



FOURTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST June 25, 2023 • 9:30 a.m.

* Please rise in body or spirit when you see this symbol, and join in singing or reading aloud text in **bold**.

GATHERING

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Praise to the Lord, Lobe den Herren, Improvised Setting Carol Muehlig, Guest Organist

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME and LIFE IN THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP

As a deer longs for flowing streams – even so, my soul longs for you, O God.

As people yearn for respite from endless turning – even so, our spirits yearn for rest in Your Spirit, O God.

As a heart seeks companionship and a mind craves understanding – even so,

our lives seek the solace of Your nearness, O God.

As creation itself reaches toward balance and harmony – even so, life itself leans toward wholeness in You, O God.

All day long I remember you; all through the night I rest in You. When we reach toward You, You open Your heart to our prayers.

Why are you cast down, O my soul? Why disquieted within me? **Hope in God, for I shall again praise You, my help and my life!**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We call to you, O God, from the midst of our own struggles.

In the midst of separations and estrangements that hedge our hearts, we yearn for the mending of relationships;

we long for the healing of inner wounds that sap our strength.

You have kindled the light of love before us.

You meet us in the valley of our shadows,

and beckon us toward the gentle power of Your grace.

Forgive us for all that holds us apart

from each other, from ourselves, and from You.

In these moments of candor and courage, we open our lives to Your healing love.

Touch our deep longing with a sign of Your presence – and help us to believe that, in the company of Jesus Christ, we have found what we need to rejoin the journey of wholeness.

The **Call to Worship** is adapted from Psalm 42.

SILENCE







ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as God's people. Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Eternal are thy mercies, Lord; eternal truth attends thy word: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

PROCLAIMING the WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 5:24b-34

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

CONVERSATION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Please join in singing as the children come forward.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

POEM

The Wild Geese

Wendell Berry

Horseback on Sunday morning, harvest over, we taste persimmon and wild grape, sharp sweet of summer's end. In time's maze over fall fields, we name names that went west from here, names that rest on graves. We open a persimmon seed to find the tree that stands in promise,

Worship LAB is

a place where children explore the flow of worship through multisensory experiences. Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to join in Worship Lab each week.

pale, in the seed's marrow.

Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,
as in love or sleep, holds
them to their way, clear,
in the ancient faith: what we need
is here. And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye
clear. What we need is here.

SERMON

What We Need Is Here

Rick Spalding

RESPONDING

* HYMN 161

Woman in the Night

NEW DISCIPLES

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

I Quietly Turned to You from Celebrate Life Abby Kasenow, mezzo-soprano

There was nowhere else to turn, and nowhere else to go; My body knew all the pain a body can know, When I quietly turned to you, I quietly turned to you. Help of the helpless, I turned to you. When no one else would help, and no one else could hear My cries full of anguish, my cries full of fear, Then I quietly turned to you, I quietly turned to you. Hope of the hopeless, I turned to you. I saw you standing there, I saw the beauty from you beaming, I saw the peace, the joy, the perfect love that could be. I saw you standing there, I thought that I was surely dreaming, For suddenly warmth and love and joy were shining through me, As you quietly turned to me, you quietly turned to me. Friend of the friendless, you turned to me. Now I know such perfect peace, I feel such sweet release, Your love let me live again, your love set me free. Help of the helpless, friend of the friendless, I quietly turned to you, and you turned to me.

* 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.

Ways to give: Cash/Check

Place in the offering plate or in the mail

Text-to-Give

Text the amount you would like to give to 855-904-1523

Online

https://bit.ly/FPCvanco

Vanco Mobile App





^{*} Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE 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.

SENDING

* HYMN

All the Colors of the Rainbow (see page 6)

ABBOT'S LEIGH

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

4 4 4

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her husband, Hugh C. Higley Jr., by Marge Higley.

The rosebud is in honor of Harper Benea Vander Voort, daughter of Hunter and Kyla Vander Voort, born December 13, 2022 in Lebanon, TN. Harper is the first great-grandchild of Sara Vander Voort. Throughout the month of June, during LGBTQIA+ Pride month, certain elements of worship will intentionally celebrate the diversity of gender and sexuality that is represented in God's beloved community. At FPC, we reject homophobia and transphobia, and embrace all our siblings in Christ with love.

