

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation.

Order of Worship

12 September 2021

16th Sunday After Pentecost

Prayer of Preparation

Beloved of our hearts, you have called us to listen. Draw us into the heart of worship. Feed us with your living stillness. Calm us with your vast love. Speak to our hearts by the mystery of your Spirit and your Word, reminding us as we go about our day that you are the beloved of our hearts. Amen.

Welcome

Chiming of the Trinity

Introit

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Everest/Lewis

Call to Worship

from Isaiah 35

The eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.
The lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert.
The burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.
Let us worship God!

Anthem

All the People That On Earth Do Dwell

Old Hundred
R. Vaughan Williams

Confession

You love us with open arms, O God. Forgive us when we do not put your love into practice: when we do not challenge the injustice around us; when we are not generous with the gifts we have to share; when we are slow to compassion and quick to judgment; when we contribute to the brokenness of the world instead of helping to make it whole. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short. Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Summary of the Law

Matthew 22:37-39

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Prayer for Illumination

Lesson

Mark 8:27-38

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Anna Straight

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle’s 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.**

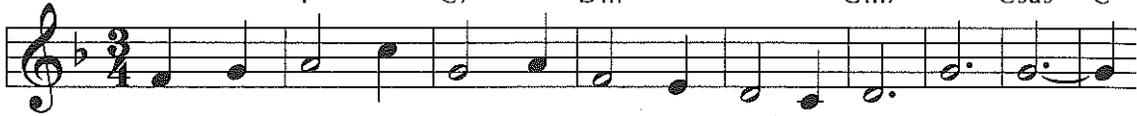
Hymn 726

Will You Come and Follow Me
(The Summons)

Bell, Maule/Scottish melody

The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?
 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?
 Will you set the pris - oners free and nev - er be the same?
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)
 Gm7 B^b Am7 B^b Csus C



Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)
 F C7 Dm Gm7 B^b F



will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Betsy Conzelman, Margaret Cooper, Charles Francis, Susan Mabie, Pat K. Rowlett, David Taylor

The prayer of preparation is adapted from the prayer for September 12 found in *Centering Prayers: A One-Year Daily Companion for Going Deeper into the Love of God*, by Peter Traben Haas.

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