

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and humankind in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Allegretto”

Leonardo Vinci

Call to Worship

Psalm 1:1-3

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

***but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law they meditate day and night.***

They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper.

* Hymn 401

"Here in This Place"

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you call us to live abundant and generous lives.

Forgive us for the ways we have allowed our souls to be twisted out of shape.

We trust too much in our own abilities, leaving no room for your grace.

We push ahead of our neighbors, pursuing our needs before theirs.

We exclude those you love whom we deem insignificant.

We spend our affluence to separate, rather than build relationships.

We use our power to dominate, rather than to heal and empower.

Have mercy on us.

Set us free from our worst impulses,

that we might find our lives by following you.

We pray in the name of Jesus

who has given his life for us and for all.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

* Response 581

“Gloria Patri”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Proverbs 31:10-31 (OT, p. 613)

Psalter: Psalm 1

Response: Happy are they who delight, who delight in the law of God.

A Time with Children

Second Lesson: Mark 9:30-37 (NT, p. 45)

Sermon: "Who's on First"

Fall Series: How Shall We Reconstitute the Church?

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 761 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;**

**who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;**

**the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;**

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Minute for Peace and Global Witness

Offering

Offertory

"Allegretto e Leggiero"

Leonardo Vinci

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.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

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

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude

“Voluntary”

John Stanley

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of loved ones by Karen White.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Preacher	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children And Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Liturgist	Laura Moore
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Usher	Diana Pope-Albright, Erika Henderson

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Church Family Announcements

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship every Sunday in two ways!

- **Have you had your vaccines?** [Make a reservation with our office](#) (570-586-6306) and join us in person at 10:00 a.m.
- **Tune in online** for our weekly service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

The sanctuary is always open for prayer whenever the building is open.

The church office has returned to regular hours, open from 8:30 pm to 4:30 pm, with a lunch hour between 12 noon and 1:00 p.m. You can contact us by phone (570-586-6306) or email (office@fpccs.org).

We are looking for morning volunteers in the office, to answer phones, welcome visitors, and assist with light office tasks (typing, proofreading, etc.). The hours are from 9 a.m. to noon, and occasionally for a few hours in the afternoon. Volunteers can work weekly, monthly, or on call. Want to get out of the house and do something meaningful? We would love to have you on the team. Free coffee and occasional donuts provided. To sign up, [send an email to Nancy](#), phone us (570-586-6306), or drop by when we are open.

Christian Education Information

Confirmation Class will be offered this year for any student in grades 7-12 who is ready to dig deeper in their faith and learn what it means to belong to the church. Please contact the church office or Jana Schillinger to let us know if you'd like to participate. An informational meeting with parents and young people will be held this morning at 11 a.m. in room 206.



The W.A.Y. has begun! Education and Music for All God's People

The Christian Education committee is excited to offer **in person classes** for the WAY this fall. As we continue to find “normal” and with caution regarding continuing COVID concerns, we will hold a simplified, program through September. While we hope to return to our full WAY programming soon, for now we will meet at 6:15 each Wednesday. *We hope to see you there!*

Grace & Faith & Music (4 years old - Grade 5): Join us for a **combined music and CE** class! Children will hear stories from the Bible and learn about God's amazing love for them while also singing classic children's Bible songs. The children typically participate in worship once a month. Children will sing, play instruments, lead worship, and more. *Make a joyful noise to the Lord as you grow in grace and faith!* Meets in Room 108.

We Believe (Grades 6 and up): Our older students are exploring a unit called *Knowing God*, answering questions about who God is and who we are as Christians. We will explore: What do Christians believe in? Is it okay to have doubts about God? Who Can be Saved? Meets in Room 209.

Adults: Mark's Clueless Disciples: Does it ever feel like we are just stumbling around in our attempts to follow Jesus? If so, it might be consoling to know that that's how the disciples appear in the Gospel of Mark. They just don't get it! Mark's Gospel warns us that it isn't easy to follow Jesus. We will make mistakes. This gospel is meant to encourage us by showing us what being a disciple of Jesus really means. In this 5-week study we'll follow Peter's and the other 11 disciples' foibles and follies sequentially through Mark's 16 chapters, hoping to get to know them, ourselves, and Jesus all the better. And, Rev. Carter will be preaching on Mark, so Wednesday and Sunday will relate. Meets in Room 206.

Adult Choir - Wednesdays - 7:15-8:15: Our adult choir program has resumed. This fall as we work toward being together again, we will begin by singing easy hymns and work toward our tradition of choral music at First Presbyterian. Students in 9th Grade to adults 99+ are welcome. Don't have much of a music reading ability? Don't worry; our singers support one another in and out of the church.



Bell Choir – Wednesdays - 8:30-9:15, beginning on October 6:

The Bell Choir is always looking for new members to ring throughout the year. Students in 9th Grade to adults 99+ are welcome to join this ensemble. Some music reading ability is recommended as the bell choir performs some challenging music. The bell choir typically performs once a month in service but rehearses weekly.

Worship through Service is Next Sunday

by the Mission and Justice Committee

“Your mission, should you choose to accept it . . .”

Several projects have been identified as recipients for service on September 26. They are:

- Safety Net collection of Personal Care Items until Sunday September 26 for distribution at Safety Net. (List is below.) Contact: Dave Naehner
- Hymn Sing at pre-arranged senior living locations. Contact: Jan Thyren
- Tree removal and clean-up in our church parking lot. Contact: Jay Clymer
- Preparation of “thinking of you” packages for delivery. Contact: Jana Schillinger
- My Brother’s Keeper Quilting will make sleeping bags for homeless. Contact: Janet Dobson
- Collection of game prizes for residents at Clarks Summit State Hospital (see below). Contact: Janet Dobson
- The Hickory Street Community Meal program (*Saturday, September 25*) Preparing and serving a meal; bagging of food donations (see below). Contact: Alan Baker

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex for each of these projects, you can call the contact person to volunteer, or use the link in the Wednesday Light From the Hill to sign up. There are many ways to make a difference in our community. Please be generous with your time.

Items needed by Safety Net include:

diapers (all sizes)	baby powder	baby formula
toothbrushes, toothpaste	bar soap	shampoo, conditioner
men's and women's deodorant	men's and women's disposable razors	
shaving cream	facial tissue	toilet tissue
	dish soap	feminine hygiene products
		liquid laundry detergent

Prize suggestions for Clarks Summit State Hospital residents:

art supplies, make up, nail polish, coloring books, easy word-find tablets, puzzles, blank stationary card packets, small stuffed animals (no buttons please).

The Dollar Store is a great source for these purchases.

HICKORY STREET SHOPPING LIST

___ 1 box of Cereal	___ 1 box of Pasta
___ 1 can or plastic jar of Spaghetti Sauce	___ 1 bag of Candy
___ 1 box of Mac n Cheese	___ 1-2 cans of Vegetables
___ 1 can of Fruit	___ 1 can of Tuna
___ 1 4-pack of Jello Pudding cups	___ 1 box Pop Tarts
___ 1 plastic jar of Peanut Butter	___ 1 plastic jar/squeeze bottle of Jelly

“PEACE IS ACTIVE, not passive,

PEACE IS DOING, not waiting.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.”

