

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Reception of New Member

October 11, 2026

10:30 a.m. Worship

DON'T LET ANYONE LOOK DOWN ON YOU
— BECAUSE YOU ARE —
YOUNG
• BUT SET AN EXAMPLE FOR THE BELIEVERS •
◀ IN SPEECH, IN CONDUCT, ▶
◀ IN LOVE, IN FAITH, ▶
 IN **PURITY.**
1 TIMOTHY 4:12

Created by Wallpaper Cave

**"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example
in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12**

First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpcsb.net

MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT: REV. DR. BRIAN S. SYMONDS

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 8th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Susan Addington

“In this passage, the Apostle Paul writes to Timothy, a young leader in the early church, encouraging him to remain steadfast in his ministry despite his youth and the challenges of false teachings in Ephesus (1 Timothy 4:1-10). He emphasizes the importance of teaching sound doctrine, setting a godly example, and diligently using spiritual gifts to benefit both oneself and others. Paul instructs Timothy to command and teach these things, highlighting that leadership requires both authority and practical example.”

-- cnstianitypath.com

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Bagatelle

L. Beethoven (1770-1827)

INTROIT

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia.

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Psalm 10)*

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord,

✠ **for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all his praise?

✠ **Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.**

Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations,

✠ **that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. And let all the people say,

✠ **Amen. Praise the Lord!**

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

* **Stand if you are able**

✠ **The congregation will read.**

PRAYER of CONFESSION

With great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive in Christ, even when we were dead through our sin. By grace we have been saved. With that assurance of the gospel, let us confess our sin before God and one another, first in silence and then together.

Moment of silent prayer

✠ Almighty God, you call us again and again to seek your kin-dom first, to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. Still, we make our excuses and justify in our own hearts why we go our own way. Lord, forgive our sin. Turn us from our preoccupation with our own lives and turn us to your ways of grace, mercy, love and service. May we heed your invitation to be part of your kingdom and strive, through the power of your Holy Spirit, to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news! The night is far gone, the day is near. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

✠ Thanks be to God. Amen.

(We stand and sing the Response)

***SUNG RESPONSE 587**

Alleluia!

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Sing three times.

TIME with the YOUNG DISCIPLES

*[After Time with the Young Disciples,
There is KidSpace today in Room 10.]*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM

O Love, How Deep¹

Everett Titcomb

O love, how deep, how broad, how high, How passing thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God should take Our mortal form for mortal's sake. For
us he prayed, for us he taught, For us his daily works he wrought By words

¹ Text: Latin 15th century, tr. Benjamin Webb. Music: Everett Titcomb. ©1952 The H.W. Gray Company, Inc./Jubilate Music. Reprinted by permission under ONELICENSE #A706254. All rights reserved.

and signs and actions, thus Still seeking not himself but us. All glory to our Lord and God For love so deep, so high, so broad; The Trinity whom we adore Forever and forever more. Amen.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

✠ Dear God, your Word itself tells us that you inspire all Scripture, that everyone who belongs to you may be equipped for every good work. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed, inspire us through your Holy Spirit that we may be ready to worship you and serve others with the love and grace of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

1 Timothy 4:11-16

Command these things. Teach them. Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young. Instead, set an example for the believers through your speech, behavior, love, faith, and by being sexually pure. Until I arrive, pay attention to public reading, preaching, and teaching. Don't neglect the spiritual gift in you that was given through prophecy when the elders laid hands on you. Practice these things, and live by them so that your progress will be visible to all. Focus on working on your own development and on what you teach. If you do this, you will save yourself and those who hear you.

This is the word of faith that we proclaim,

✠ Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Why I Give to Christ's Church:* Rev. Dr. Brian S. Symonds,
Internships Maria Socop, & Hefziba Arana

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 give your offering to the usher. You may always send gifts by mail or online.)

OFFERTORY

***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.

***PRAYER OF THANKS**

Bountiful God, all that we can offer comes from your generosity. May these gifts that we return to you become a blessing for your whole community, enriching and empowering us for the work to which you call us. We thank you in the name of Jesus Christ, your indescribable gift to us and the world.

✠ **Amen.**

RECEPTION of a NEW MEMBER

INVITATION

PRESENTATION

On behalf of Session, I present **Natalia Tanojo**, to be received into membership through reaffirmation of faith.

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 **Natalia**

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.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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 643**

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

Where have you seen or experienced Christ in this service?

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You²

Peter C. Lutkin

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord lift his countenance upon you; and give you peace, and give you peace, the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you, be gracious, the Lord be gracious, gracious unto you. Amen.

POSTLUDE

GREETER: Robin Edwards

USHERS: Brad Smith, *Lead Usher*

Dave Thomas, *Hospitality Usher*

SOUND ENGINEERS: Dan Direen, Brent Nord, Brandon Turner

LIVESTREAM TEAM: James Welte, Kevin Lamb,
Oliver Lamb, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Ron & Ruby Kraft, the family of Howard LeRoy

Elders: John-Paul Fletcher, Jon Horstmann, Lynda Savage

Deacons: Joanna Nord, Mindy Rueda, Kristine French

This Weeks' Celebrations

Oct 11 Zachary Garcia

Oct 12 Mimi Lange

Owen Morris

Oct 17 Jacob Babcock

Bobbi Cummings

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***Building, Becoming, Widening - The Beloved Community
FPCSB Stewardship 2026***

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Blood Drive – TODAY! 8:00 a.m. -- 12:30 p.m. Sign up after church or come by that day and we may be able to fit you in. Remember to drink a lot of water and a healthy breakfast. Including some extra iron would also help.

