

# FIRST



# PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEBANON



September 17, 2023

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

September 17, 2023

10:00 A.M.

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## THE GATHERING

*To Glorify God and Enjoy God Forever*

PRELUDE            *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*            James Denton  
CHIMING THE HOUR

### CHORAL INTROIT

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: When the tides of fear seem to overwhelm us, we  
cry out....

People: Lord, come to us and lead us to paths of safety!

Leader: When we feel lost and alone and we wonder if  
anyone cares about us, we cry out....

People: Lord, come and heal our wounded spirits!

Leader: When turbulence within and without seem to  
threaten us, we cry out....

People: Lord, bring us peace.  
Let us worship the Lord.

\*HYMN NO. 455    *All Creatures of Our God and King*            ERFREUEN

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO RECONCILIATION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of Mercy,

We humbly bring ourselves before you with heavy and  
contrite hearts. We confess that we have failed to extend to  
others the same mercy and forgiveness that you shower upon  
us each day. We are consumed with resentment and anger.

Help us, we pray.

Lead us on the path of forgiveness and enable us to release  
the tight grip of bitterness towards those who have wronged  
us. Amen.

#### SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*(from James 5:15-16)*

Leader: The prayer of the righteous is powerful and  
effective. Anyone who has committed sins will be  
forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,  
redeemed, and restored to God's path of  
righteousness. Amen

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\* Those who are able are invited to stand.

*Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

\*THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Gracious God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts, that we may receive what you have revealed, and do what you have commanded. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-35

*Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?'*  
*Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'*

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

*Steal Away*

arr. Malcolm Archer

*(Refrain) Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!  
Steal away, steal away home; I ain't got long to stay here.*

*My Lord, he calls, he calls me by the thunder.*

*The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here. (Refrain)*

*Green trees are bending, Poor sinner stand a trembling;*

*The trumpet sounds within my soul; I ain't got long to stay here. (Refrain)*

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

Children are invited to come forward

SERMON

*The Cost of Forgiveness*

Rev. Sherard Edington

## RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

\*HYMN NO. 383      *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

OLIVET

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

*Chapel Windows*

Richard Blake

\*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Traditional) Hymnal Page 16

Lord, in your mercy  
Hear our prayer.

## SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN NO. 276      *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*SUNG RESPONSE

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

\*POSTLUDE

*How Firm a Foundation*

James Southbridge

## WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us this morning. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to become a member of First Presbyterian Church. For more information, please speak to the pastor at the close of the service.

📶 For WiFi access go to FPC\_CONNECT and enter password 6154441360.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP

The **Annual Church Picnic** will be held on  
Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m.  
at Don Fox Community Park.

Fried chicken, drinks, plastic ware, and paper goods will be provided. Bring a covered dish and join the fellowship.

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**LADIES BINGO NIGHT** – All ladies of the church are invited to attend Bingo Night on Monday, September 18, at 7:00 p.m. Bring a \$10 gift and a friend and join the fun.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** – There will be a Congregational Meeting today immediately following the worship service.

**THE 4 CENTS A MEAL** offering will be received September 24.

**RISE AGAINST HUNGER**– We are one month away from our 6th Annual Rise Against Hunger Food Packaging Event. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this fun morning in which we will assemble 10,000 meals to be sent to a needy location. Our event will take place on Saturday, October 14, at 9:00 a.m. Everyone will gather at 9:00 am to measure, weigh, package, seal, and box those meals. This event is for all ages. We need to raise \$4,000 to cover the cost of the meals. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

## YOUTH

**YOUTH GROUP** (5<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade) will begin meeting on Wednesdays in September. More information to follow.

## THIS WEEK AT FPC

<b>Today</b>		<b>Wednesday</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Sunday School	6:00 p.m.	Church Picnic
10:00 a.m.	Worship	6:30 p.m.	No Choir Practice
11:00 a.m.	Congreg. Mtg.	<b>Thursday</b>	
<b>Monday</b>		9:00 a.m.	Preschool
6:00 p.m.	New Day (AA)	6:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Friday</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Preschool		
4:00 p.m.	Prayer Group		

## SESSION

Class of 2023  
Max Carter  
Frank Reeves  
David Foutch  
Wayne Patton

Class of 2024  
Nancy Gebhardt  
Mickey Stueck  
Allen Vance

Class of 2025  
W.P. Bone  
Jack Emmert

## DIACONATE

Class of 2023  
Margaret Carroll  
Mark Fain  
Carol Benson  
Pat Hatcher

Class of 2024  
Jonathan Bouton  
Carol Turner  
Van Turner  
Sandra Weatherford

Class of 2025  
Rachel Low  
Anne Donnell  
Jim Stueck

## CHURCH COMMITTEES

Clerk of Session – Barbara Howell  
Treasurer – Jim Stueck  
Budget & Finance – Frank Reeves  
Buildings and Grounds – Allen Vance  
Christian Education – Max Carter  
Congregational Care – Mickey Stueck  
Outreach – Nancy Gebhardt  
Personnel –  
Worship – Wayne Patton

## STAFF

Ministers – All Members of the Congregation  
Pastor – Sherard Edington  
Organist/Director of Music – Darryl Nettles  
Office Administrator – Kristy Vincent  
Preschool Director – Angela Hankins  
Nursery – Sara Chaney  
Custodians – Stratus Cleaning Service

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Children	Adult
Nursery	Crossroads Class
Elementary Class and	Faith Builders Class
Middle- High School Class	Westminster Class

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CCLI# 2226825

FINANCIAL UPDATE		
	Expenses	Income
August	\$26,390.91	\$16,014.80
YTD	\$218,662.52	\$231,180.78
	Last Week's Offering	\$4,450.00