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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENDLETON, OREGON – SEPT. 17TH, 2023
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Pendleton, Oregon

WELCOMING
WORSHIPING
SERVING



GUEST PREACHER: REV. KATE BOTTORFF

MUSIC LEADERS: EMILY MULLER-CARY, STEVE MULLER

LITURGIST: MARCIA BROWN

- **BOLD** words are spoken together
- The nursery is open for children aged 0-5
- There are children's activity booklets available to keep!
- Alice Hepburn provided flowers in celebration of her brother, Andrew's 60th birthday!

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN #619

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM PSALM 103

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits-- who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. God made known the LORD's ways to Moses, God's acts to the people of Israel.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

God will not always accuse, nor stay angry forever.

God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who fear the LORD;

as far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear God.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our creator, we admit we have double standards.

We seek forgiveness for ourselves, but fail to forgive others.

We seek relief for ourselves, but fail to seek relief for others.

We seek leniency for ourselves, but fail to show that mercy to others.

Forgive us, mighty God, and help us to forgive, showing others the same grace and mercy that you have generously shown to us.

(time for silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

FROM PSALM 103

People of God, hear and believe:

God does not deal with us according to our sins,
but according to God's own steadfast love for us.

As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our sins from us.

Join me in these words of forgiveness:

By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.***

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

FROM ROMANS 14

As we stand before God, accepted and upheld, let us greet one another as brothers and sisters in this gathered community.

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

Greet one another with the peace of Christ

*HYMN #449

Show Us, Lord, Your Steadfast Love

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

HEBREW LESSON

OT P. 46

GENESIS 50: 15-21

EPISTLE LESSON

NT P. 152

ROMANS 14: 1-12

GOSPEL LESSON

NT P. 19

MATTHEW 18: 21-35

SERMON The Landscape of Forgiveness

*HYMN #435 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY GTG #607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen*

PRAYERS OF JOY AND CONCERN 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.

*HYMN #547 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at the end of the pews. It is a great way to find out who is sitting in the pew next to you. Please join us for coffee hour following worship.
- International Peacemaker Noemi Sanchez from El Salvador and interpreter Leslie Vogel will be in the Eastern Oregon Presbytery October 3-8. Details to follow. She will be our speaker at worship in the woods on Oct. 8th 2023.
- Adult Education Opportunity: See the flyer in the back of the bulletin for information about the Feasting on the Word study and Sermon discussions starting in October.
- Have you noticed the new 6-foot fence on the playground? We want to thank the Preschool for replacing the fence and all the 69 lights in the preschool area as well! And keep buying those Butter Braids!
- **Presbyterian Women:** Dear Presbyterian Women, please join us for the new “Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts” Bible Study.
 - The study will be offered by Ruth Circle, who will be here in person on Wednesday, Oct. 11th at 9:30 am and the following Wednesday of the month. Business meeting study starts at 10 am and all are welcome to join! An online version will be available later this year if you do not have time to attend. More information will be provided on the next page.

Presbyterian Women:

Dear Presbyterian Women, please join us for the new “Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts” Bible Study.

Within the pages of this study, Olive Mahabir invites you to consider Jesus and Jesus’ disciples who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people.

The Gospel According to Luke and the Book of Acts of the Apostles, or Luke-Acts, “one story in two parts,” demonstrate the unfolding of God’s redemptive purposes in human history and present a distinctive perspective on the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Written by Luke, a physician and traveling companion of Paul, the message to the early Christian community (and to us) is radical, inclusive, and hope-filled.

This study will be offered by Ruth Circle as an in-person opportunity beginning Wednesday, October 11th at 9:30 am, and afterward on the second Wednesday of the month. We have a brief business meeting, and the study begins at 10:00. We rarely go past an hour, and sometimes we go out to eat afterward! This time together is precious to us, as we encounter Christ’s word and see His presence in each other. We share our joys and needs, pray, eat, and laugh a lot. All are welcome to attend! If the time doesn’t suit you, look for an evening online version later in the year, or a quarterly offering by Sarah Circle. Questions? Please call Lori Powell, 541-278-6738.

Feasting on the Word

Pastor Jonathan will be leading a Bible study entitled Feasting on the Word. The curriculum is based on a commentary series on the revised common lectionary. Each week, we will dive into the sermon passage for the following Sunday. Sessions will include study, practical application, and discussion. Feasting on the Word is a great way to prepare for Sunday's sermon and worship. Dates, Time, Place Tuesdays October 17th through November 28 th 6:00 PM in the Vert Room

Sermon Discussion

Each Sunday following worship, Pastor Jonathan will host a "sermon discussion." Come to coffee hour, grab some coffee and a treat! We will gather at a table in a corner in the Rogers Room. Pastor Jonathan will briefly present some material that "didn't make it into the sermon." The focus will be on responses to the sermon, questions raised during the sermon, and the many ways we may respond to the message and/or the passage. The format will be very informal. Please join us! Dates and Times, Place Sundays: October 15 th through November 26 th following worship, in the Rogers Room