



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Twenty-fifth Sunday
After Pentecost*

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison, pastor
Bob Bates, liturgist
November 19, 2023

Prelude

David Pérez, organist

Welcome and Announcements

Friendship Pads: Please help us maintain good communication with all our members and guests by completing the Friendship Register as it is passed from the end of each pew. Please include your email address if you wish. We invite you to note the names of those sitting near you and greet them before leaving today.

Cards of Encouragement: Blue cards found in the pew rack ~ please put in offering plate.

Choral Introit

In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Chancel Choir
Angela Pérez, director
David Pérez, piano

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to God,

All: For God's creation is amazing.

One: The sun warms our day,

All: The moon lights our nighttime way.

One: The earth is filled with bounty,

All: A cornucopia of plenty.

One: Give thanks to God,

All: For God's love is everlasting;

One: A constant source of comfort,

All: A companion in hard times.

One: God is my strength and song,

All: So my heart is filled with praise.

* Hymn of Praise

Let All Things Now Living
ASH GROVE

Glory to God #37

* Call To Confession

Bob Bates, liturgist

One: We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident of God's love for us, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Bob Bates, liturgist

Wondrous and generous God, you have blessed us with gentle rains, glorious sunsets, and sun-warmed days. You bless us with loving families, kind friends, and a caring church. Let us receive these gifts with thankfulness and humility. We cannot earn nor do we deserve such generosity, but we graciously open our hearts and hands to receive.

Forgive us when we are hardhearted and tight-handed, when we don't let your goodness flow through us, when we hide our talents and turn away from the needs of the world. Release us, Holy One, from fear, and create a contagious spirit of giving that touches the world with hope.

* Silent Prayers of Confession

* Pouring the Water

* Declaration of Forgiveness

Bob Bates, liturgist

One: Know By the mercies of God, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven. You are beloved, redeemed brothers and sisters of Christ. Thanks be to God! Amen.

* **Passing the Peace** Bob Bates, liturgist
One: Knowing the grace and mercy of the Lord, we share it with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation.)

* **Hymn** from The Presbyterian Hymnal
Glory Be to the Father
GLORIA PATRI
*Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

Children's Moment Linda Burton

Prayer of Illumination Bob Bates, liturgist
How easy it is to hear words we have heard before and drift away, thinking our own old thoughts over and over again. Wake us up, O God, as we listen to your word being read that we might hear what we haven't heard before, and take delight in being awake to life anew in Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hebrew Bible Reading Isaiah 65:17-25 Bob Bates, liturgist

Special Music *In Ages Past and Ages Yet to Come* Westminster ringers
JASON W. KRUG Carol Fleeger, director

Epistle Reading Colossians 3:12-17

Sermon *"Setting the Thanksgiving Table"* Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

Hymn *Give Thanks* **Glory to God #647**
GIVE THANKS

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer (as translated by the Maori people)

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.**

Call To Offering

Offering Response / Choral Anthem *I Will Give Thanks* Chancel Choir
CRAIG COURTNEY Angela Pérez, director
David Pérez, piano

* **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* **Glory to God #606**
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heav'nly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

* **Affirmation of Faith**

We believe in God the Creator, who, like a painter with a canvas, imagined creation and breathed it into being.

We believe in Jesus, who many years later, walked this hurting world and showed us a new way to love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who prods us and pulls us, leads us and guides us, carries us and loves us into new life, day after day.

And we believe in the power of imagination, a gift from God that allows us to dream dreams, create anew, start over, try again, and live lives of hope.

So in response, together, as God's church, We dare to dream. We strive to love. We try to imagine a new day. And we walk together, All with God's help. Amen.

* **Closing Hymn** *Now Thank We All Our God* **Glory to God #643**
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

David Pérez, organist

* Stand as you are able – in spirit or in body

Welcome!

