

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Songs and Scriptures through the Church Year
September 18, 2022 10:30 a.m. Worship



The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning

Lamentations 3.22-23a

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, October 2nd.

Morning Worship†

Lector: Dotti Garcia

REFLECTION BEFORE THE SERVICE

This Sunday is our penultimate Sunday in the Fellowship Hall this summer. We have enjoyed hearing one another—and the Threshold Choir and Craig Colclough—sing in this smaller space where we are closer together, and we wanted to extend the singing in the middle of this Ordinary Time.

Today, our worship will encompass the whole year in a “year in review.” We are revisiting the cycle of the liturgical year to create a retelling of the whole gospel story, from Advent to the Reign of Christ, from waiting for the Messiah to living into the Kingdom of God. The lectionary year is built so that each year we review the story of God’s love for the world, the coming of Jesus, his suffering and death, his rising to new life, and his teaching and ministry, his ascension and the coming of the Spirit, and our life together as disciples. Today we remember it all.

This service will be a summary, a chance to see the whole joyous and powerful story of the Christian faith.

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

PRELUDE *The Dance of Life and Death* *W. Zeitler*
Allow the music to usher you into sacred space and time.

CALL to WORSHIP¹

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

✠ **Worship the Lord with gladness.**
Come into God’s presence with singing!

ADVENT

The year begins anew with the first Sunday of Advent. God is not done yet. As we wait in Advent to celebrate the already fulfilled promise of the coming of the Messiah, we wait also for what God has yet to complete—the promise of the creation fully redeemed and at peace. We and all of creation join in that

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

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

¹ From Psalm 71

longing. Glimpsing that reality in Jesus, we seek to live our life together as God intends in the full coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. The liturgical color we use for Advent is blue, signifying longing and hope and the dawning of a new day.

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-5, 14a

HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

✘ O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

TIME with the CHILDREN

[After Time with the Children, our children pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to join Nancy Horstmann for KidSpace in Room 11. Parents, please pick your children up immediately following worship. Infants through pre-Kindergarten may go to the Nursery as necessary.]

CHRISTMAS

At Christmas, the Word is made flesh. Christmas is a twelve-day celebration of the gift of Jesus to and for the world. Christmas is short for “Christ’s Mass”—the worship service that marks the birth of Jesus. The liturgical colors for the season of Christmas are—like Easter—white and gold, reminders that the birth of Jesus is the beginning of a pilgrimage through suffering and death to new life.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:4-7

***HYMN 134**

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

✘ Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

EPIPHANY

Epiphany means “to make manifest” and celebrates God the Son made manifest in the person of Jesus Christ. The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on January 6 (or the Sunday closest to it), and commemorates the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus.

Scripture Reading **Matthew 2:1-2**

HYMN 151

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

✘ **We three kings of Orient are,
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

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

We Gather Together

***RESPONSE**

KINGS OF ORIENT

✘ **Glorious, now behold Him arise,
King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies.
O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright;
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light!**

LENT

In Lent the church retraces Jesus’ forty days of temptation and testing in the Wilderness. Lent was an established period of intensified training in discipleship in the church, first for those new to the faith, then later a practice the whole church was encouraged to undertake as they prepared to celebrate the Resurrection on Easter. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. Since Sundays are always celebrations of the Resurrection, they are not counted as part of Lent’s forty days. The liturgical color is purple, signifying pain and suffering, which bring grief and penitence. It is also a color of royalty, signifying that Jesus is our Messiah, literally our king.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:16-4:1

HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

✘ What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

HOLY WEEK

Holy Week begins the high holy time when Christians re-tell the final week of Jesus' life: his arrival in Jerusalem, arrest, trial, and crucifixion. The liturgical colors for Holy Week are red for Palm Sunday and black for Good Friday and Holy Saturday, signifying death. We read the story of Christ's passion and discover God's aching compassion for the world.

PALM SUNDAY

Scripture Reading

Matthew 21:6-9

***HYMN 196**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

✘ REFRAIN: All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!

Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One. *(Repeat REFRAIN)*

MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Thursday of Holy Week we remember Jesus taking on the role of a servant and washing the feet of his closest followers, and also offering himself to them in the bread and the wine. He gives them a new commandment: Love one another.

Scripture Reading

John 13:34-35

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday is the day we acknowledge that Christ suffered and died on the cross.

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 53:3-6

SUNG REFRAIN

***Jesus, Remember Me*²**

Jacques Berthier

Let this refrain be your prayer. Sing 3 times through.

- ✘ **Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.**
Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

EASTER

Christ is risen; he is risen indeed! Our high holy time culminates in the great season of Easter, a fifty-day celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. The liturgical colors are white and gold. The Easter or paschal candle is lit each Sunday. This is our most prominent festival and our celebrations throughout this season are full of exuberance, the singing and shouting of hallelujahs, and much joy.

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:1-5

***HYMN**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

- ✘ **“Christ the Lord is risen today!” Alleluia!**
All creation, join to say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to You by both be given; Alleluia!
Every knee to You shall bow; Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

PENTECOST

The season of Easter comes to an end on the day of Pentecost when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the beginning of the church. The liturgical color for Pentecost is bright red, signifying fire and the presence of God.

Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-4

² Music by Jacques Berthier. Text & Music © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission of ONELICENSE #A706254.

✘ Come, O Spirit, dwell among us;
 come with Pentecostal power;
 give the church a stronger vision;
 help us face each crucial hour.
 Built upon a firm foundation,
 Jesus Christ, the Cornerstone,
 still the church is called to mission
 that God's love shall be made known.

ORDINARY TIME

The long season from Pentecost to Advent is a season of growth. We hear the stories of Jesus' ministry, and his teaching. There are graduations, federal holidays, vacations, and schools beginning again in the fall. We live, work, and grow together, and look beyond our common life.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:37-39

ANTHEM

*Blessed Assurance*⁴

Arr. Joel Raney

One thing I'm sure of, one thing I know, God walks beside me wherever I go.
 God never leaves me, God's there to stay. God holds my hand, God lights my way.
 God's love is perfect, God's arms are strong. God's right here with me, I'm not alone.
 When my heart's broken, God's there to mend. God is my Savior, God is my friend.
 Blessed assurance Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
 Watching and waiting looking above, filled with God's goodness, lost in his love.
 This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

MORNING PRAYER and OUR 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.**

SACRED DAYS in ORDINARY TIME

Though not technically part of the liturgical year, as a PC(USA) congregation there are three additional days we commemorate during Ordinary Time.

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⁴ Text by Fanny J. Crosby. Music by Phoebe P. Knapp. Choral setting and original words and music by Joel Raney. ©2002, 2010 Hope Publishing Company. All right reserved. Used by permission of OneLicense #A706254.

The first Sunday in October we celebrate communion in World Communion Sunday. We remember explicitly what we always acknowledge implicitly, that when we eat the bread and drink the cup, our siblings around the globe are doing the same thing, and we are all part of this family of God.

The last Sunday of October, we celebrate Reformation Sunday, commemorating October 31, the day Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses to the church door in Wittenberg and the protestant reformation was begun. The first Sunday in November, we celebrate All Saints/All Soul's Day and remember those from our number who have died in the last year.

Scripture Reading **Hebrews 12:1-2**

HYMN 326

For All the Saints

SINE DOMINE

✘ For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.**

Alleluia! Alleluia!

REFLECTION

Sandy Tice

Scripture Reading

Psalm 18:1-3

HYMN 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

SINE DOMINE

✘ A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing.
Our helper he, amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe.
His craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

***MOMENT for REFLECTION**

***CHARGE and BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

William Zeitler

(For health reasons we are not greeting at the door)

GREETERS: Jeoff Molcan, Shelby Obershaw

USHERS: Chris Thomas, *Lead Usher*

Dave Thomas, Al Rueda, *Security Ushers*

SOUND ENGINEER: Brent Nord

VIDEO ENGINEER: James Welte

CAMERA OPERATORS: Merry Beth Grindahl, Lynn Usher

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Noé Falconi, Charlene Peterson, Beverly Snell

Elders: Carol Cooper, Margaret Doane, Stephanie Fletcher

Deacons: Carmen Avila, Marianna Fowles, Janet McKinster

This Weeks' Celebrations

Sep 18 Mindy Rueda

Sep 19 Kimberly Ballard

Sep 22 Al Rueda

Sep 23 Michael Cummings

Sep 24 Kyle Smith

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

In many cases, seeming opposites are actually 'dance partners' in the never ending flow of the Cosmos. Protons are positively charged, electrons negatively so, and their balanced pairing is what holds atoms together and makes all the matter in the universe possible. The force of gravity by the Sun on our planet is balanced by 'centrifugal force', so that the Earth neither plunges into the Sun nor flies off into the abyss of space. And without the dance of male and female, almost all life -- trees, flowers, fish, insects, reptiles, birds, mammals and humans -- all would die out in a single generation.

The rabbit dies to give life to the wolf. The wolf dies to give life to plants and insects. Plants are eaten to give life to the rabbit. And the circular dance between prey and predator, between Life and that which must die to feed Life, goes on and on.

Of course, from the rabbit's personal perspective, the wolf is a terrible thing! But if we can expand our imagination, and dimly sense through a glass darkly the Totality, and our infinitesimal place in the Greater Whole, then perhaps we can catch a fleeting hint of the Awe-full Majesty that is the Dance of Life and Death in which we too find ourselves for so brief a blink-of-an-eye in Time.

The Episcopal Book of Common Prayer has a marvelous sentence: All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Or, better still, Thomas Merton (1915-1968, a 20th century Catholic mystic):

For the world and time are the dance of the Lord in emptiness. The silence of the spheres is the music of a wedding feast. The more we persist in misunderstanding the phenomena of life, the more we analyze them out into strange finalities and complex purposes of our own, the more we involve ourselves in sadness, absurdity and despair. But it does not matter much, because no despair of ours can alter the reality of things, or stain the joy of the cosmic dance which is always there. Indeed, we are in the midst of it, and it is in the midst of us, for it beats in our very blood, whether we want it to or not.

Yet the fact remains that we are invited to forget ourselves on purpose, cast our awful solemnity to the winds and join in the general dance.

-- William Zeitler