





"Elizabeth Visiting a Hospital" Adam Elsheimer

#### Cover:

Adam Elsheimer
"Elizabeth Visiting
a Hospital"
from Art in the
Christian Tradition,
a project of the
Vanderbilt Divinity
Library, Nashville.

The paraments and two banners that were made on Sunday, October 24, in an intergenerational art event with guest artist, Hannah Garrity, reflect our 2024 annual campaign theme, "When Hands Reach Out."

# 19TH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

October 8, 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** 

*Trinity Fanfare* Joyful Ringers

Alex Guebert

POURING OF THE WATER

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

FAITH IN ACTION

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

If you are filled with conviction, welcome home: here we proclaim that the world is beautiful and God is good.

If you are filled with heartbreak, welcome home:

here we offer comfort to those who weep and rest to those who are weary.

If you are filled with questions, welcome home:

here we nurture belief but make space for doubt.

If you are filled with skepticism, welcome home:

here we trust old words while listening for new understanding.

If you are filled with hope, welcome home:

here when we worship, God is among us, and everything is possible.

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

\* HYMN 234

You are the source of persistent love and surprising grace.

Help us to be more like you.

We are too fluent with jealousy and competition.

We are too intimate with insecurity and fear.

We are too confident in our sense of justice

and we are too attached to the idea that life is supposed to be fair.

Speak to us the words we need to hear, O God.

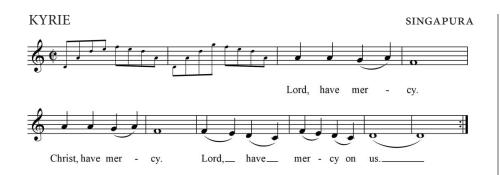
Remind us that your love is not first come, first serve,

but an open table with unlimited seating.

Whisper resurrection in our ears over and over again,

until it becomes the standard by which we measure all our days....

SILENT PRAYER



#### 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

CELTIC ALLELUIA



# PROCLAIMING the WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

# FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 14:19-30, 15:20-21

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## A 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!

## SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 2:1-11

The grass withers, the flower fades;

The word of the Lord endures forever.

**SERMON** 

"Keep Going"

Children are encouraged to read today's Bible story, "Walking on Dry Land," (Exodus 14:19-30) in the **Growing in God's Love Bible**. Today's story is found on pages 94-95.

The **Statement of Faith** is adapted
from the work
of Rev. Jenny
McDevitt, Pastor
of Shandon
Presbyterian
Church, Columbia,
South Carolina.
Jenny was a
Resident Minister
here at First Pres
from 2009 to 2011.

# 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





# RESPONDING

#### \* STATEMENT OF FAITH

One: The first word of God was love.

"Let there be light," God said, and the darkness receded.

Two: Before we were even created, we were assured that light always

goes before us.

Three: That is who God is: the one who makes a way, even when the

chaos is unfathomably deep.

All: For in life and in death, we belong to God, and there is nothing

that can loosen the hold God has on us.

Four: That is what God has always done:

make a way through the wilderness make a way through storms of every sort

make a way through rulers and principalities and powers make a way through everything that threatens to divide us and

conquer us make a way through even death itself.

All: For in life and in death, we belong to God,

and there is nothing that can loosen the hold God has on us.

One: To understand the fullness of God is beyond us.

Two: Thankfully, the grace of God has always been big enough

for all of our confusion, questions, doubts, and wounds.
While we walk this earth, sin will continue to taunt us;

we need not deny this reality, for even Jesus faced temptation.

All: For in life and in death, we belong to God,

and there is nothing that can loosen the hold God has on us.

Three: We do well to follow his example and confront it face to face, with

trust and courage, for it was then that "the devil left him, and the

angels attended him."

Four: And oh, how we need to hear from the angels,

for they repeat (and repeat) these essential words:

"Do not be afraid."

