



# First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

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**The Service for the Lord's Day — October 1, 2023**

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**World Communion Sunday**

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A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

## We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

*Sonata III: Con moto; Allegro vivace*

Denis Bédard (Canada)

Martin King, alto saxophone

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

PURPLE BAGS

Jim Tack

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

FIRST CHIME

INTROIT

*God Welcomes All*

THEMBA AMEN (South Africa)

Sanctuary Singers

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Arise, people of God, to greet the one who calls us; come alive to the Spirit's energy among us.

**People: God awakens us and restores our souls. Surely God's goodness and mercy are with us here.**

Leader: The shepherd is calling us to new ventures. We are invited to a higher quality of life.

**People: We will not fear to walk through shadowed valleys. God's love in Christ is with us everywhere.**

Leader: Come to drink from springs of living water.

**People: Gather to find comfort and blessing here.**

**All: Let us worship God!**

**\*HYMN 65**

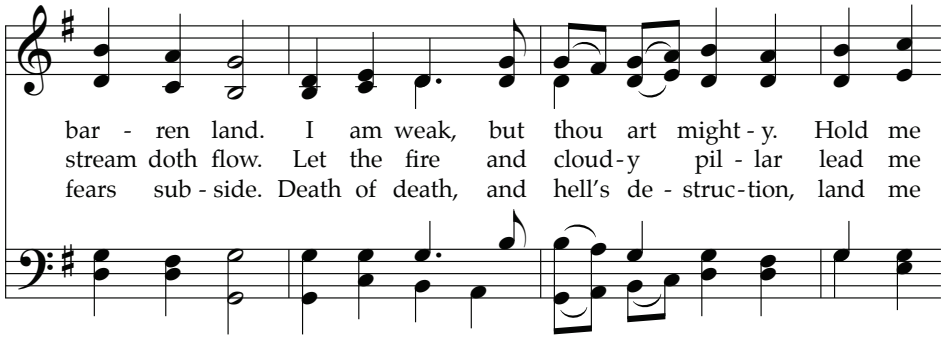
*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA (Wales)

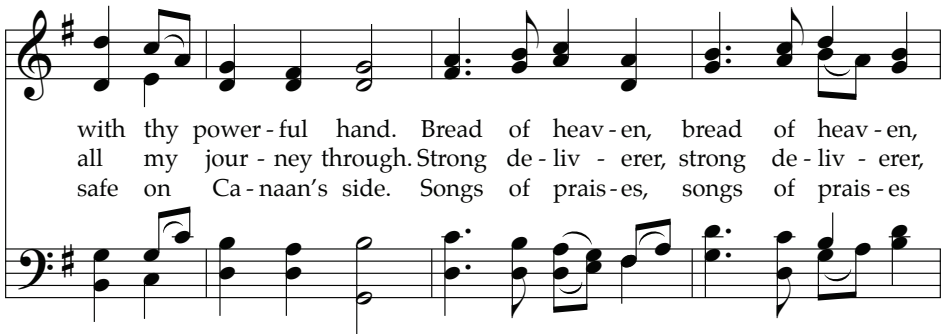
# Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me  
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es



feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.  
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Bret Sholar

**Eternal God, you have called us to be members of one body. Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

**God of all people, forgive us for claiming to be Christians with our voices when our faith is so shallow and our good works so limited. We have not dared to trust you fully. We have not expected your promises to be fulfilled among us. We have not accepted the freedom that is ours in Christ Jesus. O God, forgive us and draw us closer to you. (silent confession)**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.  
To this peace we are called as members of a single body.  
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile) (USA)  
*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.  
As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

## **We Proclaim God's Word**

**DISCOVERY TIME** Children are invited forward for a special message. Paula Denner  
Children seated on the Chancel steps will be in view of the livestream image;  
those on the floor facing the steps will not.

Afterwards, a nursery is provided in Room 119 for children four and under.  
Children—5 years old to 4th grade—are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 215.  
Parents may pick up children after worship from those locations.

