

First Presbyterian Church

Organized May 25, 1822

*With Christ as our Savior and Guide
We seek to know God's love and share it
With each other, our community, and the world.
We invite you to join us in this journey
of discipleship.*

Rev. Dr. Gregory L. Glover, Pastor
Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
June 27, 2021

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE "Sonata No. 2: Lebhaft"
by Paul Hindemith

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE AND GREETING

Worship requires work on our part. It is not a passive activity. God calls us as a community to listen, praise, pray, and proclaim. During the Prelude--a musical expression of thanksgiving--prepare your mind and body for the work we are about to do together. As we pass the peace, open your heart to hear and understand both God and neighbor.

The LORD be with you.
And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

God initiates worship full of grace and truth, inviting us to come and find rest through faith in Jesus Christ. Our gathering to worship is an embodied way to signal that we are one people, not merely a collection of individuals. We bring with us our lives and our worlds, and we become more than what we are separately.

As we gather on this holy day,
we pray for the posture of servants of God:
for openness, so we may be surprised by God's grace;
for humility, so we may be changed by Christ's compassion;
for discernment, so we may hear Christ calling us;
for courage, so we may take the steps to answer.

Let us worship the Living God,
the One who is our reason for praise.

Let us worship God together!

*HYMN #415 "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Worship both draws us to God and reveals where we are distant from him. Throughout Scripture, when people see or experience God, they are faced with the reality of their own brokenness and shame. Likewise, we confess our sin, as a community and individually.

You shower us with blessings, with chances to know your grace.

Still, O Lord, we twist your promises and pray for blessings we can own.

You call us to leave our selfish ways and follow your call to compassion.

Still, O Lord, we choose shallow belief over transformative faith.

You have told us that your love is enough, that the waters of mercy will not run dry.

Still, O Lord, we choose fear instead of trust, hiding behind the illusion that we can survive on our own.

Forgive us, Holy One, and by your forgiveness, offer us a chance to try again.

Now hear our silent, personal prayers of confession.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

True confession and repentance is always met with the surety of God's grace. Our pastors and leaders in worship remind us of this good news as it is proclaimed in Scripture.

*GLORIA PATRI, Hymn #581

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Because the Word of God is one of the chief means through which God has chosen to speak to us, it is a principle and direct way we "hear from God" in worship. The public reading of Scripture, then, is a sacred act that deserves our full attention and focus. Especially in

our age, we must discipline ourselves to listen to readings for longer periods of time, for God's Word is food for the soul.

Holy, Holy, Holy One,
guide us by the Spirit of truth
to hear the Word of life you speak,
and to give all glory, honor, and praise
to your threefold name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Amos 4:1-8 (p.745)

SPECIAL MUSIC "Thank You, Lord..."
by Stephen Key/performed by "One & Done Choir"

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Amos 4:9-13 (p.746)

RESPONSE

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON "You Did Not Return"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*HYMN #787 "God Weeps with Us Who Weep and Mourn"

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Confession of 1967, 9.32-33*
We confess together the convictional truths of orthodoxy by reciting the ancient creeds of our faith. We share these words with saints throughout the centuries as well as those throughout the world today. This also serves as a bold proclamation to the watching world of what we believe is true.

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the

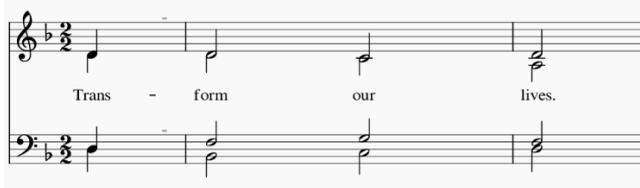
church's own complicity in injustice.
In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life in society and of God's victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to join us in the litany. Each section of the prayer will be prayed by the pastor and concluded with a sung response:

[Pastor Prays] "...By your Spirit, O God,"
[Congregation Responds] "transform our lives."

We pray for the church . . .
 By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**
 We pray for the world . . .
 By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**
 We pray for this community . . .
 By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**
 We pray for loved ones . . .
 By your Spirit, O God, **transform our lives.**



THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "Contrasts for Manuals: Reverie"
 by Martin How

*DOXOLOGY, HYMN #606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #300 "We Are One in the Spirit"

*CHARGE & BENEDECTION

*POSTLUDE "Six Pieces: Sortie"
 by J. Stuart Archer

WORSHIP NOTES

C. David Elliott is today's in-person service liturgist.
Dianne York is leading today's Children's Moment.
Hannah Cruse is Director of Music and Accompanist.
Will Arrington, Morgan Adames, & Kaitlyn Hardin are today's Audio-Visual Specialists.

***Please stand if you are able.**

****As we begin to reopen following the pandemic, the Covid task force requests that masks continue to be worn by those who have not been fully vaccinated.**

Please join us in saying Thank You and congratulations to Bill Ryan. Bill has served as security guard at First Presbyterian Church for close to 10 years. He has faithfully been the first to arrive on Sunday mornings and is usually the last to leave. Bill has been on site for Spiritfest, our sunrise services and countless other special occasions. Please take the time to shake his hand and wish him well. Congratulations Bill! It's time to relax and enjoy your time with family!

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, June 27
 9am **Friendship & Brotherhood SS Class**
 9am **One & Done Choir Practice**
 10am **Morning Worship (Nursery Provided)**
 10am **Children's Church/Middle School Meet Up Grades K-8**
 2-4pm **Shower of Love**
Monday, June 28
 12pm **Staff Meeting**
Tuesday, June 29
 5pm **Yoga in Fellowship Hall**
Wednesday, June 30
 10am **Bible Study with Pastor**
 7pm **Biblical History**
Thursday, July 1
 8:30am **Yoga in Fellowship Hall**

MEMBER/VISITOR INFORMATION CARD

Please complete and place in offering plate
 10:00am Service

Name: _____

Member 1st Time Visitor(s) Visitor(s)

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

I am interested in membership, baptism, or a meeting with the pastor (please circle which one(s) is (are) of interest).

Other: _____

Prayer Requests: _____

LOOKING AHEAD:

- July 11** VBS Volunteer Training
- July 12-15** Learning Center Summer Day Camps
- July 18** VBS Decorating Day
- July 19-22** Learning Center Summer Day Camps
- July 22** Chapel Cinema "The Advocate"
- July 23-24** LaGonave Conference
- July 25** VBS Kick off Picnic
- July 25** Shower of Love
- July 26-29** VBS
- July 30** Youth Community Night Event

For more information about upcoming events and happenings at FPC click on the QR code below using the camera on your cell phone. It will take you to this week's newsletter.

