

The Worship of God
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, July 19, 2026 – 9:00 Morning Worship
Welcome to First Presbyterian Church via Zoom!

PRELUDE

“Voluntary in D”

William Boyce

WELCOME

GATHERING AROUND GOD’S WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this space,
heaven and Earth touch.

**Here in this place,
the gateway to grace is wide open.**

Here the people of God come to worship
and God enfolds us close in a welcoming embrace,
“I am with you,” God declares.

We repeat God’s welcome in this community of grace,

I am with you.

Let us worship.

OPENING PRAYER

Help us to listen to the groans in our midst, O God:
creation’s groans of labor pains, our neighbor’s groans of loneliness,
the groans that we bring, with trepidation and awe.

We come bringing the yearnings that are on our hearts this day.

Draw us into your waiting presence where we can learn how to wait as you wait:
eagerly, hopefully, joyfully, for our holiness to grow
and our chaff to be burned away in the brilliant fire of the Spirit.

Amen.

SING

“We Get There Together”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, we often confuse your time for our time, your world for our world.
We lose sight of what is truly important and think we have all the answers.
When we feel strong and confident,
we forget you and your dreams for us, this church, and the world.

**Help us to see that we are wound up in a tangled web of community,
with you always at the center.**

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our God is patient and understanding.

We are waiting and groaning,

but God is at work already revealing hope that we cannot quite see.

Still, this hope saves us.

Our God redeems us and revives our spirits again.

This is the mystery and the glory.

Alleluia!

Sing

“None of Us Are Free”

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 28:10-19a

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:12-25

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

REFLECTION

The Reverend Dr. Liz Theoharis

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

SING

“We Will Protect Each Other”

GIVING OUR GIFTS

DOXOLOGY

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

#607

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

With all that we have and all we are, we reach out to you, our God of generosity.

We ask that you receive these ordinary gifts;

may they be used to offer extraordinary blessings

in our community and world.

May these gifts remind us that through you, all is possible! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE CHAT

THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts & debtors)

SENDING INTO GOD'S WORLD

SING

"Hold On"

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

As you go from this place, may God's love hold you,
may God's light guide you, and may God's liberation free you.
Go out into the world with blessing in your life,
and the blessing for the lives of others.
May every rock and stone be a place of wonder and hope.
Amen.

POSTLUDE

"March in D Major"

George Frederic Handel