



First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God:
we worship, we love, we grow, we serve*



Fulfillment of Creation, Thomas Ingmire, Copyright 2011, *The Saint John's Bible*, Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

**Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026 | 10 a.m.**

*Let us quiet our hearts, minds, and voices for the beginning of worship.
At this time, please silence all cell phones.*

The Prelude

Simple Gifts

ARR. VIRGIL FOX

THE TIME OF GATHERING

Welcome and Life Together

REV. DR. SCOTT KENEFAKE

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship (*from Psalm 119*)

Leader: The decrees of the Lord are wonderful,

People: *The unfolding of God's word gives light and understanding.*

Leader: Turn to us, O God, and be gracious to us.

People: *Make your face shine upon your servants.*

Leader: We come together to worship the living God.

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

*Hymn of Praise #327

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

1. From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. In every land begin the song;
to every land the strains belong: Alleluia! Alleluia!
In cheerful sound all voices raise
and fill the world with joyful praise.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. Eternal are thy mercies, Lord;
eternal truth attends thy word: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Call to Confession

REV. REX CHILDS

Prayer of Confession

God, your kingdom confounds us. You challenge our assumptions about right living and stretch our understanding of what holds worth. You reverse our expectations and reorder our priorities until they reflect your vision of well-being for all. Your kingdom surprises us with grace upon grace. But we cling to the values of this world, which privilege products over people, success over service, and competition for resources over the common good. Open us to new ways of living that embody your desire for creation and contribute to a commonwealth marked by justice and joy.

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good.

All: *In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!*

**Please stand, if able*

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! Amen!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

DESMA BORLAND

Scripture Reading

Romans 8:26-39

PEW BIBLE PAGE 919

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia! Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

PEW BIBLE PAGE 795

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Affirmation of Faith (*from The Barmen Declaration, 8.14- 8.16*)

As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

In This Very Room

RON AND CAROL HARRIS

In this very room there’s quite enough love for one like me, and in this very room there’s quite enough joy for one like me, and there’s quite enough hope and quite enough power to chase away any gloom, for Jesus, Lord Jesus is in this very room. In this very room there’s quite enough love for all of us, and in this very room there’s quite enough joy for all of us, and there’s quite enough hope and quite enough power to chase away any gloom, for Jesus, Lord Jesus is in this very room. In this very room there’s quite enough love for all the world, and in this very room there’s quite enough joy for all the world, and there’s quite enough hope and quite enough power to chase away any gloom, for Jesus, Lord Jesus is in this very room.

*The 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.***

Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH

*Hymn of Commitment #450

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.
4. High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,

**Please stand, if able*

still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Toccata on “Amazing Grace”
Dr. Brice Gerlach on the Julia Thompson Smith Memorial Pipe Organ

J. CHRISTOPHER PARDINI

Chancel Flowers

The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of Julia Thompson Smith, by her loving family.

Ushers

Bill Kearney (Head Usher), Pat and Bob MacMinn, Kathy Norgart and Chuck Mundt, Sarah Nichols, Nick Stewart, Saralene Oldham

Greeters

Sylvia and Jack Marsh, Karen and Roy Parker

Hospitality Table

Sylvia Marsh of the Sunshine Circle, and Jack Marsh

Guests and Visitors – Welcome

We're so glad you've joined us in worship today. After the service, please head over to the Welcome Table in Spencer Hall to say hello, pick up a special welcome gift, and enjoy some light refreshments.

A Note from Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake

My last Sunday in the pulpit will be August 16. Gail and I have had a happy 14 months or so with you, and we are busy making plans for our next "Interim Pastor Adventure." We'll let you know when we can where the next adventure leads us. The Interim Pastor search process has the same confidentiality requirements as the search and call process for Installed Pastors. We feel fortunate to be able to walk with you during this time of transition and to experience living in Naples. There will be time for formal "goodbyes" in the coming weeks, but for now, please know that our hearts are filled with gratitude for your support and friendship over the past year.

New Sermon Series: Gathered by Grace • July 26 – August 16

Starting today, Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake begins a four-week sermon series titled Gathered by Grace. The theme of the series is: "We are gathered by God's grace, nourished at Christ's table, sustained through uncertainty, and sent into God's future." Grace stands at the center of the Reformed tradition. Over the coming weeks, our texts will move from God's hidden work in the world to the abundance of the Communion table, to trust amid change, and finally, to a celebration of the wideness of God's welcome.

- **July 26: "Treasures of the Kingdom" (Romans 8:26–39; Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52)** – God is already at work in ways we often overlook. The kingdom grows quietly, like seeds and yeast, and nothing can separate us from God's love.
- **August 2: "Bread for the Journey" (Communion Sunday | Isaiah 55:1–5; Matthew 14:13–21)** – At Christ's table, we discover that there is enough grace, enough mercy, and enough hope for everyone: one loaf, many stories, one body.
- **August 9: "Listening for God" (1 Kings 19:9–18; Matthew 14:22–33)** – As Elijah and Peter discover, faithfulness often means learning to trust God in seasons of uncertainty, transition, and change.
- **August 16: "Gathered and Sent" (Isaiah 56:1, 6–8; Matthew 15:21–28)** – Isaiah's vision of gathering the foreigner and Jesus' encounter with the Canaanite woman both point toward a church whose future is larger, more gracious, and more hopeful than anyone can fully imagine.

Join us each week as we celebrate the abundance and wideness of God's welcome!

Summer Choir

Our summer choir season is well underway! Our choir rehearses each Sunday morning from 9:15 to 9:45 a.m. in the choir room to prepare for the 10 a.m. service. If you enjoy singing, please consider joining us! Contact Dr. Brice Gerlach for more information.

