

# First Presbyterian Church

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

October 6, 2024

10:00 a.m.

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

## **ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

Gathering Hymn 318

Words of Welcome and a Minute for Peacemaking

Prelude "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" arr. Dale Wood

Call to Worship

The Lord's table is prepared and set before us.

***People will come from east and west, from north and south,  
and will eat in the kingdom of God.***

This is the day the Lord has made.

***Let us worship God!***

\* Hymn 15 "All Creatures of Our God and King"  
*Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.*

\* Call to Confession

\* Prayer of Confession

***O Lord our God,  
you call us to work for a world  
where all will be fed and have dignity,  
but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires.  
You call us to seek justice and peace,  
but we are satisfied with injustice and discord.  
You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed,  
but we do not insist on freedom for all.***

***Forgive us, O Lord.***

***Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit,  
so that all may know your justice and peace;  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.***

\* Silent Confession

\* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

\* Response (Hymn 439, v. 3)

***Far as east from west is distant, God has put away our sin.  
Like the pity of a father has the Lord's compassion been.***

## **PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12 (NT, p. 218)

Psalter: Psalm 26 (Hymnal 723)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Down to the River to Pray" arr. Curry

Gospel Lesson: Mark 9:42-50 (NT, p. 45)  
Sermon: "Stumble Bumbles"

Rev. Carter

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

\* Hymn 321 "The Church's One Foundation"

\* Affirmation of Faith: Declaration of Faith, PCUS 2.4

***God created human beings with a need for community  
and with freedom to enter into it  
by responding to their Maker with grateful obedience  
and to one another with love and helpfulness.***

***We believe that we have been created  
to relate to God and each other in freedom and responsibility.***

***We may misuse our freedom and deny our responsibility  
by trying to live without God and other people  
or against God and other people.***

***Yet we are still bound to them for our life and well-being,  
and intended for free and responsible fellowship with them.***

***Since every person is made for communion with God and others,  
we must treat no one with contempt.***

***We are to respect and love all other people and ourselves as well.***

A Minute for Generosity

Offering

Offertory "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love" arr. Wayne Kerr

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer (Hymnal, p. 35)

Communion of the People

*Please hold the bread until all are served, as a sign of our unity in Christ.*

*As a sign of individual commitment, you may drink the cup as you are served.*

Prayers of the People

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

\* Hymn 23 "God, You Spin the Whirling Planets"

\* Charge and Benediction

\* Postlude "The Church of Christ Cannot be Bound" arr. Mathew Corl

*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** are given to the glory of God in honor of the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) of the Reverend William G. Carter, by his wife, Jamie.

**The communion elements now include a gluten-free bread option.**

The crackers placed in the middle of each bread plate are gluten-free. Also, individually sealed, gluten-free “communion packs” can be found in a basket with the bulletins at the back of the sanctuary. If you have a sensitivity to gluten, please, take advantage of the gluten-free items.

**PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Meg Hatch
Ushers	Bill Farrell and Diana Pope-Albright
Communion Servers	Beverly Bright, captain,
Kim Barrows, JoAnn Hall, Patti McGonagle, David Naeher	

**A “note” from our organist:**

Tunes are often associated with more than one text. The tune for this morning's prelude, "Beach Spring", is often associated with the text "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service", written by Albert F. Bayly in 1961. Its concluding stanza is especially compelling as we celebrate Worship through Service today.

*Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go  
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;  
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know, and live.*

**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.**

- **Join us at 10:00 a.m. in person or on our YouTube channel,** (or stream the service on YouTube at a later time).
- Please use the **red attendance pads** to record your presence today.
- **Large-print bulletins** are located at the rear of the sanctuary.

