



SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 am August 2, 2020

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2

Our Mission Statement

Called to love God and one another, First Presbyterian Church responds to God's grace by following Christ with ministries of hospitality, worship, faith development, service and generosity.

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

We're glad you're here with us today. We fondly refer to this community of Christ-followers as "First Pres," and you being here is one of God's blessings for our fellowship. If you wonder what we're up to at First Pres, it's actually pretty simple. In fact, we use a short phrase to remind ourselves of our shared purpose: "Above all, love." Drawn from a New Testament text (1 Peter 4:8-11), those brief words challenge us to focus everything we do on loving God and loving every single person we encounter. So every day we're learning how to do just that, as God's Spirit keeps working in our lives.

By the way, we can't take credit for this idea. It goes as far back as Jesus. He was once asked to sum up what it looks like to really be alive; what we should aim for in our lives if we want to live as fully as we can. His answer? Love God with every fiber of your being, and love the people around you.

Prelude

Walk Together Children
arr. Moses Hogan

Welcome

Prayer of Invocation

Thanks and praise to you,
Jesus Christ, King and Lord of all,
given the name above every other name.
King of righteousness, King of peace,
enthroned at the right hand
of majesty on high,
Great high priest,
living forever to intercede for us;
Pioneer of our salvation,
you bring us to glory
through your death and resurrection;
Every knee bows to you;
every tongue confesses,
you are King of kings
and Lord of lords,
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Hymn #624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art
Toulon

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
for the times we fail to offer hospitality
to those in our world who suffer injustice, oppression, and poverty, we pray:
God, have mercy.
For the times we lack courage to address the causes
of injustice, oppression and poverty, we pray to you O God.
For the times we give in to despair and resignation
when confronted with the injustice of our world,
God, have mercy on us and on your church.
Merciful God, receive our petitions.
Heal the brokenness in our hearts and in our world.
Open our hearts to hear the cries of your suffering people.
Support us as we seek to respond. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Response

Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost;
born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate;
was crucified, dead and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Ministry Updates

Celebration of Ministry

Special Music

The Prayer
Carol Bayer Sager and David Foster

Offertory

Charlestown
arr. Lani Smith

Scripture Reading

Luke 7:11-17

Sermon

“Sacred Running”

Dr. Greg Stovell

Hymn #826

Lift High the Cross
Crucifer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Hymn #749

Come! Live in the Light!
We Are Called

Blessing

Response

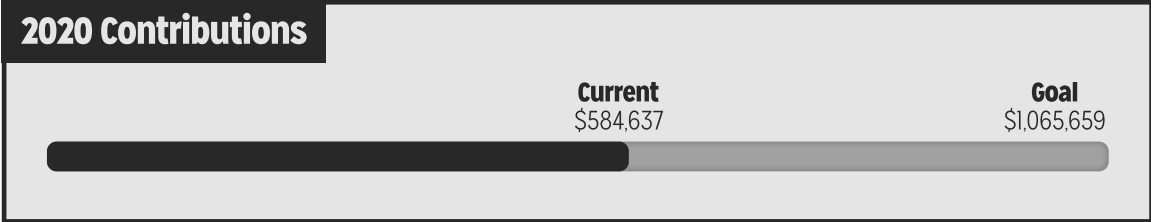
Seven Fold Amen

Postlude

A Sending Forth
Eugene Englert

Leading us in worship today are Dr. Greg Stovell, Senior Pastor; Caroline Cupp, Executive Pastor; Jonathan Kreamer, substitute organist; Lyndsay Varsaci, soprano; Michael Spaziani, baritone

Love Offering - In recognition of Greg's years of service and ministry at First Pres, Session has approved a Love Offering to be received. The meaning of a "Love Offering" is an offering that is given from the heart to someone that has ministered to that very heart. This love offering is open to all church members and others who wish to participate. If you would like to contribute, please send your gift made payable to First Presbyterian Church and write "Love Offering - Greg" in the memo line. You can also give online. (Note: Such contributions are not tax-deductible under current law.)



The above shows the giving amount as of 7/29/2020 compared to the 2020 full year goal. This chart will be presented each week to keep the congregation well-informed of our progress. Further details can be found on the Financial Reporting page on our website.