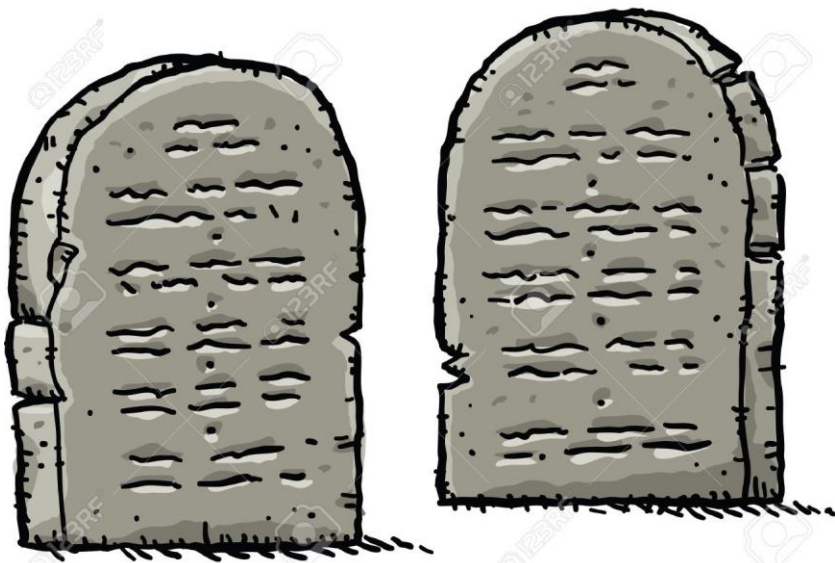


Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 14, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

--Hebrews 4:16

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, August 4th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Amy Gano

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

Worship does not, of course, exhaust our acts of confession. A lot of the work of confession is very personal, the kind of thing that is hard to deal with in the middle of a worship service. Still, our worship services set the pattern. They remind us of the importance of confession; they give us words and phrases and songs to help us.

John D. Witvliet, *Reformed Worship*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Sonata in D (K.96) D. Scarlatti (1685-1757)

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

INTROIT

Threshold Choir

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

(*Lower voices with Steve*)

(*Higher voices with Amy*)

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.

(ALL) Praise the Lord!

***HYMN 664**

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

PRAYER of CONFESSION

✠ Lord, you have called us to worship you. We gladly gather! As we praise you, though, we are reminded of our own frailty and brokenness. Even our worship can fail to be what it could. We sometimes treat it as a show, or we go through the motions,

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

* Stand if you are able

✠ The congregation will read.

failing to recognize that you want to engage us on a very deep level.

(Moment for silent reflection and confession)

- ✘ Renew us, we pray, according to your steadfast love. Remind us of your covenant faithfulness and have mercy on us in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(We remain seated for the kyrie, an ancient song of the church. We will sing it through in Greek first and then in English.)

577 Lord, Have Mercy

Musical notation for the first system of 'Lord, Have Mercy'. It features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. A bass line with whole notes is shown below the lyrics.

Note: Lower voices may hum.

Musical notation for the second system of 'Lord, Have Mercy'. It continues the melody from the first system, ending with a triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy. A bass line with whole notes is shown below the lyrics.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Dinah Reindorf, 1987; arr. Sing! A New Creation, 2001
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf
Music Arr. © 2001 Faith Alive Christian Resources

KYRIE ELEISON (Reindorf)

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ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

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

Musical notation for the Alleluia. It is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and repetitive. Chords are indicated above the staff: Em, B, Em, D, G, D, F#m, B, F#m, Bm, F#m. 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!

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.]

ANTHEM

Threshold Choir

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

Nehemiah 9:1-8

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with earth on their heads. Then those of Israelite descent separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their ancestors. They stood up in their place and read from the book of the law of the Lord their God for a fourth part of the day, and for another fourth they made confession and worshiped the Lord their God.

Then Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani stood on the stairs of the Levites and cried out with a loud voice to the Lord their God. Then the Levites...said "Stand up and bless the Lord your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise."

And Ezra said: "You are the Lord, you alone; you have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. To all of them you give life, and the host of heaven worships you. You are the Lord, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham; and you found his heart faithful before you, and made with him a covenant to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite; and you have fulfilled your promise, for you are righteous.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For

we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✘ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Confessional 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* Clara H. Scott
(Verse 2, Open my Ears)

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 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* W. Gladden

***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, 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 418** *Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling* W. L. Thompson

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE**

Threshold Choir

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

GREETERS: Shelby Obershaw, Robin Edwards

USHERS: Al Rueda, *Lead Usher*

John-Paul Fletcher, *Security Usher*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Deanna Long, Dwight Murray, Charlene Peterson

Elders: Amy Smith, Mary Bolaños, Brooke Dvorak

Deacons: Dave Thomas, Chris Thomas, Kristine French

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Brian Gano, Kendra Lamb, Jim Morris

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jul 14 Margaret Doane

Jul 19 Linda Tiger

Jul 20 Ryan Nord

Faith and Politics Wrap-up Discussion,

TODAY, 11:45a.m., Fireside Lounge. If you have been viewing the Faith and Politics class, please join us to reflect on what we have learned, what has challenged us, and what we might do. We'll keep it short (no longer than 45 minutes) and bring some pre-lunch appetizers.

Celebration of Life for Jacquie Lyman. A Celebration of Life service and reception will be held in honor of Jacquie Lyman on Friday, July 26, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Hemet, 515 E. Kimball Ave., Hemet, CA.

Hot Dog Fundraiser! Sunday, August 11th right after church. GrillMasters Al Rueda and Brent Nord will be ready to serve you delicious hot dogs, brats, and vegan hot dogs. This is a fundraiser for our Intern program, but we won't tell you how much it's worth—you decide! Donations only and you can have a delicious lunch and support the interns who do so much for us.

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

Washington Gladden (1836-1918) – so named because his great-grandfather served as George Washington's bodyguard during the Revolutionary War – was a Congregational pastor. He served in New York, Massachusetts, and Ohio during the post-Civil War industrial era when racial and economic injustice was rampant.

Gladden is remembered today as the father of the Social Gospel in America, an activist who crusaded tirelessly for political and moral reform in industry, commerce and politics. At 18 he joined the temperance movement. He opposed racial segregation. He was a champion of the "working man," a strong supporter of union rights, and he was unafraid to attack corruption in politics – including campaigning against Boss Tweed as religious editor of the *New York Independent*.

Gladden never earned a theological degree, but he received 35 honorary doctorates, including one from Notre Dame University.

He was also a prolific writer who wrote hundreds of poems, books, articles, editorials, and hymns, including "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee."

-- William Zeidler