

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Communion Sunday**

July 7, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
--Hebrews 10:25

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, August 4th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Kyle Smith

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

We gather in worship to communicate with God together. We listen together to God's words to us. We speak together our response to God. The service is like interpersonal conversation, an exchange of promises. The amazing thing about this conversation is that it is not something we do by ourselves. It is something we do with other believers.

John D. Witvliet, *Reformed Worship*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Theme & Variations on "My Country 'Tis of Thee" L. Beethoven (1770-1827)

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

*CALL to WORSHIP (*Psalm 89:1-4*)

Sing of the Lord's great love forever!

✘ **With our mouths we will make known his faithfulness to all.**

His love is firm forever!

✘ **He established his faithfulness in heaven itself.**

God made a promise to David.

✘ **A covenant which lasts even today.**

Praise the Lord!

*HYMN 321

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

Verses 1-2, 4-5

PRAYER of CONFESSION¹

✘ **Lord, you have called us to worship you. We gladly gather! As we praise you, though, our own inadequacy reminds us of how we have broken our relationship with you. Even our worship fails to be what it could. We sometimes treat it as a show, or we go**

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

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

¹ John D. Witvliet, *Reformed Worship*, *Worship—Taking a Closer Look*

TIME with the CHILDREN

[Children are always welcome in worship. There are activity bags and books in the back of the room.

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

SOLO

***Patriotic Medley**
Kathy Showman, Soloist*

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

✘ **God of mercy,
you promised never to break your covenant with us.
Amid all the changing words of our generation,
speak your eternal Word that does not change.
Then may we respond to your gracious promises
with faithful and obedient lives;
through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 81:1-10

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.
Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.
Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.
For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt.
I hear a voice I had not known:
"I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.
In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder; I tested you at the waters of Meribah. Selah
Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.
I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide and I will fill it."

Hebrews 10:19-25

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✘ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Covenant

Pastor Wendy Lamb

(This four-part series on worship explores four dimensions of this covenant-renewal image. The primary focus will be on the new covenant relationship God makes with us in Christ. The secondary focus will be on the ways in which worship expresses, deepens, and shapes that relationship through the working of the Holy Spirit.)

CONVERSATION around TABLES

HYMN 451

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Scott

Verse 1

MOMENT for MISSION

Rick Rodriguez

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 place your offering in the plates as they are passed. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)

OFFERTORY

SACRAMENT of the LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION to the LORD'S TABLE

SURSUM CORDA

The Lord be with you.

✘ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

✘ **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

✘ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

GREAT PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

James C. Huffstutler

- ✠ Holy, holy, Lord Almighty, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory in the highest.
Blessed, blessed,
blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.

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.

PRAYER of CONSECRATION

THE WORDS of INSTITUTION

SHARING of the BREAD and CUP

The cup is non-alcoholic. Gluten free bread is available.

Communion will be served by intinction at 2 stations. As you feel ready, please come up to a station, receive a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, eat it, and return to your seat.

As you prepare to go forward and when you have returned, please join us in our sung prayer. These refrains will be sung over and over as we make them our own prayers.

SUNG PRAYERS

***698 Take, O Take Me as I Am*²**

Take, O take me as I am,

Summon out what I shall be.

Set your seal upon my heart And live in me

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527 Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup³
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to me and never be hungry
Eat this bread, drink this cup;
Trust in me and you will not thirst.

466 Come and Fill our Hearts⁴
Come and fill our hearts
with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts
with your peace,
Alleluia.

PRAYER after COMMUNION

✠ We give you thanks for this feast of abundance
that we shared this morning.

Grant us that we go out and make a place for everyone at the
table as you did because we have shared the bread of new
beginnings and cup of belonging and can't remain the same.
Amen.

***HYMN 340**

This Is My Song

FINLANDIA

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

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⁴ ©1982, 1991, 2011 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, agent. All rights reserved.

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GREETERS: Phyllis Hough, Meryll Davis

USHERS: Dave Thomas, *Lead Usher*

Marilyn Kraft, *Security Usher*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Jim Huffstutler, Ron & Ruby Kraft

Elders: **Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis**

Deacons: **Katie Smith, Rebecca Allen, Brad Smith**

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Susan Addington, Mary Bolaños, John-Paul Fletcher

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jul 7 Jim & Dawn Morris

Jul 8 Josie Babcock

Jul 10 Jim Carter

Doris Nord

Donna Feit

Kevin & Wendy Lamb

Gill Snyder

Jul 11 Caden Eckert

Jul 12 Trevor Cummings

Sherman & Joanne Ballard

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

In Beethoven's day a popular musical form was "Theme and Variations". The template was to take a popular tune of the day – the 'theme' – which the composer states rather simply, and follow it with 'variations' which displayed the composer's imaginative powers. Beethoven was regarded as the "Chuck Norris" of that form and wrote twenty-two sets just for piano.

The themes Ludwig chose were very familiar in his day but have long been forgotten – thus much of the punch of Beethoven's imagination is lost on modern ears. But one set is based on a theme that is still very familiar, namely "My Country 'Tis of Thee".

As an historic aside, Benedict Arnold (1741-1801) is infamous for being a colonist turned traitor to the American cause. What isn't as well known is the grand irony of his decisive rôle in the colonists' ultimate victory. For all of General Washington's abilities, the harsh reality was that he simply lacked the resources to defeat what was then the world's reigning superpower. What the colonists needed was to convince a major power to come to our aid – at that time that would be France. France, for her part, was reluctant to do so until she was reasonably certain we could hold up our end of the bargain – she didn't exactly want to back a loser and irritate Britain.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), schmooze-meister extraordinaire, was in Paris doing his darndest to woo the French to our side. Badly needed, however, was one good solid American victory over the British to prove to the French that we had what it takes, and Major General Benedict Arnold provided just that at the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. (Arnold achieved his victory by brazenly disobeying the orders of his commanding general. Consequently Arnold was both decorated and reprimanded.) Between Arnold's victory and Franklin's silver tongue, the French scales finally tipped towards sending men, materiel and navy to our aid. Meanwhile, Congress broke one too many promises to Arnold and he switched to the British side in 1780. His foresight which had served him so well at the Battle of Saratoga completely failed him on this decision: the Americans & French ground to ultimate victory for the colonists at Yorktown a year later in 1781 – a victory for which Arnold had laid such a critical cornerstone.

After the American Revolution, Arnold and his colonist wife moved to England. The British provided handsomely for Arnold, but never completely trusted him. He was never given an important military command. The Arnolds moved to London where he found no job, some admiration and even contempt. He moved his family to Canada where he

reentered the shipping business. Many there disliked him and had no use for him, and eventually he returned his family to London. When the fighting began between France and England in 1793, he tried again for military service, but to no avail. His shipping ventures eventually failed and he died in 1801, virtually forgotten. -- *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