



**First Presbyterian Church**

Service for the Lord's Day  
20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

10:00 a.m.

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

## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Paeon”

Robert Lau

Call to Worship

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
This is the day the Lord has made.

***Let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

\* Hymn 363

“Rejoice, the Lord is King!”

*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

on the Letter to the Philippians

***God our Father,***

***we do not focus our lives on whatever is true, honorable, just,  
pure, or pleasing to you.***

***We worship our appetites and glorify what is shameful.***

***We have set our minds on earthly things,  
and deny the citizenship we hold in heaven.***

***Humble us like Christ, and conform us to Christ's glory,  
that we would know your power***

***that has raised him to rule over all things.***

***For it is in his name that we pray, Amen.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Musical Response: “Grace to You and Peace”

***Grace to you and peace, grace to you and peace  
from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.***

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Matthew 22:1-14 (NT, pg. 24)

Psalter: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 (Hymnal 60)

A Time with Children

Anthem

“Be Thou My Vision”

Paul Basler

*Children are now invited to Bible Time.*

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4(b)-14 (NT, pg. 198)

Sermon: “Who Do You Think You Are?”

Rev. Carter

*Sermon Series: Dwelling in Philippians*

## **RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* Hymn "Whatever Gains I've Had" (see insert)

\* Affirmation of Faith Philippians 2:5-11

***Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.  
Therefore, God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord  
to the glory of God. Amen!***

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.***

A Minute for Generosity

Offering

Offertory

"Arioso"

Robert Powell

\* Doxology 609

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

\* Prayer of Dedication

## **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\* Hymn 541 "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude

"Trumpet Tune in C"

Michael McCabe

*If you are leaving before the postlude is finished, please do so quietly.*

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\* All who are able shall stand.

**The flowers** have been given by the Bailey family in honor and loving memory of their mother, Sandra Evans Bailey.

## **PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Preacher	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Michael Thompson
Minute from the Generosity Team	Michael Thompson
Ushers	Chris Jeske and John Conklin

## **Church Family Announcements**

*Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.*

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

- **Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.**
- **Tune in online** for our service, which is broadcast live on [our video page on YouTube](#) and archived for later viewing on the same site.

**Large-print bulletins** can be found at the rear of the sanctuary.

**The Nursery is open** Sunday mornings from 9:40-11:10 a.m. for children ages 3 and younger in room 208. The nursery is staffed by Heather Lyons.

**Bible Time** is a new program for our children (age 4 to approx. grade 4) to hear Bible stories told in a fun and engaging way. Each Sunday following the anthem, children are invited to go (with adult leadership) for Bible Time (lasting about 20 minutes) and return for the Prayers and the end of service.

**Wednesday, October 18, Adult Education** begins at 6:00 p.m. in room 206. Rev. Carter will lead our Bible study on the book of Philippians.

**Joyful Noise! music group** is participating in the opening hymn today. Children and Youth picked instruments and rehearsed briefly this morning. No experience is necessary! If you couldn't make it today, keep an eye out for the November date. Questions? Call Connie Weiss 570-466-4520.

### **LIFT: Living In Faith Together**

### **October 22 after worship**

Join us after worship on Sunday, October 22 for a meal and intergenerational program. Families with children as well as congregants of all ages are invited. Our lunch will be a **potluck**, so we invite each family to bring a hot or cold dish to share. From entrées to side dishes to casseroles and beyond, help us to break bread together on **Sunday, October 22. Drinks and desserts will be provided.** (Additional details are available in the October *Presbyter*.)

**Arts at First Presbyterian Presents  
An Autumn Serenade  
with The Bill Mays Trio  
Sunday, October 15 at 4 p.m.**



The pianist Bill Mays brings bassist Dean Johnson and drummer Ron Vincent for an afternoon of jazz, featuring music from their latest CD. With a top-shelf career spanning sixty years Mays has performed with the likes of Frank Sinatra, Phil Woods, and Gerry Mulligan. A prolific composer, and heard on countless movie scores, Bill's trio will dazzle us with its artistry.

