



**World Communion
Sunday
October 5, 2025
10:30 a.m. Worship**

Carlo Acutis

I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

--John 15:17

First Presbyterian Church

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COMMISSIONED LOCAL PASTORAL: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

MINISTRY OF VISITATION: LAURIE STAFFORD

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;
WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST
AMY GANO, BELLS

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.

OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, November 2nd.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Amy Rueda

REFLECTION before the SERVICE

When we take Communion...we become his house, his home, and so Jesus, present, alive, and real, is not only a fact of faith, not only a fact of “sacramentality,” but a fact of “Life!” . . . Jesus is with me and I with him, as an extremely personal, individual fact. *-Carlo Acutis*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Allegro

A. Vivaldi (1678-1741)

INTROIT

This Is the Day¹

James Christensen

This is the day the Lord has made, Rejoice and sing to God’s name.

*CALL to WORSHIP (*from Psalm 122*)

I was glad when they said to me,

✘ "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Let all God's people come

✘ To give thanks to the name of the Lord.

Pray for the peace of the world.

✘ Peace be within you.

We stand together on Holy Ground

✘ Let us worship God!

*HYMN 388

Come All You People

UYAI MOSE

PRAYER of CONFESSION

✘ Gracious God we know that you use all people and all things in your service. Sometimes we disregard people because they are too young or inexperienced. Sometimes we discount people because they are too old and “out of touch.” Sometimes we question new technologies and wonder how they can be of service. Sometimes we question old customs and wonder how

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

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

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they speak to us. Sometimes we just want things to be exactly as they were when we learned them.

(Moment for silent reflection and confession)

- ✘ Forgive us, Lord, and remind us that you welcome all and everyone and everything can proclaim your name.

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

KYRIE ELEISON

Dinah Reindorf

- ✘ Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, Have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

- ✘ In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, and are being made whole!

*SUNG RESPONSE 591 *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*²

John L. Bell

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

(Repeat)

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.]

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

INVITATION

PRESENTATION

On behalf of Session, I present **Yvonne Rios-Kasinger, Rose King, Michael Snyder, and Patricia Wallace**, to be received into membership through reaffirmation of faith and **Rachel Corpus** to be received into membership through baptism.

THE SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

² Text: Refrain: traditional liturgical text. Music: Caribbean melody; arr. John L. Bell. Text & Music ©1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

CANDIDATE

THANKSGIVING over the WATER

BAPTISM

ANOINTING

QUESTIONS for NEW MEMBERS

PROCLAMATION “Behold what manner of love our God has given to us, that we should be called children of God- and so we are!”

WELCOME

We who are gathered here represent the Church Universal.
This sacrament brings Christ’s presence into our midst.
It also brings us responsibilities as Christ’s people in this place.
Do you welcome **Yvonne, Rose, Trisha, Michael, and Rachel**
And do you renew your commitment,
with God’s help, to live as God’s children?

✘ **We do. We will nurture one another in faith,
Uphold one another in prayer,
Encourage one another in service.**

Amen! Let us share the peace of Christ with one another!

*SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

We greet one another, remembering Christ’s peace.

ANTHEM

We Thank Thee, Lord³

Tkach

We thank Thee, Lord, We bow before Thy sacred Throne to praise Thee for Thy love so kind and true; For Thou hast heard our pray’r; When we call on Thee, Thine answer speaks with courage to inspire our soul! Although we must walk through trouble, Thou wilt protect us and Thy right hand will guide us O Eternal Lord, Intervene in our behalf; Thy great goodness never fails. We thank Thee, Lord, we bow before Thy sacred Throne, to praise Thee for Thy love so true. We thank Thee, Lord.

SCRIPTURE I Timothy 4:11-16

These are the things you must insist on and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I arrive, give attention to the public

³ Text: from Psalm 138 by Hazel Stageberg Tkach. Music: BORTNIANSKY, arr. By Peter D. Tkach. ©1943 A. Kjos Music Co. Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A706254. All rights reserved.

reading of scripture, to exhorting, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of elders. Put these things into practice, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; continue in these things, for in doing this you will save both yourself and your hearers.

John 15:16-17

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

REFLECTION *Carlo Acutis: The Gamer Saint* *Pastor Wendy Lamb*

***SUNG RESPONSE 853** *Siyahamba* *South African*
(We will sing this three times: Marching, Praying, Singing)

MOMENT for MISSION *Kyle Smith*

THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

(We offer our gifts as a response to God's Word, to be part of God's purposes in the world. You may bring forward and place gifts in the plate during the offertory, or on your way out – or 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 and OUR LORD'S PRAYER⁴

And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose,
we fall silent

And remember him who came because words weren't enough.
Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside,
Emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands,
We open ourselves to you: to the healing, accepting, and forgiving
you alone can offer. *(Silence is kept)*

Let us continue in 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

WORDS of INSTITUTION

We SHARE GOD'S GIFTS

*(The cup is non-alcoholic. There is gluten free bread available
Communion will be served by intinction at two stations. As you feel ready,
please come up by the inside aisle to a station, receive bread, dip it in the cup,
eat it, and return to your seat by an outside aisle.
If you would rather remain seated, rovers will bring the elements to you.
During this time, we invite you to sing these prayers.)*

Refrain

***God Bless to Us Our Bread*⁵**
God bless to us our bread,
and give food to all those who are hungry
and hunger for justice to those who are fed.
God bless to us our bread.

⁴ This prayer is included but uncredited in the Liturgy created by the PCUSA for the Peace & Global Witness special offering in 2023.

⁵ Text: John L. Bell. Text & Music: ©1997 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #A706254. All rights reserved.

Refrain 411

***God Is Here Today*⁶**

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.

