("Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Methodist movement?"). His choice was between a comfortable but conformist career in the Anglican Church or the hard and impoverished path of an itinerant Methodist preacher. He chose the latter path.

Taking all of Wales as his parish, Williams traveled on horseback almost 100,000 miles in 43 years, preaching and singing the gospel in the Welsh language. (That averages to about 6 miles of travel a day. Horses walk about 4 miles an hour, so he spent on average about 1.5 hours every day on horseback, not to mention the interminable Ye Motel Six's and the other boundless joys of being "on the [dirt] road" in the 18th century.) He died peacefully at age 74.

Williams was a persuasive preacher, and his hymns were quite influential. He wrote about 800 of them, earning him the moniker "The Isaac Watts of Wales." (Isaac Watts wrote hymns a century earlier in England.)

When published in 1745, Williams' original title for "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" was "Strength to Pass Through the Wilderness." Originally written in Welsh, it has been translated into over seventy languages.

*-- 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

In this time of change for our congregation, a Mission Assessment Plan will be completed by our Mission Assessment Team:

Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher, Nancy Horstmann,  
Marilyn Kraft, Jim Morris, Brent Nord, Irene Sandoval Suverkrup