**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.**

ANTHEM

*Mambo Sawa Sawa*

traditional Swahili (Uganda)

Sanctuary Singers

*Things already better! When the Lord is on my side, things already better!*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 21:23-32 (pg. 23)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

*Chantez à Dieu chanson nouvelle*

William Aceytuno (USA)

William Aceytuno, tenor; John L. Edwards, flute, Puffer Jones, percussion

Psalms 96

(Sung in French) *Sing to the Lord a new song. Sing, all the earth, sing and bless his name*

*and from day to day announce solemn deliverance.*

SERMON

*Strike the Rock*

Rev. Dr. Charlie Smith

## We Respond to God's Word

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

(pg. 34 in the front of the hymnal)

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Collection plates are located by the doors as you exit the Sanctuary.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 503

*Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation*

O QUANTA QUALIA (France)

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.


**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, holy and mighty ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

# Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation



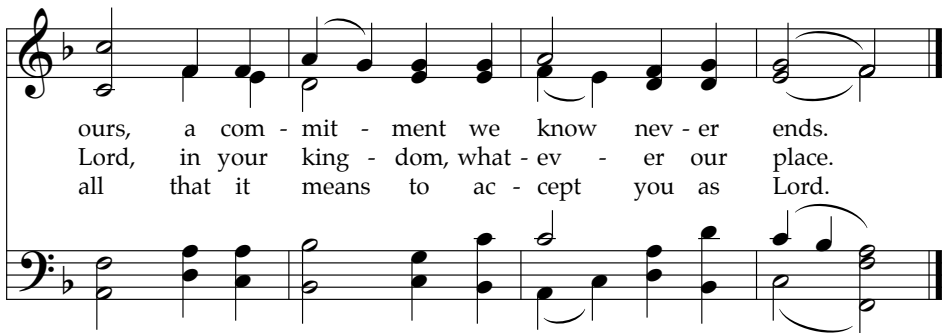
1 Lord, we have come at your own in - vi - ta - tion,  
2 Here, at your ta - ble, con - firm our in - ten - tion;  
3 When, at your ta - ble, each time of re - turn - ing,



cho - sen by you, to be count - ed your friends;  
give it your seal of for - give - ness and grace;  
vows are re - newed and our cour - age re - stored,



yours is the strength that sus - tains ded - i - ca - tion;  
teach us to serve with - out pride or pre - ten - sion,  
may we in - creas - ing - ly glo - ry in learn - ing



ours, a com - mit - ment we know nev - er ends.  
Lord, in your king - dom, what - ev - er our place.  
all that it means to ac - cept you as Lord.

St. Augustine spoke of eucharist as "the repeatable part of baptism," and this hymn reminds us that each time we share in the Lord's Supper we are renewing our baptismal vows. The text is set to a tune that dates to the transition between plainchant and modern tonalities.

HYMN 562

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

(Austria)

You are holy, O God of majesty ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

HYMN 563

*Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.*

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit ... all glory and honor are yours, eternal God,  
now and forever.

HYMN 564 *Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY *Sonate III: Douloureusement* Denis Bédard (Canada)

Martin King, alto saxophone

COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those  
to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

**We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## **We Go in God's Name**

\*HYMN 630

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

CRUSADERS' HYMN (Poland)

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Sonate III: Allegro giocoso*

Denis Bédard (Canada)

Martin King, alto saxophone

## **Notice**

### **Meeting of the Congregation — Sunday, October 15 | 11:00 a.m. Service**

A Meeting of the Congregation (for the election of officers) will be held on Sunday, October 15,  
during the worship service in the Sanctuary.

## 630

## Fairest Lord Jesus

1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Rul - er of all  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Rul - er of the

na - ture, O thou of God to earth come  
 wood - lands, robed in the bloom - ing garb of  
 moon - light, and all the twink - ling, star - ry  
 na - tions, Son of God and Son of

down, thee will I cher - ish, thee will I  
 spring. Je - sus is fair - er; Je - sus is  
 host. Je - sus shines bright - er; Je - sus shines  
 Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o -

hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.  
 ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Franz Liszt used this melody for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but this hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.

