

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 16, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



Cara B. Hochhalter, A Parable - The Mustard Seed.

On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. --Ezekiel 17:23

First Presbyterian Church

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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†

Lectors: Adam Nord
Brent Nord

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

Mark offers glimpses of God's sovereign authority, which through Jesus' words and deeds is erupting into our everyday world. If we enjoy even a shred of insight into his teaching, such comprehension is also God's gift and not the product of his listeners' education, industry, or cleverness. That may console some and offend others. It depends on your point of view.

For all their obscurity, one thing is clear from the parables in Mark 4: Jesus' claim that God's sovereignty undermines all human notions in the most preposterous manner.

C. Clifton Black, *Working Preacher*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Scenes from Childhood* R. Schumann (1810-1856)
(Selections)

- *Of Foreign Lands and Places*
- *Knight of the Rocking Horse*
- *Child Falling Asleep*
- *The Poet Speaks*

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

INTROIT *Oh Lord of Life, Your Quickening Voice* W. Zeitler

O Lord of life, your quick'ning voice Awakes my morning song! In gladsome words I would rejoice that I to you belong.

*CALL to WORSHIP¹

Small as a mustard seed and lofty as a cedar:

✠ **The kingdom of God is growing.**

While we sleep and rise night and day:

✠ **The kingdom of God is growing.**

The low are brought high; the high are brought low:

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

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

¹ Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

✘ **The kingdom of God is growing,
its large branches are home to all kinds of people;
Let us worship together!**

*HYMN 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

PRAYER of CONFESSION²

God will not count our trespasses against us,
longing instead for us to be reconciled.

We come before God, then,
in honesty, humility, and hope.

✘ **Gracious God,
we so often miss your kingdom at work among us.
Captivated by better things,
we overlook the mustard seeds you have planted all around.
Forgive us for failing to notice
where and how you are at work.
Forgive us when we work against your plans and purposes—
*(Moment for silent reflection and confession)***

✘ **Help us to grow in faithfulness, we pray,
so that we might reach our fullest height of faith.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has
passed away; see, everything has become new!

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

(We stand and sing Alleluia)

*ALLELUIA

William Zeitler

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Alleluia. The first staff is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. This is followed by a repeat sign. The notes are: quarter note C (with Em chord), quarter note D (with B chord), quarter note E (with Em chord), quarter note F# (with D chord), quarter note G (with Em chord), quarter note A (with D chord), quarter note B (with Em chord), quarter note C (with D chord), quarter note D (with Em chord), quarter note E (with D chord), quarter note F# (with Em chord), quarter note G (with D chord). The lyrics under the first staff are: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The second staff continues the melody. It starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are: quarter note G (with G chord), quarter note A (with D chord), quarter note B (with D chord), quarter note C (with Em chord), quarter note D (with B chord), quarter note E (with Em chord), quarter note F# (with B chord), quarter note G (with Em chord). This is followed by a repeat sign. The notes are: quarter note A (with Em chord), quarter note B (with Bm chord), quarter note C (with Em chord), quarter note D (with Em chord), quarter note E (with Em chord), quarter note F# (with Em chord), quarter note G (with Em chord). The lyrics under the second staff are: lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le al - le - lu - ia!

² Feasting on the Word Worship Companion

TIME with the CHILDREN

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

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

ANTHEM

*This Is My Word*³

Pepper Choplin

As the snow falls from heaven as it comes in swirling showers from the sky, so is my Word. As the rains bring the water to the earth that is thirsty and dry, so is my Word. And the Word of my mouth, it shall not return empty; it will bless the earth wherever it is heard. This is my Word. As the rains bring renewal and the tender buds begin to come alive, so is my Word. Giving seed to the sower, and the bread to the hungry 'til they thrive, so is my Word, so is my Word. And the Word of my mouth, it shall not return empty, it will bless the earth wherever it is heard, this is my Word, this is my Word. O Lord, when I am weary, when I feel the days I'm living are in vain, my God, help me be faithful to the Word You have given to proclaim. Proclaim the Word, and you will go out in joy and be led forth in peace, and the hills will break before you into song. So be faithful, brave, and true, for I will go before you. And when your earthly journey here is done, I'll say well done, I'll say well done, I'll say well done, well done! As the snow falls from heaven and the rain comes in showers from the sky, this is my Word.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

Holy One,
we walk by faith and not by sight.
So guide our steps in your Word today that,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
we are kept from falling
and find our way in your way. ✠ Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Old Testament, pg. 784

Mark 4:26-34

New Testament, pg. 38

SERMON

Faith Is for the Birds

Pastor Wendy Lamb

HYMN 182

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

KINGSFOLD

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. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)

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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.