Weekly Bible Studies

Women's Ministry Bible Study meets each Monday at 1 p.m. in the Parlor. We are currently studying the book of Proverbs. For more information, please contact Janeen McClure at jrmc@airmcclure.com.

HUDDLE: A Men's Bible Discussion Group – All men are invited and encouraged to bring their lunch and gather each Thursday at noon. We are studying the book of John. If you would prefer to participate via Zoom, please contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Giving Opportunities

The Grace of Giving Campaign

We worship, love, grow, and serve together because of your faithful support. Thank you to those who have already pledged for 2026! If you would like to make a new pledge, please visit fpcnaples.org/give, find a pledge card in the pew racks at church, or speak with Joan Congine. We are deeply grateful for your continued investment in First Presbyterian Church of Naples.

Planned Giving Committee: The Palms Society

The Palm Tree is a beautiful and most useful tree. Its fruit is the daily food of millions, its sap furnishes an agreeable wine; its fibers at the base of its leaves are woven into ropes and rigging; it supplies valuable timber; its leaves are made into mats, bags, and baskets. From the Bible, we learn, "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree" Psalm 92:12

The Palms Society is a program that allows you to support the church and its mission into the future by including it in your estate planning.

If you would like more information about the Palms Society or to become a member, please contact Amy Manley at 239.272.6821 or Linda Gadkowski at 508.292.5500.

			vs 2025
Financial Snapshot through Jun 30, 2026	2026	2025	Fav/(Unfav)
Income - Year to date	1,478,218	1,329,193	149,025
Expenses - Year to date	1,480,915	1,453,111	(27,804)
Net Income (shortfall) - Year to date	(2,697)	(123,918)	121,221

Children, Youth and Young Adults

For information on any of the following gatherings, please contact either Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries, or Ashley Henning, Assistant for Children, Youth and Family Ministries, or call 239.262.1311.

Wiggle Room

Our Wiggle Room is designed for parents with children ages 0-18 months. Located on the east side of the Sanctuary, this room is filled with a variety of toys and activities tailored for our youngest children. Parents can comfortably watch the service from inside this room - it's a welcoming space that ensures both parents and children can enjoy their time together.

Family Newsletter Spotlight

Each week, we send out a family newsletter to keep our families informed of the fantastic events and activities happening at FPC Naples for our children and youth. Do you want to be part of the fun? Simply email Ashley Henning to put your name on the mailing list.

Back to School Blessing and Open House • August 9

Join us during the August 9 worship service for a Back to School Blessing, then following the service, head to the Youth Room for refreshments and a slideshow of our previous year, where children are invited to personalize a water bottle for school to take home.

Staff Listing

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone: 239.262.1311</u>	<u>Ext.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ministers			
Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, Interim Senior Pastor		2035	scottk@fpcnaples.org
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor		2027	rexc@fpcnaples.org
Worship & Music			
Dr. Brice Gerlach, Director of Music Ministries		2039	briceg@fpcnaples.org
Taylor Irvan, Sound and Video Operator			
Christian Education			
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Ashley Henning, Assistant for Children, Youth & Family Ministries		2012	ashley.henning@fpcnaples.org
Samantha Sacristan, Nursery Care			
Office			
Debbie Savage, Executive Director		2042	debbies@fpcnaples.org
Joan Congine, Finance Administrator		2041	joanc@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Knight, Office Assistant/Receptionist		2000	sandyk@fpcnaples.org
Josh Miller, Marketing and Communications Coordinator		2013	joshm@fpcnaples.org
Susan Pratt, Coordinator of Membership and Caring Ministries		2037	susanp@fpcnaples.org
Facilities			
Jeff Newman, Director of Facilities		2028	jeffn@fpcnaples.org
Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance		2014	eduardom@fpcnaples.org
Nick Zamagni, Custodian		2016	nickz@fpcnaples.org
Preschool			
Delia Buckley, Preschool Director		2009	deliab@fpcnaples.org
Katie Schutt, Preschool Administrative Assistant		2038	katies@fpcnaples.org
Publications			publications@fpcnaples.org

Prayer List

In an effort to keep the prayer list current, names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks, unless we are notified otherwise. If you wish for a name to be included, please contact the church office.

*Cynthia Anderson	Lynn Hertel	Joe Parker	The U.S. Military
Samuel Begelman	Jill and Craig Holbrook	Thomas Pieralisi	Stephen Ministers/Care
*Michael Bennett	Chuck Hoover	Dave Priatko	Receivers
Judy Bohl	Lorraine Kornek	*Patty Portenier	FPC Caregivers Support
Caldwell Family	Rick Krinitt	*Linda Rhodes	Group
William Camp Jr.	Sally Madden	*John Slager	All serving Missionaries
Eric Cost	Aaron Malstrom	Diana Dryer Stadtmiller	Central Presbyterian
Jacqueline Davis	Edison Martinez	Chuck Tenley	Reformed Church, Cuba
Audrey Douglas	Mary Matvias	Chris Thomas and Family	
Suzanne Dozios	Katherine Miller	Valerie and Peter Walters	*church member
Mike Ellis	Marilyn Naiman	Nancy Westlund	
*Fred Hertel	Rita O'Brian	Carole Wittemore	

Hospital Ministry – If you will be hospitalized or know of someone in the congregation who is, please contact Coordinator for Membership and Caring Ministries, Susan Pratt or the church office.



Scan the QR Code
to visit our website

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239.262.1311
FPCNaples.org

