

FIRST



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEBANON



August 25, 2024

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 25, 2024

11:00 A.M.

THE GATHERING

To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever

PRELUDE

Voluntary

Maurice Greene

CHIMING THE HOUR

WHO WE ARE

Leader: We are called Christians but what does that mean?

People: We are a welcoming community of disciples of Jesus Christ continually demonstrating God's reign.

CHORAL INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Whom do you seek here in this place?

People: We seek God, the Creator, who brought us to life.

Leader: Who has told you of God?

People: Jesus Christ, God's Son, has shown us the love of God through his life.

Leader: Discipleship is difficult. Are you ready?

People: We want to be ready. Lord, strengthen and sustain us this day. We come to worship you.

*HYMN NO. 115 *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

ST. KEVIN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of Power, you call us to clothe ourselves with the armor of faith so that we will be prepared to fight the darkness of the world. However, we confess that we are weak and reluctant to stand against the forces of evil. We are tempted by worldly desires and prefer to lay low and avoid spiritual conflict.

Forgive us our sin of weakness and restore us to your sacred service. Help us to be strong in prayer and to always proclaim the gospel with boldness. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: 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.

People: In Jesus' name, we are forgiven. Alleluia and Amen!

* Those who are able are invited to stand.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

*THE PEACE

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

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Living God,
help us so to hear your holy Word
that we may truly understand;
that, understanding, we may believe,
and, believing,
we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

*Therefore, take up the whole armor of God,
so that you may be able to withstand on the evil day and,
having prevailed against everything, to stand firm.*

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

How Shall I Sing that Majesty? John Ronald Daniels

*How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie; Sing, sing, ye heav'nly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand around Thy throne, O God most high;
Ten thousand times ten thousand sound thy praise; but who am I?
Thy brightness unto them appears; Whilst I thy footsteps trace;
A sound of God comes to my ears, But they behold thy face.
They sing, because thou art their sun; Lord, send a beam on me;
For where heav'n is but once begun, There alleluias be.
Enlighten with faith's light my heart, In flame it with love's fire;
Then shall I sing and bear a part with that celestial choir.
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light;
Yet when thou dost accept their gold, Lord, treasure up my mite.
How great a being, Lord, is thine, Which doth all beings keep!
Thou art a sea without a shore, a sun without a sphere;
Thy time is now and evermore, Thy place is everywhere.*

SERMON

A Call to Arms

Rev. Sherard Edington

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN NO. 307 *Fight the Good Fight* DUKE STREET

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FROM THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM

Leader: What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

People: That I belong – body and soul,
in life and in death – not to myself
but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ,
who at the cost of His own blood
has fully paid for all my sins
and has completely freed me
from the dominion of the devil;
that He protects me so well
that without the will of my Father in heaven
not a hair can fall from my head;
indeed, that everything must fit
His purpose for my salvation.
Therefore, by His Holy Spirit,
He also assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for Him. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY *Sunset to Sunrise* Gilbert M. Martin

*DOXOLOGY

*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.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional) Hymnal Page 16

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN NO. 447 *Lead On, O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE *When We All Get to Heaven* Traditional

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to become a member of First Presbyterian Church. For more information, please speak to the pastor at the close of the service.

📶 For WiFi access go to FPC_CONNECT and enter password 6154441360.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY of the congregation are extended to John Hill on the death of his sister, Lynn Hill Lester, on August 18.

THE 4 CENTS A MEAL offering will be received today. Please use the yellow pew envelope. A portion of this offering stays with FPC to use in our local area with the remaining used to support hunger relief in Middle Tennessee.

COMPASSIONATE HANDS MEAL – FPC will prepare and serve food on August 28 for the unhoused guests at Compassionate Hands.

LITURGIST NEEDED – A Liturgist is needed for the Sunday morning services. If you would like to sign up, please contact Kristy in the church office.

YOUTH

YOUTH GROUP (5th -12th grade) – Rev. Edington is teaching the Youth Sunday School Class.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Today

- 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship
- 12:15 p.m. Deacons' Meeting

Monday

- 6:00 p.m. New Day Group

Tuesday

- 9:00 a.m. Preschool

Wednesday

- 6:00 p.m. Brown Bag
- 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday

- 9:00 a.m. Preschool
- 6:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Friday

Saturday

SESSION

Class of 2024
Max Carter
Nancy Gebhardt
Mickey Stueck
Allen Vance

Class of 2025
W.P. Bone
Nancy Boyd
Jack Emmert
Frank Reeves

Class of 2026
Carol Hill
Margaret Ann Trail

DIACONATE

Class of 2024
Jonathan Bouton
Carol Turner
Van Turner
Sandra Weatherford

Class of 2025
Rachel Low
Jim Stueck

Class of 2026
Melissa Cassetty
Karen Hunter-Lowery
Jim Murff

CHURCH COMMITTEES

Clerk of Session – Barbara Howell
Treasurer – Jim Stueck
Budget & Finance – Jim Stueck
Buildings and Grounds – Allen Vance
Christian Education – Nancy Gebhardt
Congregational Care – Nancy Boyd
Outreach – Margaret Ann Trail
Personnel – Jack Emmert
Worship – Mickey Stueck

STAFF

Ministers – All Members of the Congregation
Pastor – Sherard Edington
Organist/Director of Music – Darryl Nettles
Office Administrator – Kristy Vincent
NCC Worship Leader – Natalie Loader
Preschool Director – Angela Hankins
Custodians – Stratus Cleaning Service

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Children
Elementary Class and
Middle - High School Class

Adult
Crossroads Class
Faith Builders Class

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