



First Presbyterian Church

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

November 22, 2020 8:30 and 10:30 AM

The Thirty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

The way of Christian discipleship asks - what are we doing for “the least of these who are members of God's family?” Jesus’ disciples, however, are needing some clarity. “Lord, when is it we saw You among us?” They struggle to see their own lives reflected in the lives of those whom Jesus heals, feeds and embraces. So, Jesus asks them...Can you imagine seeing my life in theirs? How will we ever change the way we see each other, if not, seeing Jesus in one another?

Gathered As God's People

Prelude

Master Tallis's Testament

Herbert Howells

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

"I am the good shepherd, I know my own and my own know me,"
says Jesus.

Like scattered sheep, we seek out the One who seeks us.

"I will rescue them," says the Lord.

Our eyes meet in the darkness, and You call us home.

"I will feed them," says the Lord.

**You make us to lie down in good pastures,
and lift us beyond mountain heights.**

"I will be the shepherd of my sheep," says the Lord.

It is a cherished fold to be of God's beloved flock.

**Let us listen for the voice of the good shepherd,
and follow with curiosity and gratitude.**

Opening Hymn

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Tedd Smith & Don Hustad

Refrain:

*All glory, laud, and honor
to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring!*

*1 Thou art the King of Israel,
thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest,
the King and blessed One. (Refrain)*

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
Your compassion finds us when we cannot find ourselves.
In encountering You, our demands and unbelief ask,
“When did we see You among us?”**

**We should have seen You
standing alone at recess.
Or in a stranger’s helpless gaze.
Or under a bridge camped out in boxes and blankets.
Or holding the hand of a neighbor whose world is lost.
Or visiting the elderly and sick through windows.
Or assisting a young mother
and a child seeking refuge and new life.
Or in the heartbreaking faces of
healthcare workers fighting the virus.
Or as the man or woman who wants to work.**

**Forgive us, Lord God.
Break our hearts for what breaks Yours,
and give us compassion and courage
to respond to the suffering of this world. (Silent prayer)**

*Assurance

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

Proclaiming God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Jeff Baxter 8:30
Lee Maddox 10:30

Scripture Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Interlude

Psalm 100

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon

Family Gatherings

Rev. Len Carrell

Responding To God's Word

*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.**

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**

Offertory

Let All the World in Heaven and Nature Sing

Calvin Hampton

Prayer of Dedication

Closing Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad

*1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!*

*2 Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*

*3 O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.*

Benediction

Postlude

Allegro con brio from op. 65, no. 4

Felix Mendelssohn

*Please stand as able

We continue to pray for all of you, and are keeping you lifted in grace and love during this time. As always, we want to be a pastoral presence in your life. If there is anything we can do for you, we would like to know. If there are ways we can pray for you, or if someone you know needs the prayers of the church, please reach out to us.

Care List

The **Care list** is a list of members and friends who are sick, bereaved, or celebrating a happy occasion. After reading their names, you may want to write a short message to someone on the list.

Our Sympathy...

To Clay and Tina Neal in the death of their son, John.

To Renea Foster in the death of her father, James Clark.

Our Prayers...

Barbara Butler (sister of Mary McClanahan), Lynn Carroll (father of Margaret Piper), Ben Chiles (son of John and Sue Chiles), Sue Chiles, Joe Graham III, Will Green, Waymon Hickman, Cathy Krenz (sister of Mary McClanahan), Tom Lewis, Martha Matthews, Steve and Gary Rampley (brothers of Betty Sloan), Chanse, Catherine, Walt and unborn baby Jack Bartlett (friends of Julia West) Richard and Debbie Welch (our missionaries in Guatemala), Cindy West (sister-in-law of Jennie Grace Jewell).

Dates to Remember

People's Table	Fridays in November
Youth Committee	November 24 at 6:00 PM
Office Closed	November 26 and 27
Thanksgiving Meal	November 26 To go meals only, no service.
Fifth Sunday Offering	November 29
Lesson and Carols	December 9 at 6:00 PM
Christmas Caroling	December 13 time TBD

Articles for the December Newsletter are due by November 24.

It's that time of year of again! The deacons are coordinating First Presbyterian Church's annual Thanksgiving meal. This year, we will be handing out to-go meals in the lower church parking lot and delivering meals. To make this possible, we need your help! If you would like to hand out to-go meals, we will be meeting at church. If you would like to deliver meals, we will meet in Piggly Wiggly's parking lot. Please click on the link below for more information. To volunteer, click on the "Sign Up" tab.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4AAAAE23A2F9C70-thanksgiving>

Thank you for helping to make this annual event such a success and enabling us to serve our church and community!

On-Line Sunday School

Chapel Class	Sundays at 9:30 AM-Virtually and in person in the Chapel
Fellowship Class	Mondays at 6:30 PM-Virtually
Children	Pre recorded on-line

Ministers of the Church

Ruling Elders

Class of 2021

Jean Mac Ball

Jeff Baxter

Pat Bridges

Don Crichton

Tonjia Potts

Class of 2022

Jack Baxter

Gloria Dale

Martha Jones

Lee Maddox

Julia West

Class of 2023

Dorothy Duncan

Dan Garman

Michael McAlister

Jim Ross

Dawn Taylor

Board of Deacons

Class of 2021

Julie Crichton

Joe Graham III

Jenny Johns

Janet McAlister

Larry Nickell

Class of 2022

Erin Hedrick

Raven Martin

Kristi Martin

Alan Phillips

Jenny Sloan

Class of 2023

Janice English

Houston Jameson

Zack Maddux

Sharon Shaw

Staff

Susie Baxter, Director of Christian Education; Rev. Len Carrell, Pastor;
Renea Foster, Administrative Assistant; Carroll Kilgore, Business Administrator;
James Marshall, Sexton; Dale Nickell, Director of Music Ministry