ANTHEM

Let Us with a Gladsome Mind Chancel Choir Alan Ridout

Let us with a gladsome mind, Praise God whom we know is kind;

For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

Let us blaze the name abroad, for of gods our Lord is God;

For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

God with all commanding might, filled the newmade world with light;

For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

God the golden tressed sun, caused all day its course to run;

For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

The horned moon to shine by night, mid her spangled sisters bright; For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

All things living God doth feed, God's full hand supplies their need;

For God's mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure. Amen.

#### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY I.S. Bach

Sonata No. 3 in. C Major, BWV 1005, IV. Allegro Assai KayCee Galano, Violinist

\* DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

\* 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 302 When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace o waly waly

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Please be seated for the Closing Voluntary.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Go Down, Moses Setting by Calvin Taylor

4 4 4

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Laurin and Delia Hunter, by Molly Dobson; in loving memory of Jack Caldwell by his family Beth, John, Tom and Ben.

The yellow rosebud celebrates the birth of Otto Isaiah Mitas Kieffer on September 20, 2023. Parents are Sophia Mitas and Jonas Kieffer and grandparents are Deanne Woodruff and Dan Mitas.

**Kristine Clair** "KayCee" Uchi Galano has performed with orchestras orchestras in Europe, China, North America. and in her native Philippines. She has won prestigious competitions such as the Mary Lane Memorial Violin Competition and the KF Wieniawski Violin Competition, and in 2019, she had the honor of making her Carnegie Hall debut, showcasing her talent by performing all 6 Bach solo sonatas. Currently, she is studying at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music under the guidance of Kurt Sassmannshaus.

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# **WELCOME**

#### We Are Glad You Are Here!

We are so thankful that you have joined us today for Worship. We would love to get to know you and help you get to know us. While you are with us today, we would love for you to do two things:

- **1. Sign the Friendship Pad.** The pads are located at the end of each pew. Sign it then pass it down to others.
- **2. Join us following worship for Social Hour.** There will be cookies and coffee and lots of friendly faces.

# **Parking**

Additional parking is located at the Forest Avenue parking structure located on South Forest Avenue between South University and Willard. Parking is free on Sundays. To get to the church from the structure, cross Forest Avenue and walk down Forest Court to the end of the block.

# Children in Worship

Childcare is available for ages 5 and younger on the First Level during the worship service. Elementary-age children may attend Faith Formation classes following the Conversations with Young Disciples. Children are always welcome to stay with their families during worship.

Following Children's Faith Formation, children in 2nd grade and older will be independently dismissed from their classrooms. Children in 1st grade or younger must remain in their classrooms and be picked up from class by an adult (not an older sibling). All classes (K/1, 2/3 and 4/5) take place on the third floor (one floor up from the sanctuary).

If you prefer that your older child wait in their classroom for you to pick them up, please communicate this to your child. You should also notify your child's teacher and/or Heather Polikoff (hpolikoff@fpca2.org) that this is your family's plan. Again, if not notified, teachers will allow children (2nd grade and older) to leave the room after class on their own.

# **Worship Leaders**

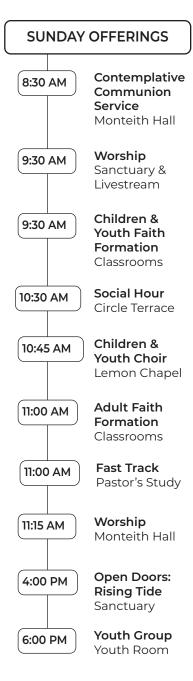
Jim Schaafsma

Rev. Jay Sanderford
Rev. Melissa Anne Rogers
Rev. Tommy Langejans
Rev. Hannah Lundberg
Faith in Action
Caryn Gehrke
Lay Readers
Anne Andrus
Carly Polikoff
David Hufford

Musicians
Chancel Choir
Joyful Ringers
KayCee Galano, violin
Organist

Organist
David Hufford
Minister of Music & Fine Arts
David VanderMeer

Ushers Keith Bilby Sheila Bilby Jim Cameron



Carol Carter Spaulding Clark Joe Schmidt

*Greeters* Sharon Dort Marilyn Gibson

*Welcome Center* Anne Kloack

Hillegonds Chapel Prayer Partners Beth Gerwig Carol Gottliebsen

# **FAITH FORMATION @ FIRST**

# 9:30 AM

# Children's Formation -

Children will move to their classrooms with their teachers after the Conversations with Young Disciples

