

CSPL114571, CCLI 736861 One license A-727852

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PENDLETON, OREGON – SEPT. 24TH, 2023
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PASTOR: REV. JONATHAN MITCHELL

MUSIC LEADERS: EMILY MULLER-CARY, STEVE MULLER

LITURGIST: VALERIE CONNER

- **BOLD** words are spoken together
- The nursery is open for children aged 0-5
- There are children's activity booklets available to keep!
- Rod Nixon provided beautiful flowers today in celebration of his 27th wedding anniversary.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR MISSION

BOB BLANC

Peace and Global Witness Offering

GATHERING PRAYER

*HYMN #625

How Great Thou Art

CALL TO WORSHIP

FROM PSALM 145

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; God's greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

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

The LORD is good to all, and God's compassion is over all that God has made.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of generosity, we find ourselves bitter when faced with your abundant grace.

We believe ourselves more deserving than others.

We nurse our anger and resentment at those you forgive, instead of rejoicing in the abundant love you show.

Forgive us when we wish your grace was scarce.

Forgive the double standards we hold.

Help us to know that we are all in need of your grace, and help us rejoice as we all gratefully receive your mercy.

(time for silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The grace of God is boundless, poured out freely for all of 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 MATT. 20

The first shall be last and the last shall be first. In holy wisdom, let us seek the peace and welfare of one another as we share signs of Christ's peace.

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

Greet one another with the peace of Christ

*HYMN #725

O Jesus, I Have Promised

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST HEBREW LESSON

OT P. 60

EXODUS 16:2-15

SECOND HEBREW LESSON

OT P. 811 JONAH 3: 10-4:1- 11

GOSPEL LESSON

NT P. 20 MATTHEW 20:1-16

SERMON

The Kingdom of Heaven is like...

*HYMN #351

All Who Love and Serve Your City

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 #291

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

*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.
- Church in the Woods will be on Oct. 8th at 10 a.m.
- 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.
- Rod Nixon provided beautiful flowers today in celebration of his 27th wedding anniversary.

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