**This morning for our children:**

- **The Nursery** is staffed regularly on Sunday mornings from 9:40 to 11:10 a.m. Located in room 208 (sanctuary level), it is furnished with a changing table, and age-appropriate toys and books for children ages 3 and younger.
- **Bible Time**, for children age 4 to approx. grade 4, will be hearing about  
\*how God provides\*    \*celebrating our gifts\*    \*Deborah\*    \*Elijah.\*

**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, Janet, Travis, Edward, Irena, Maureen, Bentley, Nate, Kay, Kelly, Judy, Renee and family, Clyde, Emily, Denise, Sawyer, June, Marion, Nancy J., Debbie S., Brenden, Sue, Rebecca, Anne, Brenda, Jerry, Denise, Dawn, Chris, JoAnne, Sue, Jeanette, Rob, the family of Franklin G., Dennis V., Ray, Theresa, Jeneane, Lucy, Marlene, Yaya and Fedeline.

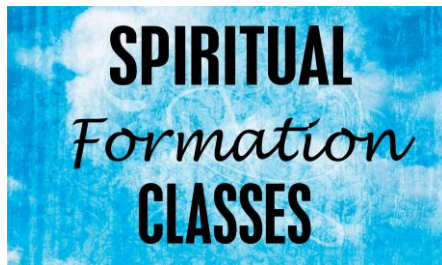
**Our deacons are sponsoring a Grief Support group** for the community. It will meet at the Gathering Place, 304 S. State Street, Clarks Summit on the third Thursday of each month, the next one being October 17 at 6 p.m. It is open to all.

**Looking Ahead:** Our next **Arts at First Presbyterian** event is scheduled on Sunday, October 27 at 4:00 pm. We welcome back *The Merchants of Groove*, a house-rocking blues band that filled the sanctuary the last time they played for us.

**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.



## Please join us on Wednesday evenings!



### Adult Education

Throughout the fall, our focus will be Discipleship.

On Wednesday, October 9, we are discussing Discipleship as Identity in Christ and will consider our identities as disciples of Christ in the community; loving others with whom we are joined through Christ's breaking down of barriers of hostility and division; and living out identity in an imperfect church. Adult Education meets in room 206 at 5:45 p.m.

Feel free to bring a sandwich or salad to enjoy while we meet. All are invited!

**The Adult Choir** rehearses at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The director's dream is for everyone to come a few minutes early to get music and take a seat. All are welcome. Invite your friends. Let's have some fun!



**Our Bell Choir** rehearses at 8 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in ringing, speak with Dick Cochrane.

*There just might be a bell for you!*

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## Next Sunday: LIFT

### Living In Faith Together

Join us in Fellowship Hall after worship for a meal and intergenerational program. Enjoy a Bible reading and discussion as we hear about the body of Christ and think about our role within it.



We invite each family to **bring a dish to share!** Whether main or side, hot or cold, family favorite or yummy new recipe, help us to break bread together. (Drinks and dessert provided.)



#### This Week at a Glance

Sunday, October 6

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **11:00 a.m.**, Prepare sandwiches for Community Intervention Center, Church Kitchen (Melba Fialko)
- **11:00 a.m.**, Sew Quilts for the Homeless, Fellowship Hall (Marie Cochrane)
- **11:15 a.m.**, Create Door Wreaths for Members in Assisted Living, Room 206 (Debbie Shane)
- **2:00 p.m.**, Hymn Sing at the Pines (Jan Thyren)
- **TBD, Serve Communion for Shut-ins** (Beverly Bright)

Tuesday, October 8

- **10 a.m.**, MBK Quilters, Fellowship Hall
- **7 p.m.**, Session, Room 206

Wednesday, October 9

- **10:30 a.m.**, Prayer and Share, Room 209
- **5:45 p.m.**, Adult Education, Room 206
- **7 p.m.**, Adult Choir, sanctuary
- **7:30 p.m.**, AlAnon, Room 206
- **8 p.m.**, Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 10

- **4-6 p.m.**, Mobile Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall
- **5:45 p.m.**, Girl Scouts, Room 108
- **7 p.m.**, AlAnon, Room 111

Saturday, October 12

- **9 a.m.**, Millennium Piano Competition, Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary

Sunday, October 13

- **10 a.m.**, Worship in the sanctuary and online
- **11:15 a.m.**, LIFT program and potluck

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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