

**Reformation Sunday
Consecration Sunday**

October 27, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship



**Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not
reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**

-- 2 Corinthians 9:7

First Presbyterian Church

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

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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, November 3rd.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Christa Wallis

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

Throughout the year we preach about many things in church. About how we live our daily lives, the choices we make, the habits of our faith. On Reformation Sunday we are brought back to the most important thing – the thing that compelled Luther and others to risk their lives. On Reformation Sunday, we return to the core of our faith: *God loved us first, and God continues to shower us with grace and mercy.*

--The Rev. Bruce Reyes Chow

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Symphonic Meditation on 'A Mighty Fortress'* W. Zeitler
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

***CALL to WORSHIP¹** *(From Psalm 96)*

Sing to God—worship God!

✘ **For God is great, and worth a thousand Hallelujahs.**

God made the heavens—
royal splendor radiates from him,
a powerful beauty sets him apart.

✘ **Bravo, God, Bravo!**

Everyone join in the great shout: Encore!

In awe before the beauty, in awe before the might.

Bring gifts and celebrate,
bow before the beauty of God,
then to your knees—everyone worship!

****PIPING of BANNERS; PRESENTATION of the BIBLE**

***HYMN 366** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

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

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

¹ The Joy of Generosity, Reformed Worship

PRAYER of CONFESSION and ASSURANCE of PARDON²

“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord.

✘ **We confess that we envy others. We do not live like Christ who calls us to be content with what we have. Forgive us, Lord.**

“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.”

✘ **We covet what belongs to our neighbor. Our lives are driven by our wants.**

Forgive us, Lord.

“Though your sins are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

✘ **We begrudge the invitation to give generously and joyfully. We turn away from the needs of others and do not see the difference our caring can make.**

Forgive us, Lord.

“I will forgive...and will remember their sins no more.”

***RESPONSE HYMN 649**

Amazing Grace

AMAZING GRACE

TIME with the CHILDREN

[After Time with the Children, our children are encouraged to worship with us. There are activity bags and books in the Narthex.]

ANTHEM

Concertato on HYFRYDOL

Setting: Jeffrey Honoré

If you wish to sing this with the choir, the music is inside the back cover.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

✘ **Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that we may hear your Word with joy. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 9

New Testament p. 183

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✘ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Generous Giving

Pastor Wendy Lamb

HYMN 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

WE RESPOND to GOD’S LOVE with COMMITMENT

Mimi Lange

Pledge cards are in the pew racks. As the gift of music is offered, you are invited to write your pledge on your card and when you feel ready, to bring it forward and place it on the communion table. You may wish to pray for others as you

² The Joy of Generosity, Reformed Worship

see them go forward. If you would prefer not to leave your seat, an usher will come to you.

The OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

*We offer our gifts to further God's work in the world
through the life of this congregation.*

OFFERTORY *Highland Cathedral* *Michael Korb/Ulrich Roever*

*ALLELUIA

William Zeitler

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!

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 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Brass: Curtiss Allen, Norm Wallis

EIN' FESTE BURG

*MOMENT for REFLECTION

*BLESSING

May the blessing of light be on you –
light without and light within.
May the blessed sunlight shine on you
and warm your heart till it glows like a great peat fire,
so that strangers may come and warm themselves at it,
and also friends.
And may the light shine out of your two eyes
like a candle set in the windows of a house,
bidding the wanderer to come out of the storm.

And may the blessing of the rain be on you:

the soft, sweet rain; may it fall upon your spirit
that all the little flowers may spring up
and shed their sweetness on the air.
And may the blessing of the great rains be on you;
may they beat upon your spirit
and wash it fair and clean
and leave there many a shining pool
where the blue of Heaven shines –
and sometimes a star.

And may the blessing of the earth be on you –
the great, round earth.
May you ever have a kindly greeting for those you pass
as you are going along the roads.
May the earth be soft under you
when you rest out upon it, tired at the end of a day;
and may it rest easy over you when, at the last,
you lie out under it.
May it rest lightly over you that your soul
may be off from under it quickly,
and up, and off, and on its way to God.

And now may the Lord bless you all,
and bless you kindly. Amen.

POSTLUDE

***We invite you to the Fellowship Hall for shortbread, and to hear
more from the Kevin R. Blandford Memorial Pipe Band.***

*We are delighted to have the Kevin R. Blandford Memorial Pipe Band
with us again to play for our Reformation Sunday celebration.*

*Kevin Blandford and Jeffrey Rickard
wrote arrangements for bagpipes with organ.*

*Mary Newman, Susi (Huffstutler) Jacobsen, Marsha Gallup, and
Merry Beth Grindahl made banners and pennants.*

GREETERS: Gil & Jane Snyder

USHERS: Margaret Doane, *Lead Usher*

Jim Siegmund, Chris Thomas, *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: Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough

Deacons: Steve Smith, Dan Direen, Robin Edwards

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Brian Gano, Kendra Lamb, Jim Morris

This Weeks' Celebrations

Oct 28 Joshua Fletcher
Oct 30 Mario & Mary Bolaños
Rebecca Allen
Oct 31 Brooke Dvorak
Nov 2 Terri & Jorge Carlos
Noah Wierenga

