

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Communion Sunday**

July 6, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship



Harvest in Provence, Vincent van Gogh

**Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a
harvest if we don't give up.**

--Galatians 6:9

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 with those who rejoice, weep with 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 3rd.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Phyllis Hough

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

- St. Teresa de Avila

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *My Country 'Tis of Thee* L. Beethoven (1770-1827)
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

***CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT 411¹** *Raúl Galeano*
 God is here today;
 as certain as the air I breathe,
 as certain as the morning sun that rises,
 as certain when I sing you'll hear my song. *(Repeat)*

***CALL to WORSHIP²**

Sing to the Lord, all you faithful;
give thanks to God's holy name.

✠ **God turned our mourning into dancing!**

Our hearts sing without ceasing!

✠ **O Lord our God, we will always give you thanks!**

***HYMN 15** *All Creatures of our God and King* LASST UNS ERFRUEN

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

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

¹ Text: Raul Galeano, 1976; English trans. C Michael Hawn, 1998. Music: Raul Galeano, 1976; arr. C Michael Hawn and Arturo Gonzalez, 1999. English Trans. and Music Arr. ©2020 Choristers Guild. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #A706254. All rights reserved.

² *Feasting on the Word Lectionary Liturgies*

PRAYER of CONFESSION³

- ✘ Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have erred
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.

(Moment for silent reflection and confession)

- ✘ By your loving mercy,
help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways,

(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

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Note: Lower voices may hum.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

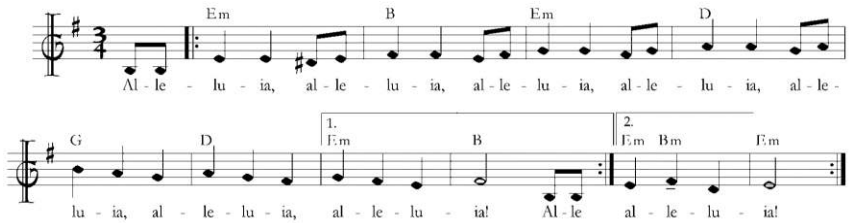
The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Friends,
believe the good news of the gospel:

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

(We stand and sing Alleluia)

***ALLELUIA**

William Zeitler



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.]

INSTRUMENTAL SOLO

Meditation

C. Calhoun

Susan Addington, Flute

SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 5:1-14 (CEB)

Naaman, a general for the king of Aram, was a great man and highly regarded by his master, because through him the Lord had given victory to Aram. This man was a mighty warrior, but he had a skin disease.

Now Aramean raiding parties had gone out and captured a young girl from the land of Israel. She served Naaman's wife. She said to her mistress, "I wish that my master could come before the prophet who lives in Samaria. He would cure him of his skin disease." So Naaman went and told his master what the young girl from the land of Israel had said.

Then Aram's king said, "Go ahead. I will send a letter to Israel's king." So Naaman left. He took along ten kikkars of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing. He brought the letter to Israel's king. It read, "Along with this letter I'm sending you my servant Naaman so you can cure him of his skin disease."

When the king of Israel read the letter, he ripped his clothes. He said, "What? Am I God to hand out death and life? But this king writes me, asking me to cure someone of his skin disease! You must realize that he wants to start a fight with me."

When Elisha the man of God heard that Israel's king had ripped his clothes, he sent word to the king: "Why did you rip your clothes? Let the man come to me. Then he'll know that there's a prophet in Israel."

Naaman arrived with his horses and chariots. He stopped at the door of Elisha's house. Elisha sent out a messenger who said, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan River. Then your skin will be restored and become clean."

But Naaman went away in anger. He said, "I thought for sure that he'd come out, stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, wave his hand over the bad spot, and cure the skin disease. Aren't the rivers in Damascus, the Abana and the Pharpar, better than all Israel's waters? Couldn't I wash in them and get clean?" So he turned away and proceeded to leave in anger.

Naaman's servants came up to him and spoke to him: "Our father, if the prophet had told you to do something difficult, wouldn't you have done it? All he said to you was, 'Wash and become clean.'" So Naaman went down and bathed in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. His skin was restored like that of a young boy, and he became clean.

Galatians 6:1-10 (CEB)

Brothers and sisters, if a person is caught doing something wrong, you who are spiritual should restore someone like this with a spirit of gentleness. Watch out for yourselves so you won't be tempted too. Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are important when they aren't, they're fooling themselves. Each person should test their own work and be happy with doing a good job and not compare themselves with others. Each person will have to carry their own load.

Those who are taught the word should share all good things with their teacher. Make no mistake, God is not mocked. A person will harvest what they plant. Those who plant only for their own benefit will harvest devastation from their selfishness, but those who plant for the benefit of the Spirit will harvest eternal life from the Spirit. Let's not get tired of doing good, because in time we'll have a harvest if we don't give up. So then, let's work for the good of all whenever we have an opportunity, and especially for those in the household of faith.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✱ Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Vision and a Mission

Pastor Wendy Lamb

CONVERSATION around TABLES

HYMN 69

Here I Am, Lord

Schutte

Verse 1

MOMENT for MISSION

Kyle Smith

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 around the tables. A deacon or elder will begin passing the bread. Saying, "the body of Christ." Once everyone has bread, we will offer the cup saying, "the cup of salvation." Allow the person to dip their bread and eat it and then pass them the cup. If there are gluten free folks around the table, please offer them the cup first along with the gluten free bread.

