

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day 19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 8, 2023 10:00 a.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude "Prelude in F"

J.S. Bach

Words of Welcome

Call to Worship

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

* Hymn 393

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

on the Letter to the Philippians

God our Father,

we do not focus our lives on whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, or pleasing to you.

We worship our appetites and glorify what is shameful.

We have set our minds on earthly things,

and deny the citizenship we hold in heaven.

Humble us like Christ, and conform us to Christ's glory,

that we would know your power

that has raised him to rule over all things.

For it is in his name that we pray, Amen.

- * Silent Confession
- * Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace
- * Musical Response: "Grace to You and Peace"

Grace to you and peace, grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reception of New Members

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Matthew 21:33-46 (NT, pg. 24)

Psalter: Psalm 19 (Hymnal 61)

A Time with Children

Anthem "Holy Lord, God of Hosts" Gordon Young

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:19-30 (NT, pg.197)

Sermon: "Side By Side" Rev. Carter

Sermon Series: Dwelling in Philippians

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 320 "The Church of Christ in Every Age"

* Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5–11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself,

taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form he humbled himself

and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.

Therefore, God also highly exalted him

and gave him the name that is above every name,

so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God. Amen!

Prayers of the People and the 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.

Minute for Generosity

Offering

Offertory "Poco Andante" J.G. Albrechtsberger

- * Doxology 606
- * Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Hymn 846 "Fight the Good Fight"

* Charge and Benediction

* Postlude "Gigue" Gordon Young

If you are leaving before the postlude is finished, please do so quietly.

The flowers are given to the Glory of God in memory of Sherry and Ned Connell.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor Rev. William Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth
Director of Music Frank Jones
Organist Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist Diana Pope-Albright
Minute from the Generosity Team Leelah Farrell
Ushers John Conklin and Chris Jeske

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www.fpccs.org

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^{*} All who are able shall stand.

Church Family Announcements

Our congregation worships God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

Thank you for joining us for Worship. We worship in two ways!

- Join us in person at 10:00 a.m.
- **Tune in online** for our service, which is broadcast live on <u>our video page on YouTube</u> and archived for later viewing on the same site.

Large-print bulletins can be found at the rear of the sanctuary.

The Nursery is open Sunday mornings from 9:40-11:10 a.m. for children ages 3 and younger in room 208. The nursery is staffed by Heather Lyons.

Bible Time is a new program for our children (age 4 to approx. grade 4) to hear Bible stories told in a fun and engaging way. Each Sunday following the anthem, children are invited to go (with adult leadership) for Bible Time (lasting about 20 minutes) and return for the Prayers and the end of service.

"We Worship Together" series: Why do we say the Lord's Prayer? What is communion all about? What are we waiting for during Advent? These questions and more will be answered in a new series for children. The program will last about 30 minutes and will be held after worship; parents are invited to sign up, and each family will receive a book to take home related to the topic discussed. Our first program will be held **today in room 110** on the topic of **Communion**.

Want to read through the Bible with friends? An Immerse Bible Reading Group will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, October 9, at 152 Edgewood Drive, South Abington Township. This introductory gathering will set the group's meeting schedule. If there is sufficient interest, we will create more than one group. To save a seat, contact Jamie Strong at (570) 586-6776 or email her at jastrong@hotmail.com

Wednesday, October 11, Adult Education begins at 6:00 p.m. in room 206. Rev. Carter will lead our Bible study on the book of Philippians.

Joyful Noise! Inviting all children and youth to participate in the opening hymn **next** Sunday, October 15th. Meet at the front of the sanctuary at 9:45 to pick out an instrument and have a short practice. No experience necessary! Questions? Call Connie Weiss 570-466-4520. Can't make it in October? Keep an eye out for the November date.

Arts at First Presbyterian Presents An Autumn Serenade with The Bill Mays Trio Sunday, October 15 at 4 p.m.



The pianist Bill Mays brings bassist Dean Johnson and drummer Ron Vincent for an afternoon of jazz, featuring music from their latest CD. With a top-shelf career spanning sixty years Mays has performed with the likes of Frank Sinatra, Phil Woods, and Gerry Mulligan. A prolific composer, and heard on countless movie scores, Bill's trio will dazzle us with its artistry.

LIFT: Living In Faith Together

October 22 after worship

Join us after worship on Sunday, October 22 for a meal and intergenera-tional program. Families with children as well as congregants of all ages are invited. Our lunch will be a **potluck**, so we invite each family to bring a hot or cold dish to share. From entrées to side dishes to casseroles and beyond, help us to break bread together on **Sunday, October 22. Drinks and desserts will be provided.** (Additional details are available in the October *Presbyter.*)

Tell us your prayer concerns. Prayer Request Cards are in the pew racks. Pass them to the center aisle to be collected during the first hymn.

Please pray for: Hall, Bob, Bonnie, Leslie, Sara, Susan, Flo, Jim, Lisa, Janet, Patty, Dean, Sharon, Naylor family, Sonny, Ralph, Linzy, Sue, Dillon, Tony, Lisa Bourcier family, Donna, Andy, Margaret, Aiden, Colleen M., Glynn family, LeAnne, Wayne, Dennis, Robert, Bill.

Immigration Resettlement Volunteer Opportunity: Catholic Social Services Immigration Resettlement needs help coordinating new refugee needs with services and volunteers. There are volunteers and case workers to pick up at the airport, furnish apartments, take food shopping, schedule and take to doctor or social services appointments. The current coordinator needs help lining everything up. If you think you might like to help out with this, or any other part of welcoming our newest neighbors, please email Ginny at ginny8149@gmail.com.

The red attendance pads have returned to the pews! Please sign your name and pass it to the next person across the pew. We are trying to do a better job keeping track of those who come to worship.

We are looking for a sexton to begin work this fall. A job description is posted on the church bulletin board. A letter of application and resume can be sent to the church office.

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.





You are invited for a

Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 29, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. It's a safe and fun event – and we look forward to welcoming many children from our community to our upper parking lot on School Street.

Here's how you can help:

- Donate some wrapped candy; drop it off at the church office.
- Join in the fun: decorate your car, dress up, and distribute the candy (please arrive by 1:30).

This Week at a Glance

Sunday, October 8

- **10 a.m.,** Worship in the sanctuary and online
 - o Bible Time
- After worship, "We Worship Together" series, room 110

Monday, October 9 - The Church Office is closed - Indigenous Peoples Day

- **1:30 p.m.,** Immerse Bible Study gathering, 152 Edgewood Dr., S. Abington Twp.
- 6 p.m., Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, October 10

- 10 a.m., MBK Quilts, Fellowship Hall
- **7 p.m.**, Session, room 206

Wednesday, October 11

- **10:30,** Prayer and Share, room 209
- **6 p.m.,** Adult Education begins, room 206
- 7 p.m., Adult Choir, sanctuary
- **8 p.m.,** Adult Bell Choir, Fellowship Hall

Friday, October 13

Presbyter Deadline

Saturday, October 14

Sunday, October 15

- **9:45 a.m.,** Joyful Noise, choose your instruments, front of sanctuary (see announcement on page 2 of this insert)
- 10 a.m., Worship in the sanctuary and online
 - o **Bible Time** for young children following anthem
- 4 p.m., Concert: Bill Mays Trio, "An Autumn Serenade," Sanctuary