

# 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

26 September 2021

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

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### Prayer of Preparation

*God of heavenly glory,  
brighter than the midday sun,  
deeper than the midnight dark  
as each day tells your wonder,  
may the words of my mouth  
and the dreams of my heart  
be acceptable to you,  
my rock and my redeemer. Amen.*

### Welcome

### Chiming of the Trinity

### Introit

*God, Reveal Your Presence*

Tersteegen/Neander

### Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**the maker of heaven and earth.**  
Our hope is in the name of the Lord,  
**the healer of all that is wounded.**  
Our trust is in the name of the Lord,  
**the one we gather to worship and praise.**  
**Let us worship God!**

### Anthem

*O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee*

Gladden/H.P. Smith  
Arr. Marcus Wiley

### Confession

**Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. For you are our rock, and yet we place our faith in sinking sand. You are our redeemer, and yet we are convinced that we can save ourselves. You are our fount of forgiveness, and yet we fear that we will be unsavable. Forgive us, O Rock. Forgive us, O Redeemer, and show us what it means to forgive one another. Show us what it means to forgive ourselves. 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 9:38-50

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

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

**Affirmation of Faith**

A New Creed, The United Church of Canada

**We are not alone, we live in God’s world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

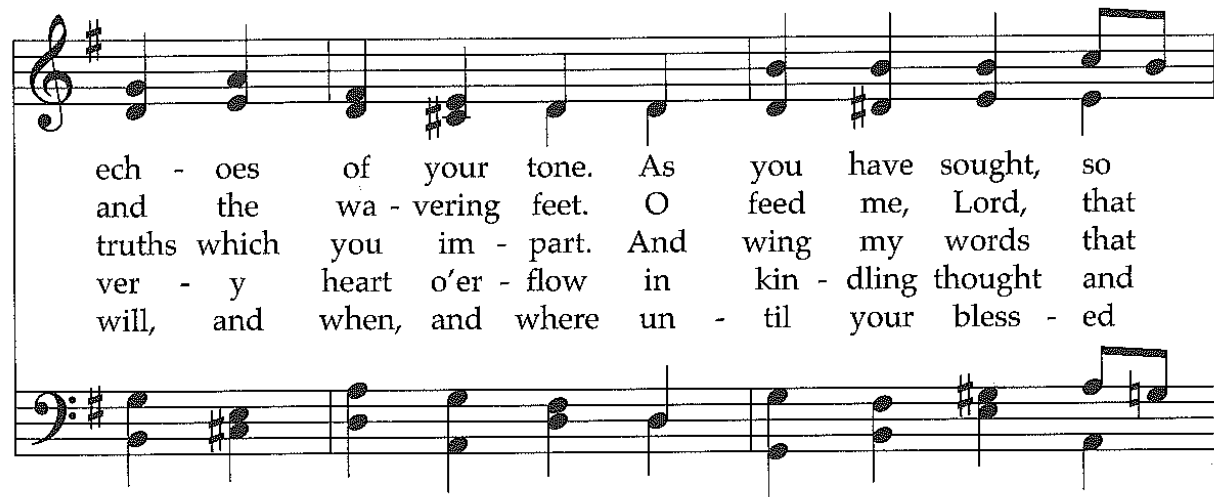
**to celebrate God’s presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

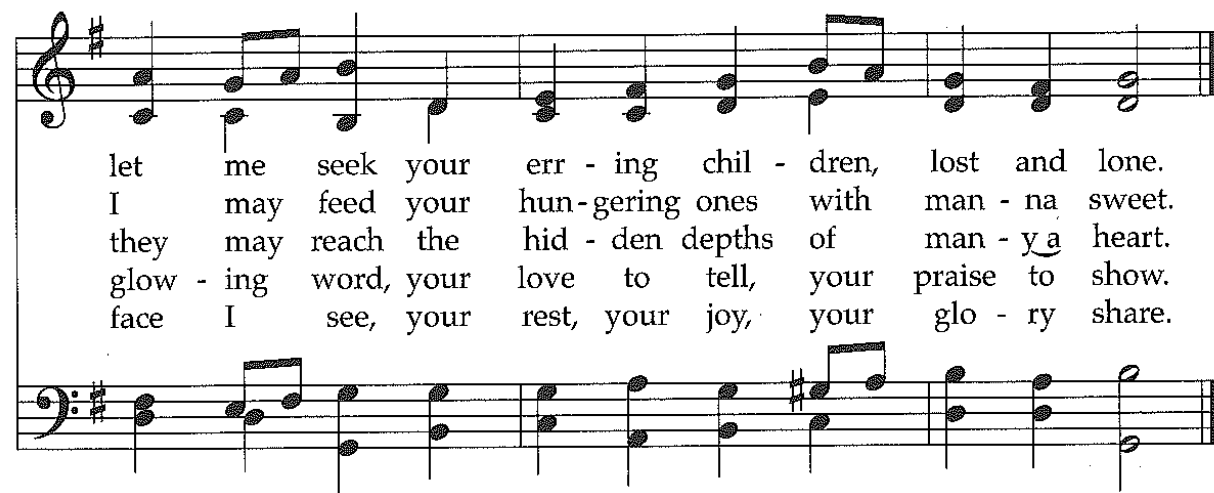
**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**



1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak in liv - ing  
 2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wan - dering  
 3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the pre - cious  
 4 O fill me with your full - ness, Lord, un - til my  
 5 O use me, Lord, use e - ven me, just as you



ech - oes of your tone. As you have sought, so  
 and the wa - vering feet. O feed me, Lord, that  
 truths which you im - part. And wing my words that  
 ver - y heart o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and  
 will, and when, and where un - til your bless - ed



let me seek your err - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.  
 I may feed your hun - gering ones with man - na sweet.  
 they may reach the hid - den depths of man - ya heart.  
 glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.  
 face I see, your rest, your joy, your glo - ry share.

**Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer**

**Benediction**

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Betsy Conzelman, Margaret Cooper, Beth Foley, Charles Francis, Bill Harris, Sue Jones, Susan Mabie, Carol Taylor, Pat K. Rowlett

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