Dios está aquí,
tan cierto como el aire que respiro,
tan cierto como la mañana se levanta,
tan cierto como que le canto y me puede oír.

Refrain 742

***We Will Walk with God*⁷**

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.

PRAYER after COMMUNION

✠ In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you.
Take us out to live as your Beloved ones
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same. Amen.

***HYMN 69**

Here I Am, Lord

Schutte

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE**

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

***POSTLUDE**

⁶ Text: Raul Galeano; English trans. C. Michael Hawn. Music: Raul Galeano; arr. C. Michael Hawn and Arturo Gonzalez. English translation and Music Arr. ©2020 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved.

⁷ Text: Swaziland, English trans. John L. Bell ©2002 WGRG/Iona Community(admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) Music: Swaziland melody; arr. John L. Bell. ©2008 WGRG/Iona Community (admin, GIA Publications, Inc.) All rights reserved.

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GREETERS: Al & Mindy Rueda

USHERS: John-Paul Fletcher, *Lead Usher*

Marilyn Kraft, Jim Siegmund, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Brent Nord, Dan Direen, Brandon Turner

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Lorraine Bishop, Noé Falconi, Marianna Fowles

Elders: Pat Morris, Susan Skoglund, Katie Smith

Deacons: Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda, Kristene French

Pastor Nominating Committee:

Shelby Obershaw, Christa Wallis, Neal Williams

This Weeks' Celebrations

Oct 7 Carmen Avila
Edward Munz

Oct 9 Phyllis Hough

Oct 11 Zachary Garcia

Oct 12 Mimi Lange
Jeoff Molcan
Owen Morris



We will receive the Peace and Global Witness

Offering today. 25% of the Offering will be used in our local community to promote peacemaking.

The Stewardship Committee invites you to lunch today immediately following worship. We will enjoy **chicken from Juan Pollo** in the Fellowship Hall, as we begin the countdown to Commitment Sunday, October 26th.

Important Congregational Meeting Sunday, October 12, 2025

All church members should have received a letter in the U.S. mail from the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) stating that there will be a **congregational meeting directly following 10:30 AM worship on October 12th**. The purpose of this meeting is to be introduced to and vote for a nominee for the position of Pastor/Head of Staff: the Rev. Brian Symonds. Pastor Symonds will preach during worship that day. Please note that those who are qualified to vote to approve the PNC's recommendation must be active members on the church rolls.

SAVE YOUR BLOOD. Our second blood drive in association with Lifestream will be on **Sunday, November 30**. If you are a regular donor, a reminder: you can only give every 60 days. For those of us that are regular donors to Lifestream, please try to be here with an open arm. ***Remember your iodine.***

Thank you for your generous support of our food participants. Thank you for your generous donations of shelf-stable foods. A suggestion list is available at reception, and on our website. We encourage bargain shopping since all donations can be put to good use. **Currently we would especially appreciate both regular & pop-top cans of fruit.**

Reformation Sunday, which we traditionally celebrate with bagpipes and dancers and shortbread cookies, is only three weeks away! We will have the Kevin R. Blandford Memorial Pipe Band and highland dancers. If you would like to help pay this cost, perhaps as a memorial to a loved one or friend, please get your offering, and the name of the person(s) you wish to honor, to the church office by **Tuesday, October 21st**.

Reformation Sunday? Bring us shortbread cookies!

If you are able to bring shortbread for our celebration (you can make it or buy it), **please let the church office know by October 16th**, and then bring it to the kitchen before church on or before Sunday, October 26th. The church will purchase some gluten-free shortbread, so that everyone may celebrate!

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 a certain realm,
feelings could be bought and sold like goods.

In the great market,
grief might be traded for certainty —
sorrow poured into jars,
exchanged for polished stones of assurance.
Longing could be numbed for a fee,
its ache dissolved into powders of forgetfulness.
Everywhere people grew lighter, smoother, easier.
And everywhere, a dullness crept in,
like frost across a field.

A young seeker came among the stalls,
carrying the unruly bundle of his own heart.
He thought perhaps he might trade away
his restless yearning,
or soften the ache of love lost.

He passed tables where merchants cried,
“Give me your pain, and I will give you peace!
Give me your confusion,
and I will give you clarity!”

At the far edge of the market sat a lone figure.
He displayed nothing for sale,
only a single cup of dark tea,
fragrant and bitter.
His sign read: This is the price of love.

Most passersby sniffed at the tea
and said, “No thank you!”
Then they hurried back to stalls
where everything was pleasant and easy.

But the seeker lingered.
Something in the fragrance unsettled him.
He could not tell if it promised healing
or ruin.

“What is the cost?” he asked.

The merchant’s eyes held him,
deep and unsettling.
“To drink,” he said,
“is to lose more than you wish to lose,

and gain more than you dare to desire.”

The seeker trembled.

He thought of all he might forfeit —
the small comforts he clung to,
the walls that shielded him from pain,
the certainty he hoped to find here.

Yet he also thought of what he had already lost:
nights of wonder traded for dull security,
days spent behind gates of caution.
And so, at last,
he lifted the cup and drank.

The bitterness filled him like fire.
He fell to his knees,
for it seemed all protections were torn away.
The whole world’s grief poured into him —
not only his own sorrow,
but the sorrow of every living thing.

And yet, beneath that abyss, something rose.
A tenderness he could not contain,
fierce as lightning,
gentle as rain.

Love, unbought, unsold.
A love that cost him every defense,
and in return gave him
the whole trembling world.

When he lifted his head,
the market was as before.
People still bartered away their feelings for numbness.
But for him, the bargains no longer tempted.

For he had drunk what cost everything —
and gained what could never be lost.

-- William Zeitler