



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Helen Hutchison, Pastor
Jim Rumsey, liturgist

May 12, 2024

David Pérez, organist

Prelude

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.

Introit

For the Life That You Have Given
PLEADING SAVIOR

Chancel Choir
Angela Pérez, director
David Pérez, organ

Call to Worship

One: Holy ground! We are standing on holy ground.

All: For where God is, the ground is holy.

One: Holy hands! God works through our hands,

All: So they are holy.

One: Holy words! God speaks through our words,

All: So they become holy.

One: Holy thoughts! God moves others through our ideas and dreams,

All: So they are holy.

One: Holy songs! God prays in our songs,

All: So they are holy. Therefore let us joyfully sing.

* Hymn of Praise

Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth
NORWICH

Glory to God #7

* Call To Confession

Jim Rumsey, liturgist

One: Beloved, we are God's children because of the love God has for us, yet we sometimes fail to respond to God's outpouring of love. Let us confess our sins together.

* Prayer of Confession (unison)

Jim Rumsey, liturgist

"Our times are in your hands." We say the words, we sing the words, but we don't hear the words. If we truly embraced them, O God, we would be forced to face the disparity between our actions and the words. Too often we meander aimlessly to do "good works" in your name irrespective of your wishes, your desires and your kingdom plans. Forgive us, O God, for our misplaced ardor. Draw us back to the secret place beneath the shadow of your wings, where you reveal your truth before those who become still and call upon your holy name. Amen.

* Silent Prayers of Confession

* Pouring the Water

* Declaration of Forgiveness

Jim Rumsey, liturgist

One: Love knows no bounds. Hope knows no bounds. Peace knows no bounds. Faith knows no bounds. There is no place you can go where God is not there. There is nothing you can do that can separate you from God's love. Go, bring hope and peace. Live into faith. Be love. Amen.

* Passing the Peace

Jim Rumsey, 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** *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** bobbie frances mcdonald
- Prayer of Illumination** Jim Rumsey, liturgist
Interrupt us, O God, with your presence. Intrude upon our preoccupation, our restlessness, our discontent, and our boredom that we might center our hearts and minds on your Word as it is read and proclaimed. Amen.
- Epistle Reading** James 2:1-10, 14-17 Jim Rumsey, liturgist
- Special Music** Taylor Zickefoose, soloist
David Pérez, piano
- Gospel Reading** Mark 7:24-30
- Sermon** "Seeking Holy" Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison
- Hymn** *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry* **Glory to God #488**
WATERLIFE
- 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** *Inscription of Hope* Chancel Choir
Z. RANDALL STROOPE 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**

Easter turns doubts upside down, sets loose new possibilities, reveals a God stronger than death, a love mightier than despair.

Easter brings us the risen Christ, who knows our wounds, forgives our denials, sends us out to love and serve; who is not bound by a period in history but finds us wherever we journey; who receives our questions, whispers a word of peace and causes our hearts to be warmed.

Easter releases the Holy Spirit, setting us free from sins that wound, resentments that smolder, anger that burns; empowering us to be witnesses to truth and obedient to a higher authority; causing us to walk with joy in our steps, hope in our hearts and a song on our lips.

* **Hymn**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
ST. ANNE

Glory to God #687

* **Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

David Pérez, organist

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

Welcome!

We encourage everyone to come as you are, be who you are, and be in community with us! 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 anytime! If you are new to First Presbyterian Church, please let us know you are here by signing the **Friendship Pad**. If you are worshipping with us online either live or recorded please **email us at firstpreslawrence@gmail.com** letting us know you joined us in worship. We look forward to getting to know you.

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Jean Givens** is home following hospitalization for life threatening high fever and infection. She is receiving daily treatment and care. Her daughter is with her now.
- **Loren Dolezal** is now at Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital in Topeka. Address is: 1504 SE 8th Ave. Topeka, KS 66606. The plan is moving forward! Prayers for strength and patience.
- **Kathryn Roblee** will have knee replacement surgery on Monday, May 13.
- **Parents of Nora Wallace**. Her father is hospitalized and her mother and sister are trying to care for him as well as cope with their own health issues.
- **Tom Groene** is now living at Bridgehaven.
- **Steve Rauch, father of Holly Oertel**, is home and recovering from a heart attack while the family was in Tulsa, OK. We are grateful!
- **We celebrate with Djifa Gavi and Joel** that their husband and father, **Kassenge Soklou** has been cleared to travel to the United States. Update: Kassenge is scheduled to arrive in mid-May! Prayers for safe travel.

