

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We warmly welcome all who worship with us today. Please fill out the Connection Card. Visitors, please provide your address so we may acknowledge your presence.

On November 4th we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All are invited to participate, because all are loved by God.

We welcome children to our services. We provide a "prayground" for them, a place where they may participate in worship with activities that keep hands busy. Parents may sit close to the pew, or at the table with their child. Please use this gift how it works for you and your family. Our pastor raised four children: she is not distractible. We love God's gift of children and welcome them to worship with us.

Fully accessible restrooms are just across from the lift on the lower level of the church. A second restroom is behind the sanctuary on the upper level (out the right-side door and left down the little hallway). All restrooms are equipped with changing tables.

Please wear your name badge every Sunday as a courteous and welcoming gesture.

The flowers are given in honor of Doris Dunkelberger's 95th Birthday by her children.

Greeters: Joan & Clarence Dickens, Esther & Bert Rowlands
Ushers: Rob & Linda Riedmiller, Krista & Giovanni Peluso
Counters: James Barrett, Curt Hargash
Secure Building: Alex Stine-Sevey

Birthdays: Doris Dunkelberger, 10/29; Nikki Nordmark, 10/29; Libby Nordmark, 10/30; Marco Polimeni, 11/3; Rocco Polimeni, 11/3.

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God
TEXT: Para. John Carter
MUSIC: John Carter
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Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!
Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr. 1998
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc.
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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Patricia thor Straten-Mohr, Music Director Michael Capone, Organist
Amy Hochfeld, Office Administrator Debby Tanico, Financial Secretary

First Presbyterian Church

*Our Next Story: Building relationships with God,
relationships with our neighbors & relationships with the world.*

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome & Announcements

October 28, 2018

10:00 a.m.

CELEBRATING A SEASON OF FEARLESS GENEROSITY

I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through the Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. Eph. 3:16-17

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY TO WORSHIP GOD

The asterisk indicates standing in body or spirit

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST COMES TO US

PRELUDE

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

arr. Lloyd Larson

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

One: God calls us here.

All: We come feeling empty, having provided nurture for everyone else and hungry to be filled.

One: We come when life is rocky and we don't seem to ever be able to put down roots.

All: We come feeling prickly and thorny, driving each other away with our grouchiness.

One: And sometimes we come ready...ready to be grown, ready to commit, ready to live and serve as God's people.

All: No matter how we come, God is calling us here.

One: Let us worship God!

*OPENING HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

#473

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, we want to be perfect when we come to you. We want children who are trained to speak softly and sit quietly. We want nice clothes and the appearance of someone who has it all together. We want our lives to be under control and filled with only good things. When we have ourselves together, we will let you love us.

Forgive us, O God, for letting our agenda stop us from seeing that we are loved as we are, encouraged and grown as we are, accepted fully as we are.

(Silent meditation)

(Sing together)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God. Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Create in me a clean heart, O God. And renew a right spirit within me.**

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON from Psalm 145

One: Gracious and merciful is the LORD, slow to anger, full of love.
The LORD is good in every way, merciful to every creature.

**All: The LORD is faithful in every word and gracious in every work.
The LORD supports the fallen, raises those bowed down.**

One: Sing the LORD's praise, bless God's name. Give thanks for the good news, in Jesus Christ you are a forgiven people.

*JOYFUL RESPONSE "Sing Praise to God You Heavens!" Sung to #517

**Sing praises now God's people, your gift of speech employ
To praise the Lord, your maker, with thankfulness and joy!
Sing with the whole creation; a cosmic chorus raise.
"To God alone be glory and everlasting praise!"**

*GREETING ONE ANOTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

WE HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

TIME WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH 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.

MUSICAL OFFERING "A Mighty Fortress" arr. Gordon Young

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Curt Hargash

FIRST LESSON Ephesians 3:7-10, 14-19 Pew Bible pg. #189

SECOND LESSON Mark 4:1-9 Pew Bible pg. #37

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Wow! What a Ride!" Rev. Beth Utley

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Book of Order: Foundations*

The Church is the body of Christ. Christ gives to the Church all the gifts necessary to be his body. The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts in its life as a community in the world:

The Church is to be a community of faith, entrusting itself to God alone, even at the risk of losing its life.

The Church is to be a community of hope, rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation. This new creation is a new beginning for human life and for all things. The Church lives in the present on the strength of that promised new creation.

The Church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down.

The Church is to be a community of witness, pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God's transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord.

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION "Here in This Place" (see insert)

THE GIVING OF SELF, TITHES, AND OFFERINGS

The offering of our commitments to God

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT OFFICERS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (see insert)

CONSECRATION SUNDAY COMMITMENT

After our prayers, please take whatever time you need to give thanks to God, consider your call, and complete the Estimate of Giving card. Place it in the basket provided in the front of the sanctuary. Exit quietly and join us for a Spooktacular celebration in the Fellowship Hall (downstairs).

If you are a visitor, we are delighted you worshipped with us. Please do not feel pressured to fill out a commitment card, but do join us downstairs as we celebrate with gratitude—and our gratitude includes your presence with us!