## Today

### Sunday School | 9:30 a.m.

- Builders Class | Room B8
- Evergreen Class | Room B14
- New Beginnings Class | Fireside Room
- Youth Sunday School | Youth Lounge

### Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

### New Member Lunch | After 11:00 a.m. Service

The Board of Deacons invites you to our 2023 New Member Lunch! Join us for a complimentary meal served in Watchorn Hall as we introduce and honor our newest members.

### Kemp Concert Series

#### A Few of My Favorites | 4:00-5:30 p.m.

John L. Edwards presents a concert featuring a few of his favorites: some of his favorite pieces and his favorite musicians to collaborate with! John L. Edwards, piccolo and organ with John P. Allen, trombone; Cynthia Cortright, piano; Martin King, alto saxophone; and Rondal J. Wallace, piano.

Thanks to generous support from concertgoers like you, **all concerts on the Kemp Concert Series are presented free of charge.** (However, donations are more than welcome!)

## Upcoming Events

### Presbyterian Women

#### Priscilla Circle — Tuesday, October 10 | 10:30 a.m.

Meeting in Room 122 at the church.

**Zoom Meeting ID:** 881 7807 7431 **Password:** 114955

#### Phoebe Circle — Tuesday, October 10 | 1:30 p.m.

Meeting at Dorothy Hays' house.

#### Bunco — Sunday, October 15 | 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Bunco is BAAAAACK! Presbyterian Women will once again enjoy a rousing evening of Bunco on Sunday, October 15, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at Ginnie Tack's house (13025 Twisted Oak Rd., OKC 73120). This event serves as a fundraiser for PW. The cost is \$10 per person.

We are also looking for donations of bottles of wine for wine pulls. Bottles should be wrapped with an indication of the kind of wine inside (white, red, etc.). If you're able, please bring a snack to share! **RSVP to Cyndi Lockwood (cyndi0507@gmail.com) ASAP.**

#### Abigail Circle — Tuesday, October 17 | 6:00 p.m.

Location TBD.



## **PW Book Club — Wednesday, October 25 | 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

We're reading *Lesson in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus—a bestseller and Good Morning America's Book Club pick. The first book club meeting will take place at Provision Coffee and Bakery (5814 NW 63rd St., OKC 73132) at 2:00 p.m. on October 25. You can enjoy a pastry and cup of coffee while we discuss the book.

The second book club will be held at Cyndi Lockwood's home (11425 NW 101st, Yukon 73099) at 7:00 p.m. We hope you can make it to either book club event! **RSVP to Cyndi** ([cyndi0507@gmail.com](mailto:cyndi0507@gmail.com)) **ASAP**.

## **Fall Festival — Saturday, October 21 | 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

We're hosting the annual Fall Festival for our church family and neighborhood on Saturday, October 21, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Please plan to join us for food, fellowship, and fun! There will be plenty to do and see, including garden activities, inflatables, hot dogs, and even live animals. The best part by far will be the new friends we meet as we take the love of our church onto 25<sup>th</sup> Street!

## **Children & Youth**

### **Halloween Party – Sunday, October 22 | 6:00 p.m.**

Calling all Sunday School Youth to the second annual Halloween Party at the Taylors' house (2240 NW 26th Street, OKC 73107) on Saturday, October 22, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The party will start with pizza (parents are invited to stay) and include games, fun, and fellowship. Guests are welcome to wear their costumes! **RSVP to Miss Cyndi** ([cyndi0507@gmail.com](mailto:cyndi0507@gmail.com) or 973-670-2136) **ASAP**.

