

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, June 28, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

ACCOLYTES (Bringing in the Light of Christ)

At the beginning of worship, the acolytes carry the light of Christ into the sanctuary. This symbolizes Christ's presence among the gathered people — a reminder that we don't create the light ourselves; God brings it to us.

As the candles are lit, we remember Jesus' words, "*I am the light of the world.*" Worship begins in that light.

PRELUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP **Liturgist: James Browning**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Since God has forgiven us in Christ, Let us forgive one another.
Let us share the peace of the Lord among our brothers and sisters as
you feel appropriate.*

May the Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!
And also with you!

CALL TO WORSHIP

**ALL: Long enough, God—
you've ignored me long enough.
I've looked at the back of your head
long enough. Long enough
I've carried this ton of trouble,
lived with a stomach full of pain.
Long enough my arrogant enemies
have looked down their noses at me.
Take a good look at me, God, my God;
I want to look life in the eye,
So no enemy can get the best of me
or laugh when I fall on my face.
I've thrown myself headlong into your arms—
I'm celebrating your rescue.**

**I'm singing at the top of my lungs,
I'm so full of answered prayers.
ALL: Together let us worship God!**

GATHERING PRAYER

All: God who provides, you met Abraham on the mountain, you heard the psalmist's long cry, and you have welcomed us through Christ. As we gather, teach us to trust you in the hard places, to welcome those you send, and to find you in the smallest acts of faithfulness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

HYMN "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" Hymn #104

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you,
how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you,
my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly
all that may please you best.

2 Love caused your incarnation;
love brought you down to me;
your thirst for my salvation
procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling,
that led you to embrace
in love, all loves excelling,
our lost and fallen race.

3 You come, O Lord, with gladness,
in mercy and goodwill,
to bring an end to sadness
and bid our fears be still.
In patient expectation
we live for that great day
when your renewed creation
your glory shall display.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Leader:

ALL: God of the risen Christ, you broke the power of sin and evil. And we yet we still live in the tombs of forgetfulness, anxiety and fear. We have failed to love you as we should. We have neglected to love our neighbor. Indeed, we have even failed to love ourselves. Release us from the tombs that terrify us, so that we can see your image in one another and in your good creation. Indeed, free us from the graves of self-hatred, so that we can see ourselves as your children.

Leader: And now in this moment of silence, those sins which are ours alone

ALL: Have mercy upon us. Forgive us. Shower us with your grace that we might burst forth as the seeds grow, let us be enlivened for service and for love. We pray this in the Holy name of Jesus. AMEN

Leader:

GLORIA PATRI “Glory Be to the Father” Hymn #581

“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end, Amen.”

ANTHEM “He Looked Beyond my Fault” Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE (NRSV UPDATED EDITION)

First Reading

Genesis 22:1-14 p.14, OT

Second Reading

Romans 12:9-21 p.124, NT

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:21-28 p.14, NT

Genesis 22:1-14 p.14, OT

The Command to Sacrifice Isaac

22 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ²He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” ³So Abraham rose early in

the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." And the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide," as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Romans 12:9-21 p.124, NT

Marks of the True Christian

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you

are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God,^[b] for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Matthew 16:21-28 p.14, NT

Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

The Cross and Self-Denial

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Sacrificial Love"

Terry Albright

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostle's Creed)

Hymnal p.35

All: 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 at 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (with the Lord's Prayer)

Hymnal p.35

Leader:

All: 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING/OFFERING MUSIC

Tommy Clay, Jr.

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Hymn #606

“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.”

Leader:

ALL: In Christ's name we thank you. Amen

HYMN “Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet”

Hymn #458

Refrain:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end.

Refrain:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.

ACCOLYTES (The Light of Christ out into the world.)

At the end of the service, the acolytes take the flame back out of the sanctuary. This is not extinguishing Christ's presence — it is sending it.

The light that gathered us now goes ahead of us into the world, where we are called to carry Christ's love, justice, and compassion into our daily lives.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Because He Lives"

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future.
And life is worth the living just because He lives

POSTLUDE

Tommy Clay, Jr.



ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Details on our website, Facebook, Realm & 386-385-3040.)

This week's prayer : Faithful Creator, bless us with steady and sufficient rain to restore streams, nourish fields, and strengthen the roots of all living things. Protect our communities from drought, wildfire, and storm, and keep us secure in your care. Amen.

Church Activities

Small Groups-Sunday 9:15 am; Wed. 4:30 pm.

Presbyterian Women-recess until September.

Social Connections-Thurs.1pm in Zoom Rm.

Quilting Group-Friday's at 10:00 in the Zoom Room.

Outreach Ministries

Shower Ministry-Thurs. from 2-6pm

Meridian/Grace Market Place-Thurs. 2-4pm in the Bartram Rm a representative for assistance.

CDC (Chemical Dependency Counseling)-Mon. 8-12; Tues. 8-6, Wed. 8-6, Sat. 8-6.

Church Calendar

6/28	nonmember memorial service	11:30am-1:00pm
	WH & Kitchen	
7/3	private event	1:00pm-10:00pm
	WH & Kitchen	
7/4	Concert & Social	6:00pm-8:00pm
	Sanctuary & WH	
6/27 through 7/23	Heat Wave	9:00pm-7:00am
	entire WH & Basement	
7/28 through 7/30	RCMA	8:00am-3:30pm
	WH & Zoom Rm	

Financials

2026 Financial Report/Operating Budget through May 31st.

Total Received	Total Spent	Surplus
\$87,374	\$86,282	\$1,092

The Brick Opportunity *Let's get those orders in to build a space rooted in legacy, community, and faith, one brick at a time. (#40)*

For maximum profit all orders must be in by June 28th.

For more details go to our website fpcpalatka.com. **(profits through May \$3,014.63)**