

Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 9, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



“Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

-- Mark 3:35

First Presbyterian Church

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

909.882.3308

www.fpcsb.net

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN W. SMITH

MINISTRY OF VISITATION: LAURIE STAFFORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST;

AMY GANO, BELLS

PASTOR EMERITUS: REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

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, July 7th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Mark Adelson

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

When we think about who is near Jesus, it is not the morally perfect. It is just the diverse mess of humanity, with all of its moral, physical, spiritual beauty and imperfection.

-- Wendy Farley
in Daily Feast

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Andante* L. Beethoven (1785-1827)
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

INTROIT *With a Voice of Singing* Martin Shaw
With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

*CALL to WORSHIP

Out of the depths, I cry to you, O Lord.

✘ **Holy One, hear my voice.**

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits.

✘ **In God's word I hope.**

My soul waits for the Lord,
more than those who watch for the morning.

✘ **For with the Lord there is steadfast love
and great power to redeem.**

***HYMN 694** *Great God of Every Blessing* AURELIA

CALL to CONFESSION

Jesus calls us to enter the joy of discipleship, the joy of following in his way. But sin clings closely, and we struggle to respond fully to Christ's invitation. Let us seek God's forgiveness so that we may know more deeply the joy God intends.

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

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

the sick. My Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land; my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm. Stop and let me tell you 'bout the chapel of sev'n. The Lord God's risen, and He went to heav'n. Children, stop and let me tell you 'bout the chapel of eight. I see Him standing at the Golden Gate. Stop and let me tell 'bout the chapel of nine. The Lord God's turning that water to wine. Stop and let me tell you 'bout the chapel of ten. Children, John said He's coming to the world again! Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land; my Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, illumine these words by your Spirit that we might hear what you would have us hear, and be who you would have us be, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 130

Old Testament, pg. 573

Mark 3:20-35

New Testament, pg. 37

SERMON

Mary's Story

Rev. Sylvia Karcher

AFFIRMATION of FAITH *(from A Brief Statement of Faith)*

✘ **We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.**

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick

and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts

forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified,

suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

(We offer our tithes and gifts to be part of God's purposes in the world, and we invite you to take part. You may bring forward your gifts and place them in the plate or place them in the usher's basket. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

- ✘ 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.

PRAYER of DEDICATION

Oh God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE, 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 370

This Is My Father's World

TERRA BEATA

*MOMENT for REFLECTION

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer, 1873

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

We welcome the Reverend Sylvia Karcher, from the Community Presbyterian Church in Redlands. She and Pastor Wendy Lamb have traded pulpits this week.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Dwight Murray, Charlene Peterson, Robert Saenz

Elders: Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis, John-Paul Fletcher

Deacons: Rebecca Allen, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas

PNC: Shelby Obershaw, Christa Wallis, Neal Williams

GREETERS: Jeoff Molcan, Meryll Davis

USHERS: Lynn Usher, *Lead Usher*

Rick Rodriguez, Chris Thomas, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

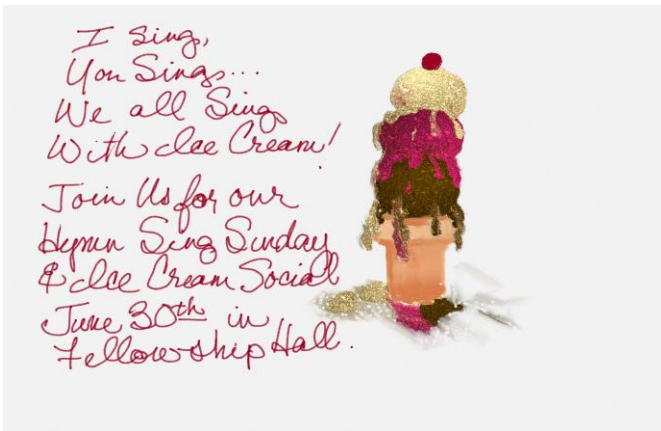
LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jun 12 Rowan Fletcher

Jun 13 David Coyne



Our Food Ministry volunteers are in need of respite as many of us are dealing with medical issues that require us to reduce the vigors of loading and unloading the heavy loads our food partners supply us with. **We are attempting to locate someone who owns an approximately 20-foot box truck who we can hire for about 3 pickups of food per month.** This individual would be compensated for their time, gas and mileage. If you know of someone with access to a vehicle, who is willing to have some part-time work, please contact either Dave Thomas or Rick Rodriguez for additional information.

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

Thomas Merton was a 20th-century Trappist monk, writer, theologian, mystic, and poet, best known for his exploration of spirituality and social justice. Born in 1915, Merton entered the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky in 1941, where he lived until his death in 1968. His most famous work, "The Seven Storey Mountain," is an autobiographical account of his conversion to Catholicism and subsequent monastic life, which became a bestseller and influenced many in the mid-20th century. Merton's writings encompass a wide range of topics including Eastern religions, pacifism, and civil rights, reflecting his deep commitment to dialogue and understanding across cultural and religious boundaries.

Here are the concluding few paragraphs of his *New Seeds of Contemplation* (1961):

WHAT is serious to humanity is often very trivial in the sight of God. What in God might appear to us as "play" is perhaps what He Himself takes most seriously. At any rate the Lord plays and diverts Himself in the garden of His creation, and if we could let go of our own obsession with what we think is the meaning of it all, we might be able to hear His call and follow Him in His mysterious, cosmic dance. We do not have to go very far to catch echoes of that game, and of that dancing. When we are alone on a starlit night; when by chance we see the migrating birds in autumn descending on a grove of junipers to rest and eat; when we see children in a moment when they are really children; when we know love in our own hearts; or when, like the Japanese poet Bashō we hear an old frog land in a quiet pond with a solitary splash — at such times the awakening, the turning inside out of all values, the "newness," the emptiness and the purity of vision that make themselves evident, provide a glimpse of the cosmic dance.

For the world and time are the dance of the Lord in emptiness. The silence of the spheres is the music of a wedding feast. The more we persist in misunderstanding the phenomena of life, the more we analyze them out into strange finalities and complex purposes of our own, the more we involve ourselves in sadness, absurdity and despair. But it does not matter much, because no despair of ours can alter the reality of things, or stain the joy of the cosmic dance which is always there. Indeed, we are in the midst of it, and it is in the midst of us, for it beats in our very blood, whether we want it to or not.

Yet the fact remains that we are invited to forget ourselves on purpose, cast our awful solemnity to the winds and join in the general dance.

-- William Zeidler



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:

Mary Bolaños, Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris, Martha Pinckney, Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough, Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis, and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Dan Direen, Robin Edwards, Rick Rodriguez, Katie Smith, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Chris Wright-Thomas, Kristine French, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda

In this time of change for our congregation, a Pastor Nominating Committee has been elected by the congregation:

Susan Addington, Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher, Brian Gano, Kendra Lamb, Jim Morris, Shelby Obershaw, Christa Wallis, Neal Williams