

The Worship of God
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2026 – 9:00 Morning Worship
Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

“Deep River”

Adolphus Hailstork

WELCOME/Invitations

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

How could we ever tell how good our God is?

What would we say?

How would we move into such praise?

How would it feel to be there together with such joy?

Bring every joy.

Come with every bit of delight.

Gather it all in this pleasing, commendable, and worthy of excellence,
with drum, trumpet, and tambourine.

Praise God!

How could we live into God’s love?

We could rejoice and shout.

We could jump and sing.

We could tell the truth and hold space for every emotion.

Yes! This is what we praise.

Praise God, who gathers us together.

OPENING PRAYER

We might not all come with praise.

Joy might be furthest from our hearts.

Anger, sadness, and anxiety might mingle here too.

O God, you make space for it all.

Bring us together today to experience the fullness of your steadfast love.

May we find your grace holding us close, now and always. **Amen.**

SING

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

#415

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God rages hot over the stiff-necked people.

Jesus’ parable concludes with a limbless soul pushed into the outer darkness.

That is what anger feels like.

Joy is not the only faithful emotion.

We are people who weep and gnash our teeth.

It is faithful to express our anger:

to resist the notion that this is just the way it is,

to demand answers when none are given,

to insist that this is not what love does.

Moses had to remind God what love looks like.

Sometimes we forget, too.

Our fury cuts in harsh words.

Our anger tightens into clenched fists.

O God, forgive us.

Assure us that even when anger flares, it is your steadfast love
that upholds everything and everyone.

**Hold us in that love that is more powerful
than the worst we can do, we pray.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Psalm 23, Revelation 22:1-5

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 7:37-38

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

REFLECTION

The Reverend Daniel Choe

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SING

"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"

#645

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

#609

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, Holy One, for the fire in our bellies and the hope in our hearts.

With every emotion we share these gifts with your people.

May they conspire with the work of your steadfast love.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

#724

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

Remember, dear one, every emotion that you have felt this morning.
God does mighty works in this heart.

We will remember these things.

Rejoice in these things as you go into the world
to help others find the truth in their hearts.

Go and love in the faith that God's steadfastness endures and surprises.
God's love and peace will be with you always.

And also with you.

POSTLUDE

"Postlude"

Horatio Parker