

10th Sunday after Pentecost
ORDER OF WORSHIP
10:00 a.m.

Sunday, July 28, 2024

Seasonal Color: Green

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Please take a moment to silence your cell phones and electronic devices.
And, with the gift of music, let us prepare our hearts, minds, and souls
for this special time with God and with one another.)*

PRELUDE: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" arr. Martha Sherrill Kelsey

(Please stand in body or spirit and let us join together in the Call to Worship)

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Let us reach out with heart and soul to the Lord.

O Lord, our God, in you we place our trust.

Let us ask the Lord to lead us.

Help us O Lord to find the paths we should take.

Lead us in Your truth O God,

And we shall rejoice in your love and goodness forever! Amen!

*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN: "Lord, Why Have You Forsaken Me" GTG #210

WE ARE RENEWED IN GRACE

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (adapted from the Iona Community)

Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:

To the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Deliver me, O Lord,

From lying lips, from a deceitful tongue.

(Silence is kept for personal confession)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON Psalm 121:7-8

The Lord keeps you from all evil; God keeps your life your going out and your coming in,

We in this place remember and speak again what we have heard: God's forgiving and redeeming word.

In Christ we are forgiven.

Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:

"Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" GTG #582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,

And to the son, whose grace has pardoned me,

And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. Amen.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 22 pg. 500

ANTHEM: "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" arr. Kimberly Eve
(Bruce Murdock, Ray Rhinehart, Bill Long)

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES: Laura Sparks

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 1:1-11, 4:4-7 pgs. 196, 198

SERMON: "Fight Back with Joy" Rev. Dr. Jody Welker

*HYMN: "I Come with Joy" GTG #515

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: from A Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" arr. Erinn Shwarz

*DOXOLOGY: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" GTG # 606

**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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN: "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak" GTG #722

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"

TIME FOR FELLOWSHIP: Frances Ervin

*Please stand in body or spirit

Bold print words are read in unison.

Lay Leader this morning is Ray Rhinehart.

Elder on Call this week is Amy Yenderusiak.

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"Glory Be to the Father"; Text: Trad. liturgical text, Music: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851; "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Doxology, Text: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709, Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak," Text: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1872, alt. Music (Canonbury, LM): Robert Schumann, 1839, alt

WELCOME NEWCOMERS – THERE ARE NO STRANGERS WITHIN THIS SANCTUARY: If you would like more information about the church and our programs, please stop by the visitor’s table in the narthex.

1. You are in God’s House. We want you to feel God’s presence.
2. All around you are Christian people. They will want to shake your hand and greet you in the name of Christ. Won’t you meet them with a friendly smile? We would not have you leave this place without a warm welcome and a feeling that you want to come back.
3. Please sign the Friendship Book.
4. Those interested in membership information or who desire to join are asked to speak to Rev. Jody Welker, Interim Pastor, call the church office, or check the Friendship Book.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: (10:00am) Worship bags for children are located in the entryway. In addition, children (ages 3 yrs. old – 2nd grade) are welcome to stay with their families for the entire service, or they may attend B.L.A.S.T. Children's Church following the *Time for Young Disciples*, when children will be led from the Sanctuary to our Children’s Church room and they will return to the sanctuary before the closing hymn.

THE PEACE CANDLE: The smaller glass candle on the Communion table is a *peace candle*, and here is the candle’s story and meaning.

In 1986, a group of Americans attended a Russian Orthodox worship service. At the close of the service, an elderly woman pressed a three-ruble note into the hand of a Presbyterian pastor (only about \$5 in American dollars, but a significant gift for this elderly woman). The woman asked him to buy a *candle* with it, and light that candle in his church as a symbol for *peace*. That Presbyterian pastor purchased a *candle* with the money, placed it on the Communion table in his sanctuary, and lit it during each worship service. Then the church bought other candles, in glass containers, and sent them to other churches with the request that they be lit during their worship services, as a symbol of our common hope for *peace*.

These *peace candles* have since spread across our world and across denominations. Our congregation received our *peace candle* on Sunday, November 16th, 2014. And, we have shared a *candle* with our sister church of El Redentor in Guatemala. Together with sisters and brothers in Guatemala and around the world, we light our candles every time we worship to remind us to pray for peace in our lives, in our communities, and in our world.

THE MINISTERS

All Members of First Presbyterian Church

THE MINISTRY STAFF

Laura Sparks – Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry
lsparks@fpcnewton.com
Brandon Winbush - Director of Music
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ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Kim J. Berry – Office Manager
kberry@fpcnewton.com
Jim Ten Kate - Treasurer
Bill Inscoc - Treasurer Emeritus

MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH

Lawrence & Inge Sthreshley – Congo
Rev. Dr. John McCall – Taiwan
Eliane Menezes - Guatemala



THE SESSION

Class of 2024

Gary McDougal (1)
Charles Moody (3)
Amy Owensby (1)
Amy Yenderusiak (3)

Class of 2025

Lynette Inscoc (2)
David McCart (3)
Mimi Michael (4)
Randy Miller (4)

Class of 2026

Eva Bonnema (1)
Margie Pulliam (2)
Ray Rhinehart (5)
Jim Ten Kate (3)

(1) Council on Discipleship

(2) Council on Caring

(3) Council on Administration

(4) Council on Sharing

(5) Council on Praise

Amy Owensby - Clerk of Session

INTERIM PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Joseph Welker, Jr.
jwelker@fpcnewton.com

Pastor Jody Welker may be reached at:

828-464-0648 (Church)

919-389-4811 (Cell)

jwelker@fpcnewton.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Serving the Newton-Conover area since 1858
Partners with Iglesia El Redentor, Guatemala

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701 N. Main Avenue
(828) 464 – 0648

Newton, NC 28658
www.fpcnewton.org

MISSION STATEMENT:

Following Christ together in witness, love and service.