

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison, pastor
Eric Fischer, liturgist

September 29, 2024

Andrew Morris, 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 let us know the best way to communicate with you. Be sure to greet folks new to you at the end of worship!

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

Introit

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

Chancel Choir
Adrian Hartsough, director

* **Call to Worship**

One: Come, you scattered and torn;

All: Here, find hope.

One: Come, you scared and lonely;

All: Here, find love.

One: Come, you tired and tense;

All: Here, find rest.

One: Come, you confused and searching;

All: Here, find guidance.

One: Come, happy or sad;

All: Here, find the song. Here, let your lives be embraced by God's grace.

* **Hymn of Praise**

O God of Every Nation
LLANGLOFFAN

Glory to God #756

* **Call To Confession**

Eric Fischer, 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)

Eric Fischer, liturgist

O God, today we confess our pride. We confess our desire to choose who should know you and who should not. We confess the ways we have looked down upon those who do not worship just as we do. We confess our inclination to exclude some from being a part of our community. Father, forgive us. We have not loved as you love -- extending love and grace to all. Give us hearts that desire for all mankind to know you. Give us boldness and humility as we share your love with all we meet. For your glory and in your name we pray.

* **Silent Prayers of Confession**

* **Pouring the Water**

* **Words of Forgiveness**

Eric Fischer, liturgist

God says, "There is nothing you can do to make me stop loving you." When the truth of these words breaks through, we are transformed. God loves and forgives you. God says, "You are accepted and loved as you are. You don't have to carry around the burdens of the past." Forgiveness is yours. We are a new creation through the powerful presence of God's constant love. Amen

* **Passing the Peace**

Eric Fischer, 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 Linda Burton

Prayer of Illumination Eric Fischer, liturgist
Holy One, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking, in our believing, and in our living. Amen.

Hebrew Bible Reading Esther 4:9-14 Eric Fischer, liturgist

Anthem *O How Amiable* Chancel Choir
RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Dr. Adrian Hartsough, director

Gospel Reading Mark 9:38-50

Sermon *"In Surgery with Dr. Jesus"* Pastor Helen

Hymn *Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love* **Glory to God #203**
CHEREPONI

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.**

Offering Andrew Morris, organist

* **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 are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God who has created and is creating; who

has come to us in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new; who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God's presence; to live with respect in creation; to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil; to proclaim Jesus' message of hope, inclusion and grace. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

* Hymn

To God Be the Glory
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Glory to God #634

* Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Andrew Morris, 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; 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. If you are interested in membership please talk to Pastor Helen.

Prayer List

Cares, Concerns and Celebrations

- **Congratulations to Tanja and Adam Rounds** who renewed their wedding vows this past week in our chapel with Pastor Helen.
- **Tim Dutcher, son of Lois and David Dutcher**, has found a kidney donor and we celebrate! The surgery will be November 15th at Methodist Hospital in Rochester, MN
- **Kelly Grube** is continuing with chemotherapy following her trip to the Mayo Clinic this week. More information will be forthcoming.
- **Nancy Brink**, a friend of Lois and Dave Dutcher, asks for prayers as she copes with brain and lung cancer diagnosis.
- **Tanja Rounds** has another tumor and is looking at treatment options. Prayers appreciated.
- **George Crump** is asking for prayers in support of his health and well-being.
- **Nora Wallace** asks for prayers for her parents and sister who are dealing with the effects of long covid.
- **Allison Clunn-McPlin and family**, friends of Dave and Lois Dutcher. Allison was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ALS.
- **Jane Golden**, a teacher in First 5 Years, is being treated for cancer.
- **Linda Wilson, Carol Fleeger's sister-in-law**, is coping with a complicated cancer diagnosis and surgery next week.

- **Kristi McAlister**, FPC member and daughter of Pat McAlister, who is facing some serious health challenges.
- **Prayer for our pastor and church leaders**, prayers for those leading our community, our state and our nation.
- **Prayers for those** quietly and privately in need. Those facing surgery or treatments, waiting for more information, living with addiction or mental health issues, and for the caregivers supporting them.