Welcome to everyone, whether you are joining us virtually or in-person, as a long-time member or a first-time guest, we are happy to have you with us. **Please be sure to sign the Friendship Pad if you are worshipping with us in person.** If you join us on-line, live, or recorded - **please send us an email letting us know you joined us in worship.**

Please note: Sanctuary doors open at 10:15 am

The music and sound / video people are testing and rehearsing in the Sanctuary from about 9:45 am to 10:15 am. Please help us be ready for worship with you by planning to remain in the Narthex or Library until the doors are opened at 10:15 am. Thank you so much!

Planning a Service of Witness to the Resurrection Booklets are available in the Church Office. This is a tool to use by families facing the impending death of a loved one, or for your own planning. It includes suggestions for music, scripture, prayers, and an explanation about why and how we honor our loved ones and ourselves at the time of death.

Support Humanitarian Assistance in Israel/Palestine - Through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is providing assistance to those most vulnerable and supporting partners in Palestine and Israel who are responding to the needs of neighbors and strangers in their midst, no matter their religious beliefs, political views or nationality. We are called to care for all of God's children, especially those in war-torn communities, by responding to the urgent needs of those directly affected by the current conflict.

Gifts can be made online, by calling (800) 872-3283, by texting PDAIP to 41444, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with "DR000081-Israel/Palestine" on the memo line. Mail to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.),
P.O. Box 643700 Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **David Fitzcharles** is home with hospice care. Prayers for him and his wife, Alice and their family
- **Loren Dolezal** is home exploring next steps following his hospitalization and diagnosis.
- **Frances Lintecum** is now at Presbyterian Manor
- **Kerstin Roberts** had her knee replacement surgery rescheduled for December 13. Peace in her waiting.
- **Jan Roth** is recovering from surgery on a broken arm. Prayers for healing and strength.
- **Linda Watts** had knee surgery and is home and doing rehab.
- **Remember our Friends joining us on-line** so that they feel included.
- **Shannon Ruiz**, great-niece of Eva Alley, is struggling with health issues that cost her both feet. Prayers for spiritual strength are most appreciated.
- **George Crump** is asking for prayers in support of his health and well-being.
- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.

Flowers on the Chancel today are in celebration Karen and Henry Johns 49th wedding anniversary on November 17th! We also have flowers celebrating the wedding anniversary of Erinn and Greg Barcomb Peterson who are celebrating today Congratulations!

Care

Deacon Family Groups - 2023

A-Bra	Grace Nganga	Mc-Mz	Nancy Rumsey
Bro-C	Janet Adams	N-Q	Sandy Groene
D-E	Diana Schoneweis	R-Sc	Linda Longino
F-Go	Jeanine Tiemann	Se-So	Russ Heikes
Gr-Hi	Larry Schlosser	St-T	Allen MacFarlane
Ho-K	Charles Tuttle	U-Z	Peggy Southard
L-Ma	Linda Upstill		

Birthdays in the Congregation

November 20 Jenni Koger	November 22 Mburu Nganga
November 21 Nora Wallace Claire Harding Callie Livingood	November 24 Don Nease
November 22 Mburu Nganga	November 25 Hayley Lindemyer

Sunday Helpers

Ushers and Greeters: Myron Shipley, Eva Alley, Larry Schlosser, Larry Maxey

Securing the Offering: Jeff Southard and Jim Rumsey

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Mugger: Margie Dyck

Calendar

November 19

9:00 am	Sunday Nursery Open
9:15 am	Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 am	Worship
11:30 am	EcoTeam Meeting
3:00 pm	Men's Cornhole and Dinner

November 20

1:15 pm	Staff Meeting
2:00 pm	Pastor Helen's Class
6:00 pm	Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

November 21

2:00 pm	Parkinson's Support Group
6:00 pm	Deacon Meeting

November 22

7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 59
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November 23

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

November 24

Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving

November 26

9:00 am	Sunday Nursery Open
9:15 am	Sunday School for All Ages
10:30 am	Worship
5:30 pm	Youth Dinner at Pastor Helen's