Hallowe'en Concert. Symphonie Jeunesse Youth Orchestra will present their annual Hallowe'en Concert **today, October 27th, at 3:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.** Admission is free. Donations are accepted. For more information, go to symphoniejeunesse.org

Time Change. Don't forget to "Fall Back" next week, so that you won't be at church too early next Sunday! **Set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night.**

Deacons' Blood Drive! The Blood Drive will be held **NEXT Sunday, November 3rd.** Sign up for a time slot between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. **Brad Smith will be in Fellowship Hall this Sunday after the service to answer questions and sign you up.**

Deacons' Community Outreach/Thanksgiving Gift Cards

Thanksgiving will be here before we know it and the Deacons are ready to take orders for Stater Bros. gift cards. **The Deacons' plan is for you to deliver these \$50 cards to your needy friends and neighbors.** The sign-up sheet will be in the office beginning November 3rd, and names may be added until Sunday, November 17th. On the sign-up sheet, please list the recipient's name (non-church members only, this is part of the Deacons' Community Outreach ministry) and your name. **The Deacons will have the gift cards ready for you to pick up and deliver on Sunday, November 24th.** If you cannot pick up your gift card(s) that day, please let us know so we can make other arrangements. **Thank you for helping us help our neighbors!**

Music Box

Once upon a time, in a quiet village nestled between rolling hills, there lived an old potter named Elen. Her hands had shaped countless vessels over the years – some delicate, some strong – but all of them carried a part of her soul. Her workshop was filled with rows of pots and vases, each a testament to her years of skill and care.

One day, Elen noticed something strange. Her kiln, which had always faithfully fired her creations to perfection, seemed weaker. The pots came out cracked, or their glazes dulled. She adjusted her methods, yet the results only worsened. As she gazed at her latest ruined batch, a quiet sadness settled over her heart. The kiln, like herself, had grown old.

Elen faced a difficult choice: to repair the kiln in its current state or destroy it entirely and rebuild. The thought of demolishing something she had relied on for so long filled her with sadness. But deep inside, she knew that repairing it would only delay the inevitable. True renewal couldn't come from patching the old.

After days of wrestling with herself, she called on the village mason and together, they dismantled the kiln stone by stone. Dust filled the air, and with each crash of crumbling bricks, Elen felt both sorrow and release. The broken kiln lay in ruins, a heap of memories and comfort undone.

But the work did not stop there. With hands weathered by time, Elen joined the mason in crafting a new kiln. The process was slow, and her heart often yearned for what had been. Yet, as each new stone was set into place, she began to see a different kind of beauty – a beauty born not of preservation, but of possibility.

When the kiln was finished, Elen placed her first pot inside and held her breath as the flames roared. The next day, she opened the kiln to find a piece unlike any she had made before. Its glaze sparkled with vibrant color, its form strong yet graceful. It was as though the fire had breathed new life into the clay.

In that moment, Elen understood: renewal is not just the act of making something better. Sometimes it requires the courage to let go of what already is, to dismantle and rebuild, even when it feels like a part of you must die along with it. *Sometimes only by letting go of the old can the new come into being.*

-- William Zeidler

The Kevin R. Blandford Memorial Pipe Band

was provided this year by

Lillian Franklin & Family

in memory of Roy W. Franklin, Jr.

Sue Alexander

in memory of Jerry Alexander

Marilyn Kraft

in honor of Ron & Ruby Kraft

Martha Pinckney

in memory of Paul Pinckney

Bobbie Terrell

in memory of Chuck Terrell

Shelby Obershaw

in memory of Charles Obershaw

Chris & Dave Thomas

in memory of Christian & Bonnie Hansen

and in memory of Rena Nolin

Clara Gresham

in memory of Allen Gresham

Mimi Lange

in memory of Bill Lange

Norm & Christa Wallis

in memory of

Charles Robert MacPherson Beatrice Young MacPherson

Thomas Turner Snyder Patricia MacPherson Snyder

Sanford Howard Wallis

CONCERTATO ON HYFRYDOL

LORD, YOU GIVE THE GREAT COMMISSION

HYFRYDOL

Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Jeffery Rowthorn

Setting by Jeffrey Honoré



1. Lord, you give the great com - mis - sion: "Heal the
2. Lord, you call us to your serv - ice: "In my
3. Lord, you make the com - mon ho - ly: "This my
4. Lord, you show us love's true meas - ure: "Fa - ther,
5. Lord, you bless with words as - sur - ing: "I am



sick and preach the word." Lest the Church ne -
name bap - tize and teach." That the world may
bod - y, this my blood." Let us all, for
what they do, for - give." Yet we hoard as
with you to the end." Faith and hope and



glect its mis - sion and the Gos - pel
trust your prom - ise, life a - bun - dant
earth's true glo - ry, dai - ly lift life
pri - vate treas - ure all that you so
love re - stor - ing, may we serve as



go un - heard, help us wit - ness to your
meant for each, give us all new fer - vor,
heav - en - ward, ask - ing that the world a -
free - ly give. May your care and mer - cy
you in - tend, and, a - mid the cares that



pur - pose with re - newed in - teg - ri - ty.
draw us clos - er in com - mun - i - ty.
round us share your chil - dren's lib - er - ty.
lead us to a just so - ci - e - ty.
claim us, hold in mind e - ter - ni - ty.



With the Spir - it's gifts em - pow'r us



for the work of min - is - try.

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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