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All the Colors of the Rainbow

Carl P. Daw

ABBOT'S LEIGH
Cyril V. Taylor



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WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

WELCOME TO FIRST PRES

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship. If you are looking for a church to grow in your faith, you are welcome here at First Pres! If you are interested in becoming a member, we invite you to join us at our FAST TRACK class today at 11:00 a.m. in the Pastor's Study. We look forward to personally meeting you. **Please let us know you were here** by signing the Friendship Pad in the pew, then passing it down to others.

PRAYER

If you would like someone to pray with you, stop by Hillegonds Chapel after the service. Elders, Deacons, and Stephen Ministers are always there to assist those seeking prayer. Today's prayer partner is Felicity Williams.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Children ages 5 through 5th grade are invited to Worship LAB — a multi-sensory worship experience just for them held during 9:30 a.m. worship. Children are dismissed after the Conversation with Young Disciples and return to the Sanctuary before the worship service concludes. Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level during the worship service. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. David Prentice-Hyers Cyndy Colton Vocalist Rev. Mark Mares Abby Kasenow, mezzo-soprano Linda Lampman Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers Angela Yang Guest Organist Guest Preacher Carol Muehlig Greeters Rev. Rick Spalding Barbara Dobson Ushers Nancy Tena Lector Joe Schmidt, Captain Prue Heikkinen Sallie Parker Marolin Bellefleur

Jim Cameron

Today we welcome back Rev. Rick Spalding who served as First's Interim Pastor from 2019 to 2021. Rick is a graduate of Yale University and holds graduate degrees from Yale Divinity School (M.Div. 1981), Union Theological Seminary NYC (S.T.M. 1986) and Hartford Seminary (D.Min. 2012). Ordained in 1981, he served congregations in Albany, NY; Buckhorn, KY; New York City; and Boston; in campus ministry at Harvard University; as a teacher at Trinity School (NYC), Harvard Divinity School and Andover-Newton Theological School; and as chaplain at Williams College.

We thank Carol Muehlig for playing the organ in the absence of David Hufford. David is attending the Presbyterian Association of Musicians Worship & Music Conference in Montreat, NC, along with his colleague, Dave VanderMeer.

NEWS & EVENTS

WORSHIP

Sunday Summer Volunteer Opportunities

Looking for ways to get involved this summer and lend a hand on Sunday mornings? We'd love your help! Whether you're a friendly face who loves to welcome people, a detail-oriented person who enjoys preparing the sanctuary for worship, or a baker who can whip up some delicious cookies for coffee hour, we have a spot for you. Even if you're not sure where you'd like to help out, we'd be grateful for anyone who can assist with setting up coffee hour or ushering. No experience necessary. If you have any questions or want to sign up, reach out to Rev. Rogers at **mrogers@firstpresbyterian.org.**

Jazz Vespers

Saturday, July 8 5:00 p.m. | Front Lawn

Experience the unique blend of traditional evening vespers and the soulful sounds of jazz with the Paul Keller Jazz Quintet. Delight in the musical improvisation of the quintet as you bask in the serene atmosphere of the evening. Pizza from Hello Faz Pizza will be available to purchase. Come and join us on Saturday, July 8, at 5:00 p.m. for an unforgettable evening of music and worship.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Music and Fine Arts Summer Camp

July 31 - August 4 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Rising 2nd through rising 9th graders will have fun learning the upbeat and lively musical, "Oh, Jonah!" In addition, campers will enjoy handbells, crafts, games, Bible stories, and much more. The cost is \$25 per camper. **Register by July 17 at firstpresbyterian.org.**

MISSION

School Supplies for Ozone House

In the month of July, we will be collecting school supplies for Ozone House, our local mission partner. Ozone House is dedicated to helping runaway, homeless, and high-risk youth and their families by providing housing and support programs. We would love for you to join us in making a difference in these young people's lives. Donations will be accepted during worship on Communion Sunday, July 2, and at the Welcome Center throughout the month of July.