

August 25, 2024
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00am — Sanctuary



Feeding the multitude, Armenian manuscript. Daniel of Uranc gospel, 1433



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), Rev. Ann Pitman (she/her)

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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

Chorale in G Major, Op. 49, No. 5

Alexandre Guilmant

Grand Chorus in March Form, in Gregorian Tonality, Op. 52, No. 1

Tolling of the Hour

Call to Worship

Christ abides in us,

And we abide in him.

Christ has the words of eternal life:

We believe and trust that he is the Holy One of God.

As we hear the gospel of peace today,

Let us choose again whom we will serve.

We will serve the God of liberation and new life,

the God who hears and answers when we call.

We bring our praises and our prayers to God,

Trusting God to meet us as we gather.

Let us worship our God together!

***Call to Confession**

“The Lord redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in God will be condemned” (Psalm 34:22). Trusting that God is always more ready to forgive than we are to confess, let us turn to God in prayer, seeking forgiveness and new life.

***Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, through Christ, you abide in us, and you invite us to abide in you. But so often we are restless and unsatisfied. Instead of resting in the fullness of life Christ offers to us, we chase after money and fame, recognition and power, status and control. Instead of honoring the image of God in all our neighbors, we push others down in the pursuit of our own desires. Forgive us for forgetting that you call us to a different way of being in the world. Lead us out of self-interest and into communal care for one another and the world you have made. In Christ’s name we pray; amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

John’s Gospel tells us: “God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17). Christ forgives us and makes us whole. Christ fills us with life and sets us free for love. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

***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.

And at this time, we invite our children to come forward for the Time with Children .

***Responsive Hymn No. 475** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON



Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mer-cy, nev-er
ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise. Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-
bove; praise the mount! I'm fixed up-on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!

HEARING THE WORD

Time with Children

Children and youth in kindergarten thru 9th grade are encouraged to head to Sunday School after the Time with Children.

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem Eternal Father, Strong to Save

William Whiting/John Bacchus Dykes

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave, who bade the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea. O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard, who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea. O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude, and bade its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace: O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea. O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour; from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them wheresoever they go; thus evermore shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

Gospel Reading

John 6:56-69

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon “Does This Offend You?”

Rev. Dr. Anne Bain Epling

***Affirmation of Faith**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and
Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our
daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new
heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn No. 724** O Jesus, I Have Promised

ANGEL’S STORY

Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer

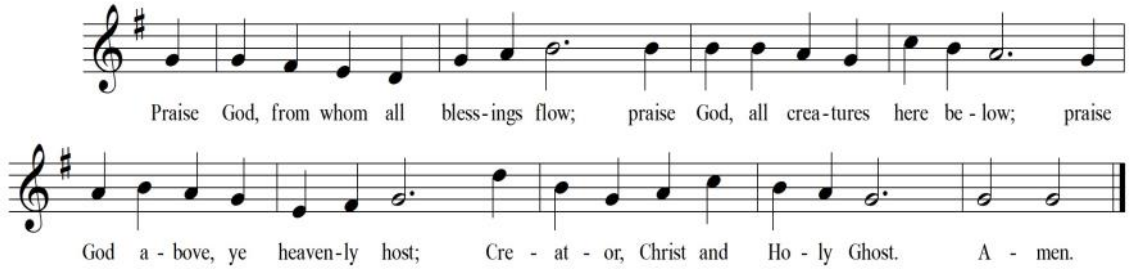
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will
be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive
us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,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

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory O Rest in the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

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



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

***Prayer of Dedication**

Eternal God, the Source of all blessings, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude and reverence. As we offer our gifts and reflect on your word this day, we ponder our role as stewards of your blessings. Strengthen our commitment to love and serve others as we strive to fulfill your divine purpose in the world. Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn No. 765** May the God of Hope Go with Us
(Sung in English 3 Times)

ARGENTINA

***Benediction**

***Postlude** Trumpet Voluntary in D Major

John Stanley

Today is Cassandra Petrie's last Sunday as a section leader in the choir. We would like to thank her for her dedication, musical expertise and friendship to so many in the church, and we wish her the best in the next chapter of her life.

Chancel Flowers

The Chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Debra McMeen
by Scott McMeen and family

Assisting with Worship this Morning

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

Liturgist: Scott McMeen

Elders of the Month/Greeters: Carolyn Krebs, Marj Sapp

Ushers: David Beer, Eric Evans, Ashley Lassiter, Anita Wolfe

Director of Music Ministries & Organist: Brent Neuenschwander

Assistant Organist: Kathryn Miller

Soloist: Cassandra Petrie, Mezzo-Soprano

Summer Choir

Live Stream Operator: Dick Florea

Sound Board Operator: Marj Sapp


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

MINISTRIES FOR OUR YOUNGER DISCIPLES



Join us for Sunday School with Miss Rachel and Friends! We'll all start in worship together, and then head to our SS room as a group. We hope you'll join us for a lesson, craft, and, of course...Bible Bucks! YAY! Grown-ups, please pick your children up after worship.



NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN 6MO - 5YRS
Jesus loves the little children, and we do, too! But should you decide that today would be a good time to explore the nursery, your child is always invited to drop in. Ask an usher for assistance.



Please return after church,
so it's there next week!

Worship isn't always easy for little hands and minds to focus, so you are invited to "check out" a fidget toy-filled Busy Bag or a book from our Littles' Library, located in the narthex!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 25, 2024

- 10:00am Wired Word, PR
- 10:30am Summer Choir, MR
- 11:00am English Worship, SC
- 11:00am KLM Worship, CH
- 11:00am Sunday School Kick-Off, 2nd Fl. Hall
- 12:00pm English Fellowship, MH
- 12:00pm KLM Fellowship, FH
- 12:15pm Youth Group, SDR

Monday, August 26, 2024

- 1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH
- 3:00pm Faith, Fibers, and Fellowship, 302

Tuesday, August 27, 2024

- 2:00pm Worship Committee, SR
- 4:00pm Buildings and Grounds Meeting, SR

Wednesday, August 28, 2024

- 1:30pm 3B Exercise Class, MH

Friday, August 30, 2024

- 10:00am Men's Bible Study, Teams

Sunday, September 1, 2024

- 9:30am English Worship, SC
- 10:30am English Fellowship, MH
- 11:00am KLM Worship, CH
- 12:00pm KLM Fellowship, FH

Campus Room Abbreviations

CH	Chapel	MF	McKay Foyer	SB	Sanctuary Balcony
CL	Chapel Lounge	MH	McKay Hall	SC	Sanctuary
CN	Chapel Narthex	MR	Music Room	SDR	Small Dining Room
CY	Courtyard	NP	North Parking Lot	SM/O	Stephen Ministry Office
FH	Fellowship Hall	NX	Narthex	SR	Session Room
FO	Finance Office	NR	Nursery	TH	Theater
GL	Gallery	OS	Offsite	YL	Youth Lounge
KT	Main Kitchen	PR	Parlor	ZM	Zoom