First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 23, 2017 10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn Sing (9:45) Concerns of the Church

"Be Thou My Vision"

arr. Wood

Call to Worship

People of God, let us gather to worship and praise God's name.

I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart.

For great is your steadfast love for me.

You have delivered my soul from the depths.

* Hymn 26

Prelude

"Earth and All Stars!"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

- * Call to Confession
- * Prayer of Confession

Abba, Father,

where we are in bondage to sin, set us free;

restore us as your children and joint heirs with Christ.

You are our hope.

Lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

- * Silent Confession
- * Assurance of Pardon
- * Passing of the Peace
- * Response (Hymnal 582)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen!

World without end, without end. Amen!
World without end, without end. Amen!
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Isaiah 44:1-8 (OT, p. 673)

Psalter: Psalm 12 (OT, p. 494)

A Time with Children

Special Music "My Tribute" Crouch

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (NT, p. 14)

Sermon: "Weeds" Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 367 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 35)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

arr. Wood

* Doxology (606)

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 307 'God of Grace and God of Glory"

* Charge and Benediction

* Congregational Amen (601)

* Postlude "To God Be the Glory"

arr. Hustad

* All who are able shall stand.

The flowers this morning have been given by Joe and Ginny O'Brien to the Glory of God and with special prayers for all those living with illness, and those who care for and support them.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Rev. William G. Carter Pastor Coordinator of Children and Youth Jana Schillinger Director of Music Frank Jones Organist Kay Ten Eyck Liturgist Nancy Post Soloist Jenna Ash Ushers Drew Taylor Welcomer Ann Chamberlin

We are a Stephen Ministry congregation.



We are grateful for the many ways that

people support our church's ministry to the community and world. If you wish to contribute by cell phone, **scan here.**

First Presbyterian Church 300 School Street Clarks Summit, PA 18411 570/586-6306

www.fpccs.org



Isaiah 44:1-8

But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen! Thus says the LORD who made you, who formed you in the womb and will help you: Do not fear, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen. For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring. They shall spring up like a green tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams. This one will say, "I am the Lord's," another will be called by the name of Jacob, yet another will write on the hand, "The Lord's," and adopt the name of Israel. Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Psalm 12

Help, O LORD, for there is no longer anyone who is godly; the faithful have disappeared from humankind.

They utter lies to each other; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak.

May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts,

those who say, "With our tongues we will prevail; our lips are our own—who is our master?"

"Because the poor are despoiled, because the needy groan, I will now rise up," says the LORD; "I will place them in the safety for which they long."

The promises of the LORD are promises that are pure, silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

You, O LORD, will protect us; you will guard us from this generation forever.

On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among humankind.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn." Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!