- **Tonja and Adam Rounds** ask for our prayers as Tonja recovers from brain surgery.
- **Allison Clunn-McPlin and family**, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- **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.

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Martha Rose, Vic & Dianne Sisk, & Cherie Elo

Greeters: Dorothy Devlin

Securing the Offering: We need volunteers please!

Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson

Mugger: Linda Longino

Flowers today are in memory of Beverly S. McDonald and Brian J. Kelly, provided by bobbie frances mcdonald.

Care

Deacon Family Groups - 2024

A-Ca	Charles Tuttle	N-Q	Peggy Southard
Ce-Do	Janet Adams	Mc-Mz	Becky May
Dr-F	Diana Schoneweis	R-Si	Linda Longino
G-Ha	Larry Schlosser	Sl-T	Russ Heikes
He-Ko	Mary Warren	U-Z	Allen Macfarlane
Kr-Ma	Lois Dutcher		

Birthdays in the Congregation

May 13

Kaprelle Bradley

May 14

Leah Pringle
Shane Hofer
Zachary Clancy

May 18

Paxton Christenson

May 19

Rich Givens
Henry Johns
Bob Longino
Tricia Judd

Calendar

May 12

9:00 am Sunday Nursery Open
9:15 am Children and Youth Sunday School
9:15 am Coffee House with Presby Pickers
10:30 am Worship

May 13

1:15 pm Staff Meeting
2:00 pm Lemon Tree Class with Helen
6:00 pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal
7:00 pm First 5 Years Board Meeting

May 14

10:00 am Meeting with First 5 Years Teachers
12:00 pm Farewell Luncheon for Jennifer Jones
6:00 pm Kaw Valley Fiber Guild Meeting
6:30 pm Session Meeting

May 15

1:30 pm PW Martha Circle

5:00 pm Personnel Committee Meeting
6:15 pm Daisy Troop Meeting
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

May 17

10:00 am Men's Group

May 18

8:30 am Boy Scout Den Leader Training
6:00 pm Music Members End of Year Party

May 19

9:00 am Sunday Nursery Open
9:15 am Children and Youth Sunday School
9:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Lunch for 7or 8
12:30 pm Evan Flynn Violin Studio Recital
1:30 pm Boy Scout Den Leader Training
5:30 pm Youth End of Year Party

Children and Youth

- **We are excited to welcome all children** to our Sunday School classes and all events. On Sunday mornings all the children will meet first in the Chapel for music and stories. Then they move to their classrooms for lessons and more. Check at the Welcome Center or come to the Chapel for more information. All children are welcome to join anytime!

Adult Sunday School Classes

- **Today we present the Presby Pickers!** Make your way to the Chapel around 9:30 am and listen to some music by a group of FPC family and friends sharing their musical talent. It is a new kind of fellowship time!

Adult Offerings during the week

- **Pastor Helen's Class meets on Mondays at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room**
She is using the book, "**Lemon Tree**" by Sandy Tolan. This story provides a good foundation of the centuries long conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians and shows how understanding can bring hope and transformation in the Middle East. This week read Chapters 5,6,and 7 for class.
- **The Men's Group** meets on Friday morning at 10:00 am in the Fireside Room for a time of fellowship (pun intended). Come join the discussion which can cover almost anything! Contact Charles Tuttle for more information at cftuttle@gmail.com.

The Clerks Minute - May 2024 The Session held a special retreat to review and discuss a number of items important to the life of FPC. Members were asked to list the things we do well at FPC and the things we might improve on. As you can imagine a lot of topics came up, from small things to very complex challenges. Much of the discussion came from a continued review of the Vision 2020 committee report that was put together following the Holy Cow Survey that you may recall from before COVID.

Solar Power was revisited due to additional information being presented following the recognition of FPC as a historic structure, because of it's unique architecture. The location of solar panels on campus will be affected by the historic designation. Once the information is ready, a congregation meeting will be called to consider the project.

The Session also approved a new job description for the pre-school director position. Session also reflected on the years of dedication given by Jennifer Jones to the pre-school in her time as director.

Pastor Helen reported that attendance at FPC has been up during the weeks of the Easter Season as is the viewership on YouTube. It is a blessing to have so many sharing in worship at FPC.

I hope this is informative and helpful for you all.

Peace, Henry Johns - Clerk of Session