PIANO MUSIC

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 753** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* Sebastian Temple

*MOMENT for REFLECTION

*CHARGE and BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 742⁴

SIZOHAMBA NAYE

We will walk with God, my brothers;
we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters;
we will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come.

POSTLUDE

Improvisation

⁴ Text: Swaziland text; English trans. John L. Bell, 2002. Music: Swaziland melody; arr. John L. Bell, 2008. English translation ©2002 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). Music arr. ©2008 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A706254. All rights reserved.

GREETERS: Mindy Rueda, Amy Rueda

USHERS: John-Paul Fletcher, *Lead Usher*

Marilyn Kraft, *Security Usher*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord, Brandon Turner

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Bob Saenz, Doris Schiavone, Nancy Sellas

Elders: **Pat Morris, Susan Skoglund, Katie Smith**

Deacons: **Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda, Kristine French**

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Brian Gano, Kendra Lamb, Jim Morris

This Weeks' Celebrations

Jul 6 Judy Etherton

Dennis Stafford

Jul 7 Jim & Dawn Morris

Jul 8 Josie Babcock

Jul 10 Jim Carter

Doris Nord

Donna Feit

Kevin & Wendy Lamb

Gill Snyder

Jul 12 Trevor Cummings

Sherman & Joanne Ballard

Indigenous Revitalization Retreat: will be led by Nancy Wiens, M. Div, Ph.D., on **Saturday, July 19th in the Sanctuary from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Lunch is included. There is no charge for the event, but please RSVP to the church office (fpcsnb@gmail.com or 909-882-3308) **by July 16th**, so we can plan accordingly.

Thank you for your generous support of our food participants. We continue to accept donations of any shelf-stable foods. A suggestion list is at reception and on our website. If you want to shop with a focus, bargain cereal is always needed, and rice or pasta help stretch limited food into more meals.

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

His name was Elarion,
and from the beginning, he was drawn to beauty.

As a child,
he wandered the orchards not for the fruit,
but to watch sunlight scatter through the blossoms.
At eleven, he carved his first flute and played to the wind,
delighted when birds paused to listen.

As he grew older,
the beauty he chased became more tangible—
laughter across a firelit room,
the brush of hands,
the thrill of glances held too long.

By sixteen, he had traded the flute for a lute
and the orchard for taverns.
He sang bold songs and kissed easily.
His music stirred hearts and opened doors,
and he followed wherever the road would carry him—
through candle-lit inns,
welcoming beds,
festivals that left garlands tangled in his hair.

Over time, though, something began to shift.
The embraces left a trace of chill behind.
The applause lingered in the air,
but not in his heart.

Beauty still called to him—
but now it seemed to speak from farther away,
in a language he hadn't yet learned.

He met Selira in that in-between time.
A noblewoman,
married to a much older lord.
Her voice was quiet,
her presence fierce.

She listened to his songs
as if searching for something beneath the melody.
They never touched. Not once.
And yet he sang for her every evening beneath her window,
his melodies thick with longing.

One night, she spoke.
“You don't love me, Elarion,” she said.
“You love what awakens in you when I am near.”

He left that same night.

Not from shame—
but from clarity.

He wandered into quieter lands,
where no one knew his name.
He sang less,
and when he did, the songs were different—
fewer words,
gentler tones,
shaped by absence as much as desire.

He sang to wind-bent trees,
to crumbling chapels where no one prayed,
to wells that hadn't been drawn from in years.

In a seaside village where gulls outnumbered people,
he met Maerel,
a healer who gathered herbs and spoke with the trees.

She lived in a crooked cottage
with driftwood charms hanging from the rafters.

She asked nothing of him.
They spent many evenings by her hearth in silence.
Sometimes she would hum as she worked,
and it would undo him in ways he couldn't explain.

He loved her—
not with hunger,
but with reverence.

One morning, before dawn,
he left her a single feather
and a quiet song scratched on parchment.

He walked away not to possess the moment,
but to let it remain whole.

In his later years,
Elarion no longer wandered far.
He rarely sang,
and when he did, it was not to express,
but to listen.

The songs were spare now—
simple phrases,
silences folded into melody.

People paused when they heard them,
not out of wonder,
but out of recognition.

As if the music carried a longing

they had always felt but never named.

One evening, he climbed a hill alone
and played a final melody to the wind.

It wasn't a farewell.
It was what remained
after a lifetime of songs
had been sifted and distilled.

They found him there at dawn,
slumped over his lute,
the strings humming faintly in the wind.

-- 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:

Lily Bolaños, Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough,
Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis,
Pat Morris, Susan Skoglund, Katie Smith, Neal Williams,
and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

Rebecca Allen, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas, Chris Wright-Thomas,
Kristine French, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda, Rick
Rodriguez, Jim Siegmund, Kyle Smith, and Christian Usher.

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