## **Deacons Out & About: Zoo Trip — Saturday, October 28 | 1:00 p.m.**

The Deacons are sponsoring a Zoo Trip on Saturday, October 28. We'll meet at 1:00 p.m. inside the courtyard at the main entrance. We're sponsoring treat bags for kids to visit around 20 booths for a fun, safe, and family-friendly outing. All ages are welcome to join us on our (hopefully) cooler weather walking safari!

You can sign up in the church office or at [tinyurl.com/deaconzootrip](https://tinyurl.com/deaconzootrip). **Deadline for signup is Monday, October 16.** If you're already a Zoo Friend, please let us know how many treat bags or additional tickets are requested. We look forward to seeing you!

## **Reformation Sunday — Sunday, October 29 | 11:00 a.m.**

On Sunday, October 29, we will recognize the Protestant Reformation and how it has shaped who we are as Presbyterian Christians. We will celebrate the history of the Presbyterian Church on Reformation Sunday with the help of the Oklahoma Scottish Pipes and Drums. We hope you will join us for this very special service!

# Mission Opportunity

We have an exciting mission trip opportunity to announce for next year! Check out the details below and let us know if it's something you'd like to be a part of:

- **When:** April 14-19
- **Where:** Ferncliff Presbyterian Camp (just west of Little Rock, AR)
- **Cost:** No cost to individuals

We will undertake a variety of mission activities while at the camp, including preparing disaster relief supplies. You can travel by private vehicle or organize carpooling with others. We'll stay in motel-style rooms, and meals will be provided.

**There are 20 slots available on a first come, first serve basis, so be sure to sign up ASAP. Sign up in the church office or online at [tinyurl.com/ferncliffcamp](https://tinyurl.com/ferncliffcamp).** You will be contacted after signing up for a follow-up organizational meeting.

More information and photos of the camp can be found at [ferncliff.org](https://ferncliff.org). **Please reach out to Roane Pittman ([johnpittmanmd@gmail.com](mailto:johnpittmanmd@gmail.com)) if you have any questions.**



Our Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice in our own communities and across the world.


Thank you for  
your participation in the  
Peace & Global Witness Offering.


IF WE ALL  
DO A LITTLE,  
IT ADDS UP  
TO A LOT!




The Peace & Global Witness Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the twenty-first century, bringing together the diversity of the PC (USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

