

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 16, 2016

10:00 a.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Air from Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D Major" Bach
Catherine Huhn, Flute

Call to Worship

Stand firm in the word of the Lord.

Let us call on God, our help.

Continue in the truth of the gospel.

Let us pray and not lose heart.

* Hymn 54 "Make a Joyful Noise to God!"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God,

we confess that we have not turned away from sin.

You call us to study the Scriptures,

but we are easily distracted.

You ask us to be persistent in prayer,

but we are quickly discouraged.

Forgive us, God of grace.

Write your Word in our hearts,

so that we may truly know you and joyfully serve you;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 598

Amen, we praise your name, O God! Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, amen. Amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name, O God!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:27-34 (OT p. 735)

Psalter: Psalm 119:97-104 (OT, p. 568)

Time with Children

Anthem "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" Pote

Gospel Lesson: Luke 18:1-8 (NT p. 81)

Sermon: "Can't You Do Any Better Than This?" Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 688 "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Minute for Stewardship

Offering

Offertory "Arioso" Bach

Catherine Huhn, Flute

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 757 "Today We All Are Called To Be Disciples"

- * Charge and Benediction
- * Congregational Amen 601
- * Postlude

“Flourish”

Wagner

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Coordinator for Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Peter Moore
Ushers	Betty Keen, Mary Parry
Welcomers	Lee and Mick Wirth



We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.

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**Will not God
grant justice to
his chosen ones
who cry to him
day and night?**

Luke 18:7

Jeremiah 31:27-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say: "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalm 119:97-104

Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.

I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"