

The Worship of God

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 16, 2026 – 9:00 Morning Worship

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

“The Peace May Be Exchanged”

Dan Lockalir

WELCOME

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

We have climbed trees and mountains hoping to find a place of belonging.

Love is possible.

We cross the boundaries that divide us by ages and stages,
ethnicities and genders, hurts and disagreements.

Love is possible.

We open our hearts and ready our hands to reach out to one another,
and discover One who is within and beyond us.

Love is possible.

Let us worship together in love.

OPENING PRAYER

We reach out to you, God, in our believing and in our doubting.

We reach out to you with our dreams, our songs, and our listening.

We know you have already reached out to us

**before we even thought about reaching out to you,
so we come to give you thanks today.**

SING

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

#829

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Dream-giver, sometimes our vision becomes focused on ourselves.

God, return us to you in community (silent prayer).

Sometimes we respond to new visions with fear and try to block them,
even injuring those who share them.

God, return us to you in community (silent prayer).

Sometimes we keep dreams locked in our heads and focus
on the grief for what is lost to us.

God, return us to you in community (silent prayer).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God will do what God will do.

Yet God gives room for us to do what we will do.

In the mystery in the middle of both of those truths, God works for good.

God forgives, restores, and gives new life.

Thanks be to God!

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

I invite you to turn to one another and share a sign of peace:

You're invited to unmute yourselves and exchange peace with one another

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Genesis 45:1-15

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 15:21-28

...The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

The Reverend Susan Phillips

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"Hinei Matov"

The musical score for "Hinei Matov" is written in 3/4 time and consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. It contains the following notes and lyrics: Dm (Hi - nei mah), Dm7/C (tov), Gm/Bb (u - ma - na), Dm/A (- im), and Gm (she - vet a -). The second staff continues with A7 (chim), Dm (gam), and Dm (ya - chad.). It includes a repeat sign with a first ending (I.) and a second ending (II.). The third staff concludes with Dm/A (tov), Gm (she - vet a -), A7 (chim), Dm (gam), and D.C. al Fine (ya - chad.).

How good and pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to sit together.

הֵנָּה מַה טוֹב וְיָמָּה נָעִים
שֶׁבֶת אֲחִים גַּם יַחַד

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

#607

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God, who loves all of earth, every created thing is beloved to you.

**We give thanks for your embrace and reach out to this wild world
with the gifts we dedicate to your love.**

May these gifts transform so many stories.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

#753

SHARED BENEDICTION

Let us go out into God's world in peace;

have courage; hold on to what is good;

return to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;

support the weak; help the suffering; honor all persons;

love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

SENDING

People of God – look around.

These are your family, siblings, cousins, and kin.

Nothing divides us other than our limitations.

Released from the burdens of fear, anger, resentment, and pain,

let us go into the world made new,

celebrating our new freedom to reach out with your love.

Let us go to love and serve.

POSTLUDE

"Organ Blue Bossa"

Grimoaldo Macchia