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A Service of Healing and Wholeness will be held in the Chapel on Thursday, October 15th at 5:00 p.m. This is a chance to hear the hopeful promises of God that speak to all of us who wonder about our own sorrow or the pain of the world. Join us for comfort and healing.

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The Deacons are having a ***Fundraiser at Mimi's Restaurant-on October 26- all day long.*** Take a flyer (available in the reception area) with you for breakfast, lunch or dinner (or all three?) and 20% comes back to the church!

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Pay the Pipers for Reformation Sunday, which we traditionally celebrate with bagpipes and shortbread cookies, **is only two weeks away!** We will have the Kevin R. Blandford Memorial Pipe Band. 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 20th.**

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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 15th,** and then bring it to the kitchen before church on or before Sunday, October 25th. The church will purchase some gluten-free shortbread, so that everyone may celebrate!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Symphonie Jeunesse Orchestra will perform a ***Halloween concert on Saturday, October 31st at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.*** The price

of admission is one donation of canned food per person. Enjoy beautiful music and help the Food Program here at FPC!

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The Pastor's Book Club will meet **Thursday, November 12 at 5:00 p.m. at the Lamplighter**, 255 E. 40th Street. The book club will use scripturally provocative and institutionally controversial writings to generate real conversations with each other. The book for discussion is ***Everything Is Tuberculosis*** by John Green.

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Thank you for your generous support of our food participants.
We are using all of your helpful donations. Right now, we most need **pop-top meals-in-a-can (e.g. spaghetti-os) or pop-top or pouched tuna & chicken for non-cooking bags.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Available for Food Work? If yes, please contact Rick so we can add you to a list we can call when we need more workers for sorting, organizing, shelving, bagging or distributing food, photocopying and folding handouts, assembling kits, or maintaining food storage spaces. Thanks!

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Music Box

In Avelune, the streets were never dark.

Lamps hung outside every house and shop. Lamps stood beside the fountains and wells. Even the narrowest alley was bright enough for reading.

It was simply a town without night. Everyone liked it that way.

One evening a stranger arrived carrying a lantern of black iron. He made his way to the town square and settled himself at the fountain at its center.

At sunset, he “unlit” his lantern. Immediately, all the light around it dimmed. The street lamps still burned, but their light retreated. It was as if the stranger’s lantern absorbed light instead of emitting it.

People stopped. A few stepped back.

A child drew near, then looked up.

“What’s that?”

A point of light shone in the darkness above. Then another.

As the stranger raised the dark lantern, hundreds more appeared, then thousands.

No one in Avelune had ever seen stars.

For hours, people stood in the darkness looking upward, dumbfounded.

That night, something else happened.

They dreamed.

Avelune had always been a dreamless town. No one had thought this strange—how could they miss something they had never known?

But that night children flew over mountains. An old woman danced with her husband, dead thirty years, both young again. A cobbler heard music played on instruments he had never seen.

The next evening the square was crowded.

The stranger unlit his lantern again.

The stars returned.

So did the dreams.

But not all the dreams were welcome.

The healer, who had never knowingly harmed anyone, dreamed she stood on a battlefield with a bloody sword in her hand. She awoke horrified.

The magistrate, who thought himself the epitome of sternness, dreamed he was weeping inconsolably on the courthouse steps while strangers held him. He awoke ashamed — and confused.

A dutiful daughter dreamed she walked away from Avelune, naked, without telling a soul.

“Can you give us good dreams without the others?” someone asked.

“No.”

“Why not?”

The stranger looked at his lantern.

“It's one lantern.”

The Council called a town meeting at the square.

Everyone came.

The square was brilliantly lit. The stranger sat quietly beside the fountain, the dark lantern at his feet, un-unlit.

“You brought nightmares into Avelune,” the baker said.

“I saw my mother again,” someone else said.

“My son wants to leave home.”

“I saw the stars.”

“My wife says she doesn't know who she is anymore.”

“Neither do I.”

People laughed, then caught themselves.

The healer stood. “I don't want to dream what I dreamed.”

“Neither do I,” said the magistrate.

Then, after a moment, he added, “But I don't want to forget it, either.”

The square erupted.

“Take the lantern and go!”

“No! Let him stay!”

“Leave!”

“Stay!”

Soon the shouts came from every side.

The stranger listened.

At last he stood. The square grew quiet.

He picked up the dark lantern.

For a moment, people expected him to speak. Instead, he bowed and walked out the western gate.

No one tried to stop him. No one followed.

Above the villagers, the lamps burned brightly.

No stars could be seen.

But everyone knew they were there.

And no one was quite sure what to do with that.

-- *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:

Sue Alexander, Jeanne Clark, Kathy Showman, Norm Wallis,
Pat Morris, Susan Skoglund, Katie Smith, Neal Williams,
Robin Edwards, John-Paul Fletcher, Jon Horstmann, Lynda Savage,
and Clerk of Session Amy Smith

and supported by our Board of Deacons:

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