**Tell us your prayer concerns.** Prayer Request Cards are in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn.

**Please pray for:** Hall, Bob, Bonnie, Leslie, Sara, Susan, Flo, Jim, Lisa, Janet, Patty, Dean, Sharon, Naylor family, Sonny, Ralph, Linzy, Sue, Dillon, Tony, Lisa Bourcier family, Donna, Andy, Margaret, Aiden, Colleen M., Glynn family, LeAnne, Wayne, Dennis, Robert, Bill.

**The red attendance pads have returned to the pews!** Please sign your name and pass it to the next person across the pew. We are trying to do a better job keeping track of those who come to worship.

**Help Wanted: We are looking for a sexton** to begin work asap. A job description is posted on the church bulletin board. A letter of application and resume can be sent to the church office.

**Call for Grocery Donations: Hickory Street Meals**

We will take our next turn helping Hickory Street Presbyterian Church with their community meals program on Saturday, October 28th. We are seeking volunteers to prepare the entrée (ground beef stroganoff), a vegetable side (broccoli supreme), bake or purchase the desert (pumpkin pie), and help serve the meal that day. Sign-Up sheets and additional info can be found in the narthex. We are also collecting bags of groceries to give away that day and history tells us we will need at least 35 of these, each containing the following items:

1 box of breakfast cereal	1 can of tuna	1 bag of candy
1 four-pack of pudding or jello cups		2 cans of vegetables
1 can or plastic jar of spaghetti sauce		1 box of pasta
1 box of Mac n Cheese	1 can of fruit	1 box of Pop Tarts
1 plastic jar of peanut butter		1 plastic jar of jelly

You can shop for the complete shopping list (located in the narthex) or just selected items and bring them to the narthex. If you have questions or would like additional information, contact Alan Baker or email him at [abaker2@verizon.net](mailto:abaker2@verizon.net).

You are invited for a **Trunk or Treat** event on Sunday, October 29, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. It's a safe and fun event – and we look forward to welcoming many children from this community to our upper parking lot on School Street.

Here's how you can help:

- Donate some wrapped candy; drop it off at the church office.
- Join in the fun: decorate your car, dress up, and distribute the candy (please arrive by 1:30).



### **This Week at a Glance**

Sunday, October 15

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the Sanctuary and online
  - **Bible Time**
- **4 p.m.**, Concert: Bill Mays Trio, “An Autumn Serenade,” Sanctuary

Tuesday, October 17

- **10 a.m.**, Women’s Bible Study with Rev. Carter, Fellowship Hall
- **7 p.m.**, Building and Grounds, Room 206

Wednesday, October 18

- **10:30**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **6 p.m.**, Adult Education begins, room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir, Sanctuary
- **8 p.m.**, Adult Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 19

- **8:30**, Men’s Breakfast, Room 206
- **2 p.m.**, Senior Game Day, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45**, Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 22

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
  - **Bible Time** for young children following anthem
- **After Worship**, CE LIFT program, Fellowship Hall (See page 2 of announcements for description)

We are grateful for the many ways that people support our church’s ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, scan here.



## **Whatever Gains I've Had**

LEONI 6.6.8.4 ("The God of Abraham Praise")

Whatever gains I've had, whatever my success,  
Whatever I've accomplished when I've done my best —  
I count it all as loss compared to what was done  
When God redeemed my life by sending Christ the Son.

I've lived through many days;  
there's much that I have learned.  
I've planned and prospered, faced new challenge,  
worked and earned.  
Yet no affirming word, no merit or award,  
Can ever be as great as knowing Christ my Lord.

There's power in his death — in loving sacrifice.  
There's power in God's gift of everlasting life.  
Because I am God's own, I press on toward the goal:  
To know my Savior and in him to be made whole.

Biblical Reference: Philippians 3:4b-14

Tune: Traditional Hebrew melody

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