

July 21, 2024
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00am — Sanctuary



There is Always Hope, Banksy, street artist



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WEST WAYNE STREET

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Thank you for joining us today! We're grateful for your presence and invite you to take part in our worship, mission, and programs. Please join us after worship for coffee, cookies, and punch in our fellowship hall, called McKay Hall. Just follow the crowd, and you cannot miss it! Livestreaming is available to watch via the website or YouTube, but we know this is no substitute for the community built through in-person connections. We're glad you're here!

Rev. Dr. Anne Epling (she/her), Rev. Carrie Winebrenner (she/her)

Rev. Dr. Youngsoo An (he/him), and Rev. Ann Pitman (she/her)

Please silence and put away your cellphone as you enter this worship space.

**Those who are able, please stand*

Congregation responds in bold

GATHERING

Prelude

Air

Siciliana

O Had I Jubal's Lyre

Jonathan Battishill

William Walond

George Frideric Handel

Tolling of the Hour

Welcome

Call to Worship

We, of many backgrounds and identities, personalities, and ideas,
gather collectively in shared pursuit of the Sacred.

Together, we make up the body of Christ.

Wherever one of us is in pain,

our whole body aches.

Whenever one of us is cut off,

the whole body is wounded.

We need one another in order to be whole,

God, make us the body of Christ as you envisioned.

Connected in our community.

Beloved as your community; may it be! Amen.

***Call to Confession**

We are called to act with justice. We are called to love tenderly. We are called to serve one another, and to walk humbly with God. But too often, we forget that calling, and we wander off on our own path. With the confidence that God loves us even when we wander, let us confess our sins together.

***Prayer of Confession**

God of peace, we give thanks that you are our firm foundation when the waves of chaos thrash around us, causing the world to feel out of control.

We give thanks that you have empowered us to speak peace into chaos, and to take action against injustice. But too often, we lack motivation, we are too afraid to challenge injustice, or it simply is not in our own interest to act.

So we stand with the oppressor instead of kneeling with the oppressed. We carry torches of anger and hatred instead of bearing the bright light of your Love. And we offer our “thoughts and prayers” but render them empty and vain by our silence and inaction. Yet, we know you desire so much more from us.

So draw us away from our apathy, away from our complicity, and closer to your hope for the world. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

In forgiving us, our LIVING GOD transforms our cold hearts into those melted in service to others. In granting us mercy, our LIVING GOD challenges us to think of all those we have ignored. In gifting us with grace, our LIVING GOD enables us to proclaim Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, as the hope, the joy, the peace the world seeks. **In the LIVING GOD, we are forgiven. Amen!**

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

As you are comfortable, we invite you to take a moment to share the Peace of Christ with those around you with a smile, wave, or other signs of connection.

***Responsive Hymn No. 582** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

1. Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me, and to the Son, _____ whose grace has
2. World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men. World with - out end, _____ with - out

par - doned me, and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free. As it
end. A - men. World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

HEARING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Natalie Sleeth

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see. In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity; in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity. In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

New Testament Reading

Romans 12:9-21

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon "Oh, Be Careful, Little Eyes, What You See"

Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith (A Litany for Justice written by Rev. Scott Cervas)**

Moses, Nehemiah, Jesus, and many other leaders in the stories of scripture brought hope with their courage to speak against injustice by calling out those responsible, and saying: “What you are doing isn’t good!”

Susan B. Anthony, Martin Luther King, Jr., Nelson Mandela, and many other leaders in the history of the world brought hope with their courage to speak against injustice by calling out those responsible, and saying: “What you are doing isn’t good!”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer famously said, “The church is only the church when it exists for others.” He wrote those words while he was in a Nazi prison, because he had the courage to speak against injustice by calling out those responsible, and saying: “What you are doing isn’t good!”

**We don’t have to write books from prison, but we ARE the church...
and we ARE a community whose purpose is to exist for others...
So we MUST have the courage to speak against injustice by calling out those responsible, and saying, “What you are doing isn’t good!”**

**We don’t have to be nailed to a cross, but we ARE the church...
and we ARE a community whose purpose is to exist for others...
So we WILL have the courage to speak against injustice by calling out those responsible, and saying, “What you are doing isn’t good!”**

May our words be followed by our actions, so that God’s light might shine bright as we sing a new world into being. Amen.

***Hymn No. 372 O for a World**

AZMON

Announcements

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

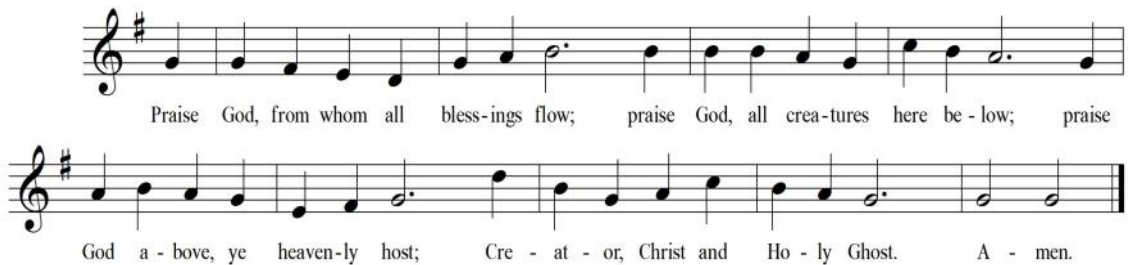
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Karl Osterland

***Responsive Hymn No. 606** Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be - low; praise
God a - bove, ye heaven-ly host; Cre - at - or, Christ and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, you have gifted us with so much. We lay these gifts before you with hope for a better world where your image is honored in each person. Use them for the building of your kin-dom, and give us courage to dream of that day. In the name of the Beloved we pray, amen.

SENDING

***Hymn** Sing a New World into Being

NETTLETON

This hymn is printed on the back page of your bulletin.

***Benediction**

***Postlude** Rondeau

Joseph Morrett

Assisting with Worship this Morning

Pastors: Rev. Dr. Anne Epling, Rev. Carrie Winebrenner

Elders of the Month/Greeters: Denise Davis, Mike Shim

Ushers: David Beer, Judy Mettler, Tom Mettler, Anita Wolfe

Director of Music Ministries & Organist: Brent Neuenschwander

Pianist: Susan Dorion

Summer Choir

Live Stream Operator: Dick Florea

Sound Board Operator: Jeff Slater

Looking for the announcements? Pick-up a copy of the Friday E-news before or after worship. You'll find copies on the table in the Narthex.

Hearing Loop: To use the "Hearing Loop" during the service, please switch your hearing aid or cochlear device to the "T," T-Coil or telephone position.

Large Print Hymns are available from the Ushers

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Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal Online. CCLI Copyright: 2801108; Streaming: 21661340.

Sorry, Kids!

There is no Sunday School during the summer, but our nursery is open year-round! Anyone between 6 months and 5 years old is welcome! ASK an usher for a tour and more information.



Sing a New World into Being

Mary Louise Bringle

NETTLETON

Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second 1813

1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.
4. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Join the an - cient proph - ets' cry

Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;
for a time of health and plen - ty when all tears have been wiped dry;

dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
when com - pas - sion flows like wa - ters, pour - ing balm for all who grieve.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: live the prom - ise you be - lieve!