4 Years Old - 5th Grade K-1st - Room 302 2-3rd - Room 305 4-5th - Room 304

# Youth Formation -

Middle School 6-8 Grade Youth Room

11:00 AM

## Adult Formation -

**EXPLORING THE FAITH** 

#### **Health and Mental Wellness**

Lewis Room

Speaker: Heidi Butz, LMSW, Clinical Social Worker

BIBLE AT 11 O'CLOCK

# New Testament Epistles: James; 1, 2, & 3 John

French Room & Zoom Host: Ed Koster

FIRST FRIENDS

# Simon Peter:

# Flawed but Faithful

Curtis Room & Zoom Host: Carol Pawloski

Childcare (5 & under) is available from 8:20 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in First Level Classrooms

For a full listing of offerings and upcoming events, please visit firstpresbyterian.org

# CARE & COMPASSION SERIES Diagnosing and Treating Chronic Pain

Monday, October 9 7:00 p.m. | Monteith Hall Speaker: Dr. Daniel J. Clauw

Join us on Monday, October 9, at 7:00 p.m., for our Care and Compassion Series on chronic pain. Dr. Dan Clauw, an esteemed expert in the field, will be our guide as he unravels the mysteries of pain that originates from the brain. He will share the latest insights into the underlying causes of chronic pain and the wide range of treatment options. The event will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

# CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

# Fall Bonfire

Saturday, October 15 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

It's time for the Fall Bonfire! Come one, Come all! Celebrate the season with us as you bring your family to White Oaks Farm (6641 S. Zeeb Road) for s'mores, cider, games and more! Join us on October 15, 4 – 6 p.m. There will be snacks. BYOB if you'd like to share some beer or wine with other adults. Dogs welcome! We'll have everything you need for the s'mores and some additional nibbles! (note: rain date is October 22, same time!) Sponsored by Congregational Life Committee. Questions? Info@firstpresbyterian.org

#### MATURE MINISTRIES

## **Lunch and Learn**

Tuesday, October 10 Noon

A hot lunch is \$12, Registration required by email to Rev. Rogers or call the Church Office.

Loren D. Estleman is an American writer of detective and Western fiction. He is an incredibly talented, celebrated, and honored writer. He is known for a series of crime novels featuring the investigator Amos Walker. Come join us on a Tuesday for the lunch and learn!

#### **MISSION**

# Habitat - West Willow Beautification Day

Saturday, October 14 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join First Pres and Habitat for Humanity along with West Willow (WW) residents in activities

to beautify the West Willow community. Activities will include cleaning out flower beds, working in the community garden, cleaning and organizing inside the WW Community Resource Center and Tool Lending Library, yard clean-up, landscaping, litter pick up, and helping residents dispose of items in dumpsters.

Register online at firstpresbyterian.org.

#### MUSIC & FINE ARTS

#### TODAY:

**Open Doors Creative Arts Series Rising Tide - The Crossroads Project** 

Sunday, October 8 4:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Presented by physicist Dr. Robert Davies and the Fry Street Quartet, Rising Tide is a performance piece that draws on music, painting, photography and scientific research in an attempt to entertain, enlighten and, ultimately, encourage people to live sustainably. With an original score by composer Laura Kaminsky, the music erects a contemplative space within each vignette for the audience to process what we now know. The event is free and open to the public. A reception follows in the Social Hall.

# **Hymn Festival**

Sunday, October 15 3:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Join us for the All the World From Generation to Generation Hymn Festival presented by First Presbyterian and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians on Sunday, October 15. Hymns and readings will be offered with a focus on All Saints' Sunday. This event is free and open to the public.



year, "When Hands Reach Out" reminds us to celebrate the variety of gifts and abilities we bring through which we serve the church and world.

OUR GOAL 993,000

Every gift matters as we reach out together to make God's love visible in our community and our world. Your generous pledge will help us to reach our goal.

firstpresbyterian.org/contribute

# First Presbyterian Church

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