

September 17, 2023
First Presbyterian Church
Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost

We Gather in God's Name

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude *All Creatures of our God and King* Hopson

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dan Sansbury

We Worship Together

Call to Worship Elder John Joyce

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

Beloved, since God loves us so much, we also ought to love one another.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. (from I John 4)

***Processional Hymn** 321 *The Church's One Foundation* AURELIA

Invitation to Confession (the congregation is seated)

Friends, remember the words of the Apostle John: *"If we say that we have not sinned, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, our Lord is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"* [I John 1.8-9]. Let us pray together.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and Almighty God, we confess to you that we do not always say what you want us to say, nor do as you want us to do, nor love as you intend us to love. Our lives have not yet been fully transformed into the likeness of Jesus Christ, our crucified Savior and resurrected Lord. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us anew. Change us into more Christ-like people. Inspire us to love you more, and to love your people more, for the glory of your name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, listen again to the good news: *"If anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for our sins only but also for the sins of the whole world"* [I John 2.1-2].

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***Holy Interruption** *We greet our neighbors in Christ's love*

Congregational Meeting Formation of the Officer Nominating Committee

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem Mrs. Weiz Baker

***Praise of God**

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**

***Affirmation of Faith: 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.

***Gloria Patri**

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

Message to the Children

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.

***Hymn** 626 *As The Deer*

AS THE DEER

We Receive God's Word

Scripture Joshua 1.1-9

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Message "SURPRISING HEROES OF THE OLD TESTAMENT, II:
Joshua, the Second Leader"

We Go Out to Serve

***Hymn** 658 *God Is So Good*

GOD IS SO GOOD

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Chancel Choir

***Postlude** *Agincourt Hymn*

Dunstable

*Those who are able, please stand as directed at the items marked with an asterisk

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the Glory of God by Ben and Brittany Tillman.

The Church This Week (9/17/2023)

Today	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Mon.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
Wed.	8:30 a.m.	MMO
	3:15 p.m.	Fun Program
	5:00 p.m.	Worship Team Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Worship

Prayer List as of September 17, 2023

Gerry & Bobby Rogers
Ina Coggeshall
Atha Lou Gibson
Gray & Bea Sloop
Bennie and Benny Lou Moore
Beth O'Neal
Bobbie Jones
Keller Smith
Gene Brymer

WELCOME to worship! We are glad that you have joined us! We begin our acolyte ministry today! The opening part of our worship service has changed. Mrs. Weiz Baker, Music Director, is recruiting and training acolytes to lead at the beginning and ending of our worship services. Contact Weiz if your child or grandchild, 2nd grade through high school, is interested in serving as an acolyte.

Our Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues its work of seeking our next installed pastor. Members are Cathy Chapman (Chair), Kristen Miller, Katelyn Evans, Christie McLeod, John Long and Calvin Phillips. The congregation is asked to pray for our PNC throughout the pastoral search process.

The Youth Coordinator Search Committee members are Kelli Beck (chair), Kristen Miller, Katelyn Evans, Tammy Joyce, Eva Goddard and Craig Goddard. Please remember our search team in your prayers. Also, send your suggestions for this part-time position to our committee members.

The elders have called for a CONGREGATIONAL MEETING during worship today, September 17, for the purpose of forming a new Officer Nominating Committee. Two current elders, Dan Tillman and Cathy Chapman, and one Presbyterian Women representative, Becky Childers, will be on the Committee, according to church policy. The congregation will be asked to vote for Cam Beck and Richard Pierce as the two at-large representatives to the ONC. All active members present in worship are entitled to vote at the congregational meeting.

This week work began on the column repairs to the Session House. Unfortunately there was a mix-up on the measurements of the new columns. We are in the process of getting this issue fixed. This problem may add a few weeks or months before they can be replaced. Please know that we are working to get the job finished as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding. Robby Bennett

Our church is growing and we are so excited. The number of children attending nursery during worship has increased and we need your help! We ask that **any adult** who is willing to keep the nursery during worship, please sign up at the link listed below. We ask that **parents** with a young child attending nursery, please help us by signing up for a Sunday every other month. Thank you for your willingness to volunteer in our nursery.
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0545af22ab9-nursery#/>



The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. For individuals with hearing aids, please activate your T-coil to utilize this feature. Spare headsets are also available.

We need a few more Preschool Sunday School teachers to share the rotation! Only three Sundays this fall are unaccounted for, so we are asking for coverage for these dates: 9/24, 11/26, & 12/24. Nothing is more important than educating our children to know Christ. Please prayerfully consider and contact Weiz if you are willing. A fantastic, simple lesson-guide, and fun activity booklets are provided. Thank you for meeting the needs of our children's ministry.

The Church Staff

Dr. Dan Sansbury, Interim Pastor	Mrs. Mary Louise Baker, Music Director, DCE
Mrs. Carolyn S. West, Secretary	
Mr. James W. Kendall, Sexton	Mrs. Kim Brabham, Director MMO
Mrs. Arnetha Kendall, Housekeeper	Mrs. Paige Coates, MMO
Mrs. Mary Gullede, Miss Eve Nobles, Nursery	Mrs. Sally Powell, MMO

Mission Partners

Mr. Mark Hare/ Mrs. Jenny Bent, Costa Rica
Mrs. Ellen Smith, (mission co-worker) Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Poland



Our Vision

*Rooted by God's Grace,
Growing in the Spirit,
Reaching Out with Christ's Love*

Sunday, September 17, 2023

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