

Reformation Sunday
Consecration Sunday

October 26, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship



Rachel Held Evans

Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

-- Matthew 24:35

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 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.

OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, November 2nd.

Morning Worship†

Lectors: Dawn Morris
Owen Morris

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

God is still breathing. The Bible is both inspired and inspiring. Our job is to ready the sails and gather the embers, to discuss and debate, and like the biblical character Jacob, to wrestle with the mystery until God gives us a blessing.

If you're curious, you will never leave the text without learning something new. If you're persistent, you just might leave inspired.

--Rachel Held Evans (1981-2019)

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *The Girl with the Flaxen Hair* C. Debussy (1862-1918)
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

***CALL to WORSHIP¹** *(From Ephesians 4:4-6)*

We have come together as one.

✘ **One people, gathered in the name of the one God.**

We will worship together as one.

✘ **One community, giving praise and honor to the Righteous One.**

We are being empowered as one by One.

✘ **One body and one Spirit, called to the hope of one calling,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who
is above all and through all and in all.**

Now, in the name of the Three-in-One, we act as one.

✘ **One people, giving witness to the power of One.
Let us worship as One!**

***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

Let us in the presence of God and one another confess our brokenness and strife. Holy One who makes all things new:

- ✘ **We confess that we have failed you and one another. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. We cannot live up to even our own values and ideals. But you make all things new. In your infinite compassion, set us free from bondage and lead us to the new life in Christ that you have prepared for us. Amen.**

ASSURANCE of PARDON

God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, loves you as you are. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel of Christ:

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

*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.]

PRESENTATION of BIBLES

Students receive their Bibles as a gift from the congregation.

Rhyland French

Teofila Fletcher

ANTHEM

Now Let Us All

Gordon Young

Praise God and Sing²

Now let us all praise God and sing Our great Redeemer's praise; That we may all with one accord Our joyful voices raise. Sing alleluia, Sing alleluia, Sing alleluia, Sing alleluia! All ye servants of the Lord, Praise Him forever, Sing Jehovah's mighty pow'r, Praise Him forever. Sing of His righteousness, Praise Him forever. So let us all praise God and sing ...

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.**

² Text & Music: Gordon Young: © 1956, ECS Publishing (Galaxy 1.2108). Reprinted with permission under ONELICENSE #A706254. All rights reserved.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 22:2-5

In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

I Peter 1:22-25

Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. For "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord endures forever." That word is the good news that was announced to you.

Matthew 24:32-35

From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

✱ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Rachel Held Evans:
Reformed and Always Reforming*

Pastor Wendy Lamb

HYMN 450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

MOMENT for STEWARDSHIP

Jim Morris

BELL MEDITATION

As our bell choir plays, take a moment to reflect on how you will respond to God's call for stewardship this season.

WE RESPOND to GOD'S LOVE with COMMITMENT

Ushers will have pledge cards available.

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 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!

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**

POSTLUDE

*The Order of Chivalry
Justice & the Knight's Sword*

W. Zeitler

*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: Linda McCarl

USHERS: Dave Thomas, *Lead Usher*

Marilyn Kraft, John-Paul Fletcher, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord, Brandon Turner

LIVESTREAM ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Kevin Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK
Judy Steppins, Lorraine Bishop, Noé Falconi
Elders: Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman
Deacons: Rebecca Allen, Brad Smith, Dave Thomas

This Weeks' Celebrations

Oct 28 Joshua Fletcher
Oct 30 Mario & Mary Bolaños
Rebecca Allen
Oct 31 Brooke Dvorak

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.**

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

In the high country where clouds touched the roofs, the village of Lir kept the art of mirrors. Their mirrors were not toys of vanity but instruments of devotion; each generation one was made for the Temple of Dawn, to reveal the soul as it truly was.

When the honor fell to Master Iren, no one questioned the choice. He was patient, precise, and — by his own account — humble. “A mirror must be pure as snow,” he told his apprentice Sela, a quiet girl whose curiosity he mistook for clumsiness. “If the maker leaves a trace of himself, it will cloud the image.”

Weeks passed in silence broken only by the hiss of molten silver and glass. At last, the mirror was lifted into its frame, shining like captured sunlight. The abbot came, the bells rang, and the villagers lined up to see what they would see.

The first pilgrim stepped forward — an old woman, trembling. Her reflection bloomed crisp and clear. Then a merchant, strutting in his best cloak: the surface misted over at once. One after another, they gazed at themselves in the mirror. The modest saw themselves plainly; the self-important saw only fog.

Few grasped what the mirror was doing. Grumbling spread. Iren laughed lightly to still them. “The metal is fresh — it needs to season.” He turned toward the glass, certain his own face would steady the crowd.

Nothing. Only a foggy light.

He felt heat rise behind his ears. “You’ve spoiled the mixture,” he hissed at Sela.

She blinked, frightened, then stepped up beside him. The mirror caught her instantly — her image bright and alive, the whole hall luminous.

“What did you do?” he demanded.

“Nothing,” she said. “I only looked.”

That night, he worked alone, polishing until his hands shook. The harder he tried, the duller the surface grew. Exhausted, he leaned close, whispering a prayer he could barely remember. For an instant, a face flickered there — worn, uncertain, human—and then was gone.

At dawn, he hung the mirror in the temple as it was. The wise came to understand it:

Those who approach to admire themselves see only mist.

Those who forget to look for themselves see light.

— 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
and in memory of Don & Arleen Peters

Patricia Wallace

in memory of Ned & Kay Russell

Martha Pinckney

in memory of Paul Pinckney

Wanda Gernux

in memory of William McIntosh

Laurie Stafford

in memory of Doris Reese

Chris & Dave Thomas

in memory of Christian & Bonnie Hansen
and in memory of Betty Thomas
and in memory of Rena Nolin

Mimi Lange

in memory of Bill Lange

Terri & Jorge Carlos

in memory of
Margaret Findlay McLean Wright

Norm & Christa Wallis

in memory of
Charles Robert MacPherson
Patrician Ann & Thomas Turner Snyder
Sanford Howard Wallis

Linda McCarl

in memory of Wayne Mc Carl

The family of William Nord
in memory of William Nord



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.