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 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

TEMPLE OF PEACE

*MOMENT for REFLECTION

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Oh Lord of Life, Your Quickening Voice

W. Zeitler

Therefore I choose my highest part, And turn my face to thee; Therefore I stir
my inmost heart to worship fervently, to worship fervently.

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

GREETERS: Claudia Oakes, Lynda Savage

USHERS: Al Rueda, *Lead Usher*

Dave Thomas, Jim Siegmund, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Doris Schiavone, Beverly Snell, Judy Steppins

Elders: Mary Bolaños, Brooke Dvorak, Pat Morris

Deacons: Chris Thomas, Kristine French, Joyce Lyons

Pastor Nominating Committee:

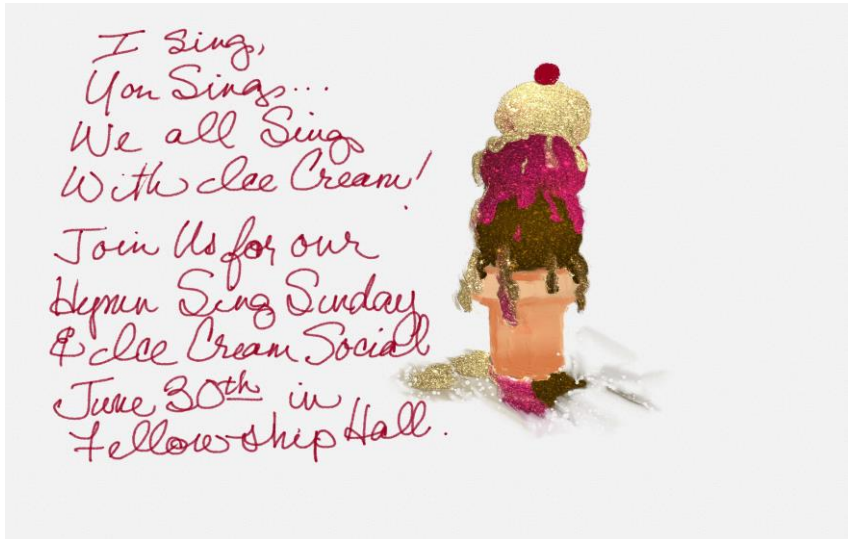
Susan Addington, Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jun 16 Joy Burgan-Price
Elizabeth & Joseph Morales

Jun 20 Tom Garza
Katrina Johnston

Jun 21 Sara Hibbs DeLeon



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

Robert Schumann left the study of law, intending to pursue a career as a virtuoso pianist. He had been assured by his teacher, the eminent Friedrich Wieck, that he could become the finest pianist in Europe. Robert unfortunately suffered a crippling hand injury – possibly due to a mechanism with weights and pulleys attached by strings to his fingers he contrived to improve his technique. This put an end to any career as a concert pianist, so he focused his musical energies on composing. He also became editor of *Die Neue Zeitschrift für Musik* ("New Journal for Music"), in which he famously introduced Chopin's music: "Hat's off, gentlemen! A genius!"

In 1840, Robert married Clara Weick, the daughter of his former music teacher Friedrich Wieck. Dad was adamantly opposed, and the marriage only took place after a long and acrimonious legal battle which ultimately turned in favor of the young couple. A child prodigy, Clara was herself a very able composer and pianist, and forged a successful 61-year career (!) of her own as a concert pianist, featuring her husband's music as a mainstay of her repertoire. Clara was also instrumental in promoting the music of Brahms.

Robert suffered from a lifelong mental disorder, first manifesting itself in 1833 as a severe melancholic depressive episode, which recurred several times alternating with phases of 'exaltation' as well as delusional ideas of being poisoned or threatened with metallic items. After a suicide attempt in 1854 (throwing himself into a river), Robert admitted himself to a mental asylum. He was not to see Clara again for two years, until just two days before his death, age 46, from pneumonia.

"Scenes from Childhood" is a set of 13 short pieces about children (but not for them per se). It was a gift to his future wife, two years before they were married.

-- 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