

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 19, 2025 10:30 a.m. Worship



Jonathan Daniels, fellow seminarian Judith Upham, and a fellow activist. Source: Virginia Military Institute

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an
ever-flowing stream. --Amos 5:24

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

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: Kendra Lamb

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

"My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour." I had come to Evening Prayer as usual that evening, and as usual I was singing the Magnificat with the special love and reverence I have always felt for Mary's glad song. "He hath showed strength with his arm." As the lovely hymn of the God-bearer continued, I found myself peculiarly alert, suddenly straining toward the decisive, luminous, Spirit-filled "moment" that would, in retrospect, remind me of others--particularly one at Easter three years ago. Then it came. "He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things." I knew then that I must go to Selma. The Virgin's song was to grow more and more dear in the weeks ahead.

--Jonathan Myrick Daniels

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Chaconne

D. Buxtehude (1637-1707)

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

*INTROIT

This Is the Day¹

James Christensen

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

*CALL to WORSHIP²

Our souls magnify the Lord!

✠ **Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!**

The mighty One has done great things for us!

✠ **Holy is God's name!**

Let us worship God.

✠ **For God is our Maker and our Redeemer;
from generation to generation God gives mercy.**

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

*** Stand if you are able**

✠ The congregation will read.

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² *Deep Well Worship*. Carol H. Prickett.

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

(Take a moment to silently name your longing.)

KYRIE 577**Lord Have Mercy***

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie eleison.**Kyrie eleison.****Kyrie eleison.****Kyrie eleison.****Lord, have mercy.****Lord, have mercy.****Lord, have mercy.****Lord, have mercy.**

Before God, with the people of God, I confess my brokenness: the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

✠ **May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

✠ **Before God, with the people of God, I confess to my brokenness:
the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the
world.**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you,
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

✠ **Amen.**

(We stand and sing Alleluia)

ALLELUIAWilliam 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!

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le al - le - lu - ia!

TIME with the CHILDREN

[Children are always welcome in worship. There is KidSpace today in Room 10 following the Time with the Children.]

ANTHEM

***The Lord Is My Shepherd*³**

Joseph W. Clokey

The Lord is my shepherd, the Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth, he restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou prepar'st a table in the presence of my foes: thou anoin'st my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely, surely, goodness and mercy shall follow, follow me, shall follow me: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Amos 5:18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

Luke 5:1-11

And Mary said,

'My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him

from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

and lifted up the lowly;

³ Music: Joseph W. Clokey © 1945 The H. W. Gray Co. Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A706254. All rights reserved.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

SERMON *Jonathan Myrick Daniels: Pastor Wendy Lamb*
A Legacy for Justice

REFRAIN 750 *Goodness Is Stronger than Evil* John Bell
(Sing twice)

MOMENT for STEWARDSHIP *Martha Pinckney*

(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.)

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

✠ 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 339** *Lift Every Voice and Sing* Johnson/Johnson

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

GREETER: Shelby Obershaw

USHERS: Margaret Doane, *Lead Usher*

Mark Adelson, Rick Rodriguez, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord, Brandon Turner

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: Oliver Lamb

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Bob Saenz, Doris Schiavone, Nancy Sellas

Elders: Margaret Doane, Jon Horstmann, Phyllis Hough

Deacons: Kyle Smith, Christian Usher, Steve Smith

This Weeks' Celebrations

Oct 20 Robin Edwards

Oct 21 Marilyn Kraft

Oct 22 Adam Nord

Neal Williams

Oct 23 Thomas Patrick Dunn

Adelaide Shenton

Oct 24 Geri Atkins

Reformation Sunday, which we traditionally celebrate with bagpipes and dancers and shortbread cookies, is **NEXT WEEK!** 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 this **Tuesday, October 21st**.

Reformation Sunday? Bring us shortbread cookies!

Bring them to the kitchen before church on or before Sunday, October 26th. The church has purchased some gluten-free shortbread, so that everyone may celebrate!

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.**

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

There was once a woman who wished to make beauty bloom.
She cleared a plot of rocky soil behind her cottage,
dug furrows, sowed seeds, and waited.

But each morning she came out,
and each morning the earth looked the same —
bare, brown, silent.

She watered twice, then thrice.
She sang to the ground,
scolded it, pleaded with it,
even pressed her palms into the soil
as if warmth alone could coax the green awake.

Still nothing.

She envied the neighbor's garden,
where shoots already stood in rows.
Perhaps my seeds are lazy, she thought,
and bought new ones — faster ones,
or so the merchant said.

But when she scattered them,
the wind carried half away,
and the rest drowned in her over-eager watering.

One night, she dreamed of an old gardener
tending a vast orchard under moonlight.
He said nothing — only knelt,
and waited beside each tree
until a single petal fell into his hand.

When she woke, she went outside.
The ground was still bare,
but something in her had softened.
She touched the soil once, gently,
and went back inside.

Days passed.
Then weeks.

And one morning,
tiny green blades broke the surface —
so small she would have missed them
had she still been hurrying.

She laughed, not at the delay,
but at her own impatience.
The garden had always been growing,
only at its own pace.
A pace she could not see.

-- *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.