Sunday Helpers

Ushers: Myron Shipley, Mark Shifless, Larry Maxey
Greeters: Linda Watts, Mark and Diana Schoneweis
Securing the Offering: Jeff Southard, Melinda Fischer
Friendship Pad Collector: Petra Peterson
Bag Brigade Volunteer: Julie Simon

Birthdays in the Congregation

September 30	October 5
Erin Tuttle	Web Golden
October 2	October 6
Pat Bates	Tanja Rounds
Alisa Stucky	

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		

Calendar

September 29	
9:15 am	Children and Youth Sunday School
9:15 am	Kerygma Class
9:45 am	Presby Pickers Rehearsal
10:30 am	Worship
2:00 pm	Boy Scout Leadership Training
6:00 pm	FPC at the Lake

September 30

- 9:00 am First 5 Years Classes
- 1:15 pm Staff Meeting
- 2:00 pm Pastor Helen's Class
- 6:00 pm Cub Scout Den – Schwaller
- 6:00 pm Westminster Ringers Rehearsal

October 1

- 9:00 am First 5 Years Classes
- 1:00 pm Small World Classes
- 4:00 pm Adult Ministry Meeting

October 2

- 9:00 am First 5 Years Classes
- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 59 Meeting
- 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

October 3

- 9:00 am First 5 Years Classes
- 1:00 pm Small World Classes

October 4

- 9:00 am First 5 Years Classes
- 10:00 am Men's Group

October 5

- 8:30 am Boy Scout Leadership Training

October 6

- 9:15 am Children and Youth Sunday School
- 9:15 am Kerygma Class
- 10:30 am Worship
- 11:30 am Justice Matters Listening Meeting
- 5:00 pm Youth Group Art and Mission

Children and Youth

• Sunday School Classes for Children and Youth

- Pre-K and Kindergarten – Room 9 – Joan Golden and Nancy Hodges
- 1st and 2nd Grades – Room 12 – Anne Emert and Nikki Barcomb
- 3rd – 5th Grades – Room 14 - Chris Heider and Linda Longino
- 6th – 12th Grades – Room 11 – Jana and Charles Tuttle – “Everything you do matters”

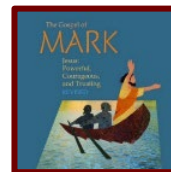
Youth Activities

Friends, we have some wonderful plans for 6-12 grades. Please add to your calendars and invite your friends to join us.

- **September**
 - FUN on the 29th with Church at the Lake 6-8 – Join us this Sunday!
- **October**
 - MISSION AND ART on October 6th with Diana Schoneweis from 5-6:30
 - Trunk or Treat HALLOWEEN FUN on October 27th – Sign up in the Narthex to host a trunk or provide candy!
- **November**
 - MISSION on Saturday November 2nd we will serve lunch at LINKS
 - MISSION: the youth will be shopping to provide Christmas gifts for families in need on November 17th. More information coming soon.

Adult Sunday School Classes

- **Beginning Sunday, September 29th, the Adult Sunday School class will be studying the Gospel of Mark** for 8 weeks. Pastor Helen's messages are using the book of Mark. The Kerygma study of Mark will be the text. The class will be facilitated by Rod Nitz. Thanks to Rod for being willing to lead the study. Purchase of the study guide is not required, although it does enhance the study. If you wish to purchase a guide, please email or call Rod Nitz, or Linda Bridges. Cost is \$27.00.



- **In case you were unable to attend Charles Olcese's presentation** last Sunday you may watch it on our YouTube channel thanks to Charles Tuttle. You can access it here. [Immigration and Refugees](#)
- **Adult Offerings during the week**
 - **The Men's Group** meets on Friday morning at 10:00 am in the Library. Contact Charles Tuttle for more information at cftuttle@gmail.com.
 - **Pastor Helen's Monday Class** - For September 30th we will watch the video about the First Murder, Cain and Able. The class meets at 2:00 pm in the Fireside Room.