

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 24, 2022

10:30 a.m. Worship



**For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds,
and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.**

Luke 11:10

First Presbyterian Church

Mailing address: PO Box 2729; San Bernardino, California 92406

909.882.3308

www.fpcsb.net

MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT: REV. DR. SANDRA R. TICE

MINISTRY OF PASTORAL SUPPORT: REV. DR. STEPHEN SMITH

COMMISSIONED LOCAL PASTOR: DR. WENDY L. LAMB

PASTOR EMERITUS: REV. JAMES C. HUFFSTUTLER

MINISTRY OF MUSIC: CURTISS ALLEN, JR., DIRECTOR OF MUSIC;

WILLIAM ZEITLER, ORGANIST; AMY GANO, BELLS

Welcome to Worship at First Presbyterian Church

This service is being livestreamed and can be viewed on our YouTube channel in real time or as a recording. **Large-print copies of this order of service**, as well as **audio enhancement devices** are available **from the ushers**.

We gather on Sunday for 3 reasons:

- **To seek God**- whom we find in sacred text and sacrament, in music and in song, in prayer, in the beauty of this space, in the stillness where we can hear our hearts. We offer God our thanks and praise, our lament and longing, and our resources. We let go of burdens and receive grace and forgiveness. We see the One our hearts love.
- **To practice Community** – rejoice w/those who rejoice, weep w/those who weep. To break bread with those whom we love and those whom we need to love more fully. We practice things our culture does not emphasize: resting, forgiving, sharing. Jesus asked us to love one another as he loved us, and we cannot do so without practice.
- **To listen for our Call**- often an invitation to go out and be or do or remember. God is speaking all the time: through conscience, nature, friends, and certainly scripture. We gather to listen for that Call and to recommit ourselves to discipleship.

Information on our common life can be found on our website www.fpcsb.net, along with sermons and newsletters. You can participate in our work by supporting us financially with a one-time or sustaining donation.

Children are welcome in worship. Younger children may go to the Nursery at any time.

OUR NEXT COMMUNION will be Sunday, August 7th.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Christa Wallis

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

Luke's Gentile Christian audience's experience with their fathers differs from their Jewish counterparts. The fathers in the Greco-Roman culture enjoyed complete control over their children and grandchildren. For example, a father decides whether his newborn child will be raised in the family, sold, or killed. Luke introduces the Gentiles to God, who is generous, loving, and attentive to God's children's needs. Luke changes his audience's perspective on fatherhood by presenting God as "the Father who cares for his children and acts redemptively on their behalf." The father-child relationship is based on the confidence of the child. This relationship is centered on love, not fear. God the Father in the New Testament is a personal, intimate, sacred, and trusted authority.

--Niveen Sarras, *Working Preacher*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Reflections on "Jesus Loves Me"* William Zeitler
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

*CALL to WORSHIP

You show us your steadfast love, O Lord,

✘ **and grant us your salvation.**

We knock at the door,

✘ **and you always open to us.**

You speak peace to all people,

✘ **and we rejoice in your love.**

Let us worship God.

*HYMN 643 *Now Thank We All Our God* NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

PRAYER of CONFESSION

✘ Ever-faithful God,
how often we turn away from you,

yet you remain constant to us.

We run from you, but you call us back.

† The symbols you will see in this order of worship mean:

* Stand if you are able ✘ The congregation will read.

In our words and our deeds we dishonor you,
yet you still profess your love for us.
We cut ourselves off from you and from others,
but you will not let us go.

(Moment for silent reflection and confession)

- ✘ Forgive our faithless and fickle ways
and increase our gratitude,
that we might grow in faithfulness to you,
for the sake of Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

- ✘ In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and are being made whole. Amen.

(We stand and sing Alleluia)

*ALLELUIA

William Zeitler

Musical notation for Alleluia, featuring a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is written on a single staff. Chords are indicated above the notes: Em, B, Em, D, G, D, 1. F#m, B, 2. F#m, Bm, F#m. The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE

Luke 11:1-13

This is the word of faith that we proclaim

- ✘ **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Steve Smith

THE OFFERING of OUR TITHES and GIFTS

(We invite you to respond to God's Word. We offer our gifts to be part of God's purposes in the world. You are invited to bring your offering up to the basket during the offertory. You may also place it in a basket on your way out or send gifts through the mail or online.)

- *OFFERTORY *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* William Zeitler

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Sandy Garza, Sally Inglis, Josie Short

Elders: **Carol Cooper, Margaret Doane, Stephanie Fletcher**

Deacons: **Sharon Landeros, Joyce Lyons, Joanna Nord**

This Weeks' Celebrations

- July 24* Larry Marona
 Elizabeth Franklin-Morales
 Gary Saenz**
- July 25* Nick Eckert**
- July 28* Wanda Gernux & Bill McIntosh
 Charlene Peterson**
- July 30* Linda Kaufman**

News and announcements are available in your Friday *Keeping in Touch* emails. If you are not receiving these, and you would like to, contact Mimi in the church office.

Music Box

The verses to 'Jesus Loves Me' were written by Anna Bartlett Warner (1827 -1915). Anna's father was Henry Warner, a wealthy New York City lawyer. When he lost most of his fortune in the 1837 depression, the family was forced to move to their summer home (Good Craig) on Constitution Island in the Hudson River. It was then that Anna and her sister Susan Warner began writing to earn money. They also conducted Bible classes for cadets at the nearby fledgling Military Academy at West Point. (Perhaps you've heard of it.)

The lyrics to 'Jesus Loves Me' first appeared as a poem in the context of a novel called "Say and Seal", written by Anna's sister Susan and published in 1860, in which the words were spoken as a comforting poem to a dying child.

In 1862 William Batchelder Bradbury (1816-1868) supplied the tune and added his own chorus "Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus Loves me..." Bradbury was born in Maine, studied music in Germany, and returned to the U.S. to become a professional organist and choir director. In 1854 he founded the Bradbury Piano Company with his brother. He died aged 52.

When composing "Reflections on 'Jesus Loves Me'", my thinking was to take a childhood memory such as this song and reflect on it through the lens of the joys and sorrows that have intervened over the decades. Some childhood ideas, dreams and experiences are of course left far behind. But others end up defining the course of our lives - although perhaps reframed and deepened by a more mature and hard-won perspective. As I write this as a mature man, I still say "Yes, Jesus Loves Me", but my understanding of what that means is very different from what it meant to me as a child. Yet both understandings are still equally true.

-- William Zeitler