  
**WAYS TO GIVE**

  
Through your  
congregation

  
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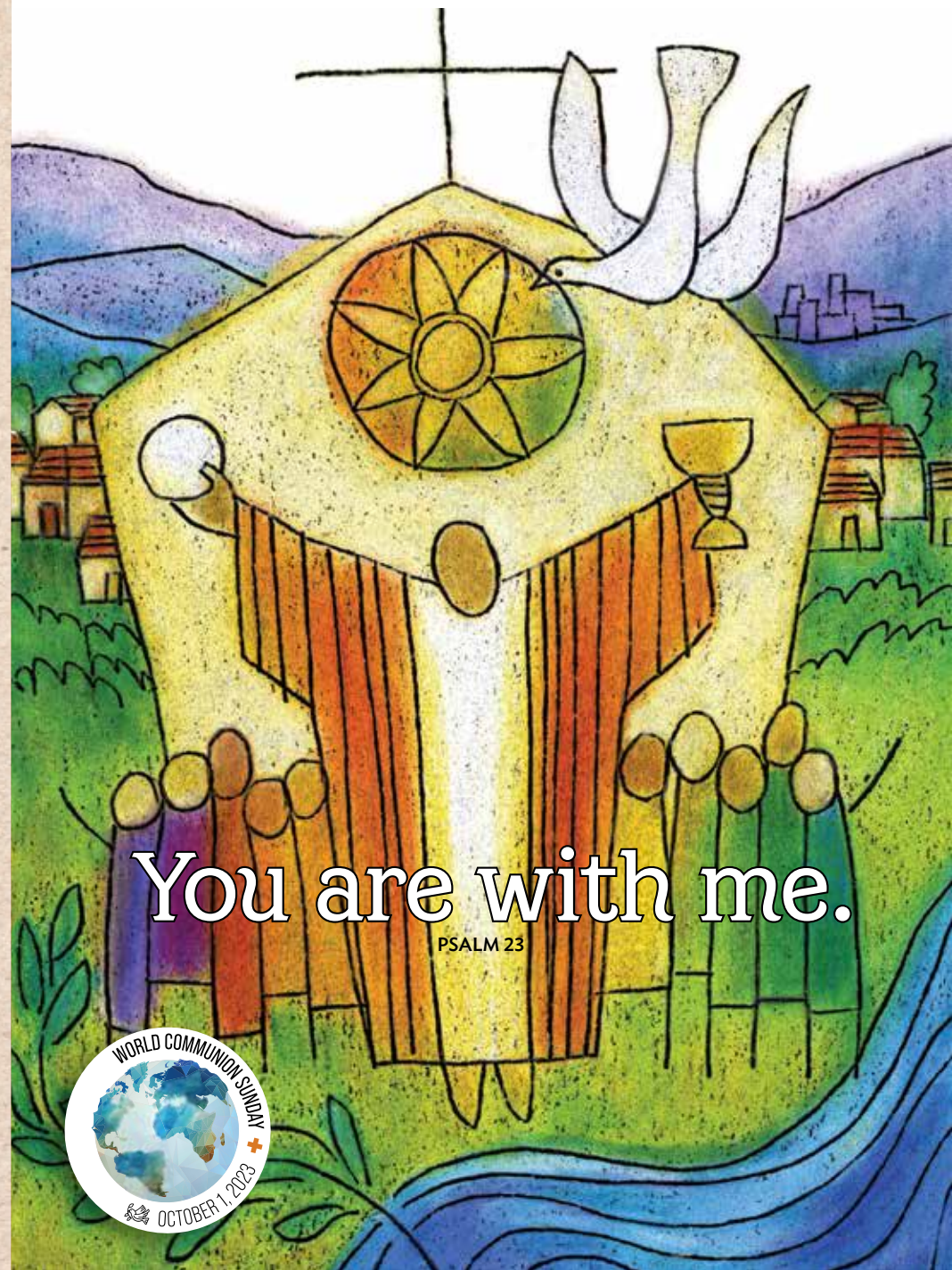


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COVER: BODY OF CHRIST - ART BY JULIE LONNEMAN



**PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION




**You are with me.**

PSALM 23





 God's presence empowers us  
to bring peace to all people.

*Thanks to your gifts to the  
Peace & Global Witness Offering:*

*Maina Talia, a former  
International Peacemaker for  
the Presbyterian Peacemaking  
Program, works to address the  
effects of climate change for  
families on the South Pacific  
island of Tuvalu, who have been  
displaced by the devastating  
series of cyclones.*



*In Madagascar, Rev. Helivao  
Poget, director of ministry to  
marginalized people for the  
Church of Jesus Christ in  
Madagascar, a Presbyterian  
World Mission partner, works  
to prevent human trafficking  
and to stop children from  
being exploited.*

*Rev. Stephen Herring  
works as a peacemaker  
by pursuing pathways  
of peace to address  
structural racism and  
the catastrophic effects  
of climate change in  
North Carolina.*



Visit [pcusa.org/peace-global/resources](https://pcusa.org/peace-global/resources) for more information.

PHOTOS — TOP: ALBINHILLERT-WCC; CENTER: CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST IN MADAGASCAR; BOTTOM: INDY TENPOINT COALITION



Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering are  
helping our neighbors in need — those who live next  
door, down the street, and across the globe.

25%

of this Offering stays with our congregation to support  
peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

25%

of this Offering goes to our mid-council to join with other  
congregations to support peacemaking work in our region.

50%

of this Offering supports the work being done  
by Presbyterians across the globe.

Our neighbors need us. Please give what you can to  
the Peace & Global Witness Offering.

WHEN WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.

*Thank you!*