

10th Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church. We are so happy that you are here today to share in our service of worship of the Living God!

Gathering Around the Word

The congregation is asked to make use of the prelude as a time of preparation, meditation, and prayer.

*All who are able, please stand.

Prelude

William Boyce

Larghetto and Vivace from Voluntary in D Major

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Announcements, and Celebrations of the Church

Minute for Global Mission

Ron Zimmerman

*Call to Worship (responsively)

Leader: Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

All: Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. (Hebrews 11:1-3)

Leader: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us. (Hebrews 12:1)

All: Mindful of the gifts we receive and confidence of the sustenance the Lord provides, let us worship God.

*Opening Prayer (unison)

O God, Judge Eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. As we gather now for worship, give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith: your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: 321

The Church’s One Foundation

AURELIA

*Prayer of Confession

Leader: Trusting in God’s hopes for us, let us come before God with contrite hearts, asking for reconciliation and seeking peace.

All: God of hope, we confess our disregard of your care, our doubt of your providence, our blindness to signs of your love. We are afraid to risk our comfort to find new life; we separate ourselves from you and from others and foster divisions between those you love. Help us amend our lives and make us your faithful people who bear the good fruit of your Word in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A time for silent prayers of confession.

*Confessional Response: 572 (Old Book)

arr. Healy Willan

Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us (Kyrie Eleison)

Lord, have Mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Assurance of Pardon (responsively)

Leader: God hears our confession, rejoicing as we desire changes in our lives. God lifts us from our despondency to rejoice in the company of the saints. God acknowledges the forces that separate us and brings us to peace.

All: So let us rejoice in the knowledge of our reconciliation and let us live joyfully and expectantly in the presence of God. Amen.

*Response to God’s Grace: 581

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

Proclaiming the Word

Time with the Young Disciples

Charli Holder

All preschool and elementary children are invited to come down front.

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

God of Wisdom, we eagerly seek your presence in our lives and in the world. By your Spirit, speak your word to us, and give us your grace to recognize the abundant signs of your care for us, so that we might be freed to act in the world with courage and abandon. Amen.

1st Lesson: Luke 12:49-56

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Choral Anthem

For All the Saints

Ralph Vaughan Williams

(Please follow along in the Hymnal, page 326)

2nd Lesson: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Finishing Strong”

Dr. Duke Dixon

Responding to the Word

*Hymn: 724

O Jesus, I have Promised

ANGEL’S STORY

*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

The Apostles’ Creed

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 on 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.

Please be seated as we prepare for prayer.

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."

The Offering

Offertory Sentences

Offertory

“Caithness”

Healey Willan

*Offertory Response 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

We trust, O God, in your provision and loving kindness. Use these gifts and our lives that we might bear your fruit with praise and thanksgiving. We ask this in the confidence of your mercy and love. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Leader: We come now to the Lord’s Table. Jesus instituted this meal the night before he was crucified and instructed his followers to eat this bread and take from this cup to remember his death, which is for our forgiveness.

All: We will come to this table not because we are perfect people but rather because we are sinners in need of God’s grace and forgiveness.

Leader: So let all those who acknowledge Jesus as their Lord and Savior come and partake of this meal. It is for you. Let us pray.

All: We offer praise, worship and thanksgiving to you, O God, for the gift of your Son Jesus, whose death is commemorated in this bread and cup. Stir our hearts, we pray, to recall his suffering on the cross. Let the image of his lonely ordeal arouse our own passions that we may follow him obediently in our daily walk. Let us love, care and practice holiness, knowing that we shall eat and drink with him in the eternal kingdom. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer

God our help: We thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your Son Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you have saved us. Amen.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

*Closing Hymn: 846

Fight the Good Fight

DUKE STREET

*Charge and Benediction

Dr. Duke Dixon

Choral Benediction

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

William Tomer


*Postlude

Call to the Faithful

Rex Koury

Thank you to Katherine Addison for serving as today’s liturgist, to Charli Holder for Leading Time with the Young Disciples, and to Bob McLean for hosting Lemonade on the Lawn.

<u>Church Family</u>	<u>Friends of Church</u>	<u>Bereavement</u>
Laurie Addison	Chris Branham	Latha Gearheart & family
Margaret Addison	Stuart Britt	Jackie Waldron & family
Nancy Arnold	Marie Cox	Mike Owens & family
Mary Nell Askew	Andy Dill	Donna Jackson & family
Chandra Coleman	Sherry Dishman	Lee Counterman & family
P-Nut Dowdle	Nancy Hope	George Copeland & family
Steve Floyd	Julie Young Keadle	The Dixon family
Nancy Goodbar	Kim Purcell	The Henley family
Anita Gustafson		The Frey family
Fran Hipp		The Wardlaw family
Gin Jacobs		The Keen family
John Lapomarda		The Threatt family
Liz Pinzon		Family of Mary Nell Askew
Dot Smith		



Scan the QR code with your mobile device to be directed to OnRealM, where you may make your offering or tithe. *(Text/Data rates may apply).*

<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Derrick Adair	Marty Ademy	Lee Atkinson
Katherine Addison	Emily Holder	Danny Cook
Austin Barnes	Bob Link	Amanda Donley
Maecy Burton	Holbrook Raynal	Chad Gambrell
Cyndi Coker	Andy Sullivan	Jean Johnson
Van Mattison	Stan Walsh	Bob McLean
Harold Nichols		
Jackie Waldron		

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Sheryl Owens, Custodian	sasowens1961@gmail.com	
Missionaries: Donald Marsden (US); Pam (Turkey); Ellen Smith (US); Larry and Inge Sthreshley (Congo)		

“Living, Learning, and Loving Like Christ.”