



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day – September 17, 2023 16th Sunday After Pentecost

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

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit (hymn 408)

Doris Akers

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

FIRST CHIME

INTROIT

Stand Up and Bless the Lord
Sanctuary Singers

CARLISLE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Wisdom cries out in the streets:

People: Listen to my word and live.

Leader: Jesus calls out to the church:

People: Take up the cross and follow me.

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

ASSURANCE

text by Fanny Jane Crosby

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Brad Davenport

God of freedom, you brought your people out of slavery with a mighty hand. Deliver us from our captivity to pride and indifference to the needs and gifts of others, that we may be ready to love as you have loved us and to give even as we have received. Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

For You, O Lord, My Soul

89

in Stillness Waits

My Soul in Stillness Waits



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.



1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of glo - ry,
 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our spir - its;
 3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,
 4 O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our pil - grim-age;
 5 Come, let us bow be - fore the God who made us;
 6 Here we shall meet the Mak - er of the heav - ens,



your ra-diance shines in all who look to you; come, light the
 our thirst - y hearts are yearn - ing for your word; come, make us
 and in your ad - vent, draw us all to you, our hope re -
 we ev - er seek, yet un - ful-filled re - main; o - pen to
 let ev - ery heart be o - pened to the Lord, for we are
 Cre - a - tor of the moun-tains and the seas, Lord of the



hearts of all in dark and shad - ow.
 whole, be com - fort to our hearts.
 born in dy - ing and in ris - ing.
 us the path - way of your peace.
 all the peo - ple of God's hand.
 stars, and pres - ent to us now.

With a paraphrase of Psalm 62:5 as a refrain, this Advent text adapts four of the "Great O" antiphons (all of which can be seen in no. 88), combining them with a paraphrase of Psalm 95:6-7 and an echo of a medieval hymn. This rich blend yields a wealth of imagery and meaning.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

“Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” So we pray, O God; yet we confess our lives show forth little mercy. We pass judgment on people who think and live differently than do we. Suspicion, jealousy, and quarrels infect our relationships, and keep us from building communities where everyone feels welcome and known. Merciful God, again we ask your forgiveness. Teach us and guide us to extend to others what we have received so abundantly from you: gracious acceptance, saving help, and love that will bind us together.

(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)

*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. Cyndi Lockwood

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

Joy in the Morning

Natalie Sleeth

Sanctuary Singers

Joy, there’ll be joy in the morning on that day. For the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone. There’s be peace and contentment evermore. Every heart, every voice on that day will rejoice. And the glory of the Lord will shine upon us, and the glory of the Lord will bring the truth divine. There’ll be love and forgiveness everywhere, and the way of the Lord will that day be restored.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 15:1-11, 20-21 (pg. 61)

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

SOLO

I Can't Even Walk

Joyce & Colbert Croft

Avery Mahan, soprano

I thought number one would surely be me. I thought I could be what I wanted to be. I thought I could build on life's sinking sand, but I can't even walk without you holding my hand. I can't even walk without you holding my hand. The mountain is too high, and the valley is too wide. Down on my knees, I learned to stand, but I can't even walk without you holding my hand. I thought I could do a lot on my own. I thought I could make it all alone. I thought of myself as a mighty big man, but I can't even walk without you holding my hand. I think I'll make Jesus my all and all. And if I'm in trouble on his name I'll call. If I didn't trust him I'd be less of a man, because I can't even walk without you holding my hand.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-35 (pg. 20)

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

SERMON

Debts and Debtors

Rev. John McKinnon

We Respond to God's Word

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' 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.**

*HYMN 444

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT

Text by Rosamond E. Herklots, Harmony by Margaret W. Mealy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONSE

Amen

DANISH AMEN

Sanctuary Singers

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

How Very Good and Pleasant (hymn 398)

Barbara Boertje

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive 444

Capo 5: (Am) (Dm) (Am) (C) (Em) (Am)
Dm Gm Dm F Am Dm



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for - giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with-in our souls and bid re - sent - ment cease.

(F) (Em) (C) (Dm) (Em)(Am)
B \flat Am F Gm Am Dm



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.
that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
what triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!
Then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Few petitions of the Lord's Prayer are as difficult to pray as this one, and we would not dare to pray it if we had to depend on ourselves rather than the example of forgiveness we are given in Jesus Christ. The shape note tune sets these words with appropriate sparseness.

TEXT: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983, alt.

MUSIC: *Supplement to Kentucky Harmony*, 1820; harm. Margaret W. Mealy, 1985

Text © 1969, 1983 Rosamond E. Herklots

Music Harm. © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

DETROIT

CM

*PRESENTATION HYMN

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 445

God, How Can We Forgive

LEONI

Text by Ruth Duck

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (hymn 377)

Katherine Thomerson

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.

445 God, How Can We Forgive

1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
 2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an-guish flow,
 3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,

How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
 how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
 when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?

When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
 The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
 No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.

your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
 A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
 As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

This text reflects both the struggle to deal with a deep personal hurt and a keen awareness of biblical language and content. The opening line of stanza two, for example, draws on the root meaning of the Greek word for sin, and the beginning of stanza three alludes to John 8:3-8.

Upcoming Events

Free Yoga Class — Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m.

Our Free Yoga Class is back! We meet in the courtyard from 6:30-7:30 p.m. If it's too hot, we will practice in the Rec Room downstairs. The wonderful Brandi Gibson is leading the class. All skills levels are welcome. Join us for a relaxing, rejuvenating time!

Presbyterian Women

Abigail Circle — Tuesday, September 19 | 6:00 p.m.

Meeting at Darci McKinnon's house.

Boy Scout Popcorn Sale — Sunday, September 24

Troop 15 and Pack 469 are holding a popcorn fundraiser before and after worship service on Sunday, September 24. Be sure to stop by their tent and grab a tasty treat!

New Member Lunch — Sunday, October 1 | After 11:00 a.m. Service

The Board of Deacons invites you to our 2023 New Member Lunch! We will have plenty to celebrate when we gather after worship service on Sunday, October 1. 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 — Sunday, October 1 | 4:00-5:30 p.m.

John L. Edwards presents a concert featuring a few of his favorites: some 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.

This diverse program features the majestic Sonata in A by César Franck (adapted for Piccolo by John L. Edwards), settings of favorite hymns “To God Be the Glory” and “It Is Well With My Soul,” the haunting “O Magnum Mysterium” of Morten Lauridsen, adapted for trombone and organ, and the Sonate for saxophone and organ of Denis Bédard.

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!)

Fall Festival — (NEW DATE) 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 25th Street!