

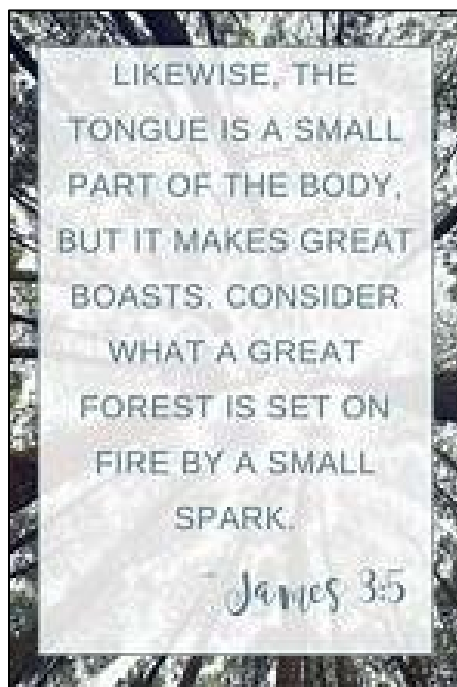


First Presbyterian Church Sunday, September 15, 2024



Seeking the Faith – Sharing the Spirit – Serving God’s People

You are invited to join us on our journey of faith! We seek to serve God, to minister to our community, and to love one another. Help us in our quest to become an ever more inclusive church that welcomes all people from all backgrounds, abilities, and identities. Come and experience the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit.



Order of Worship

Prayer in Preparation

God of the first and the last, give us strength of mind, that we might walk the path of obedience and discipleship without wasting our time thinking about who is more important. Instead, guide our thoughts and our emotions that we may be like children, totally dependent on you, welcoming all with hospitality and love. Amen.

Greeting and Welcome

Prelude

I Surrender All

arr. Marilyn White

Gathering for Worship

Leader: Happy are the people who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that they follow.

All: Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God’s law day and night. Let us worship God.

*Hymn #667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

*Call to Confession

Leader: Recognizing that we are easily swayed by the wrong advice and that we have strayed from God’s ways, let us confess our sins to God, with hope of finding love and mercy.

**Please stand as you are able*

***Prayer of Confession**

Leader: Let us pray...

All: God of wisdom, forgive our foolishness.

We desire what we do not need and corrupt our relationships with envy.

You urge us to gentleness, but we stir up conflict.

**Give us your grace, that we may harvest righteousness and peace,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our teacher, we pray. Amen.**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but the people who fear the Lord are to be praised. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and we can live in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Giving of the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

***Response #582** Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me
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.

Children's Sermon

Hold Your Tongue, Knave!

Prayer for Illumination

Leader: Mighty God, you spoke the world into being; speak now to our hearts.

By the power of your Spirit, make these ancient words live, that we might be shaped into your people, eager to bear your claim in the world and to give flesh to your future. For we pray in the name of Jesus, who leads us into life. **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Proverbs 1:20-35 (OT p. 584)

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

Special Music

Come All Believers

Pepper Choplin

New Testament Lesson

James 3:1-12 (NT p. 230)

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by

a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Proclamation of the Word: Tongue-tied?

***Hymn #708**

We Give Thee but Thine Own

Sacrament of the Lord's Table

Minister: Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if those who hear my voice open the door, I will come in to them and eat with them, and they with me. O taste and see that the Lord is good! Happy are all who find refuge in God! The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: O holy God, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, with joy we give you thanks and praise... who live for you beyond all time and space, we lift our hearts in joyful praise:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Minister: We praise you, most holy God... ..we will celebrate victory with him.

Words of Institution

Minister: We give thanks that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me." *(The bread is distributed.)*

Minister: In the same way he took the cup, saying,

"This cup is the new covenant, sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this for the remembrance of me." *(The cup is distributed.)*

Minister: Therefore, in remembrance of your mighty acts...

let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ had died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Gracious God... all glory and honor are yours, almighty One, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Minute For Mission

Jane Swanson

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: We have been made capable of being good stewards of what God has given us.

Let us, with gratitude in our hearts, give from what has been given to us, by grace.

Offertory

Allegretto in E minor

J. W. Hässler

*#606 Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Our great Gardener, we are like trees planted by streams of water that yield their fruit in season and prosper in you. We are grateful for all that you have provided, and we dedicate our first fruits to you and to the work of your church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer

Joys and Concerns

Minister: We give thanks to God for these blessings.

All: Thanks be to God!

Minister: For all these people and all who are in need...

All: Please hold your people near, O God!

Minister: God inspires us to pray, hears our prayers, and answers our prayers.

All: Alleluia! Amen!

Minister: Let us pray...

Silent Prayer

Minister: Let us pray together...

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

*Hymn: #647

Give Thanks

*Blessing

Leader: May God, who watches over all the righteous,
give you the gifts needed to be a capable servant.

May Jesus Christ, who welcomes everyone, give you the loving heart of a child
so that you can welcome others unconditionally.

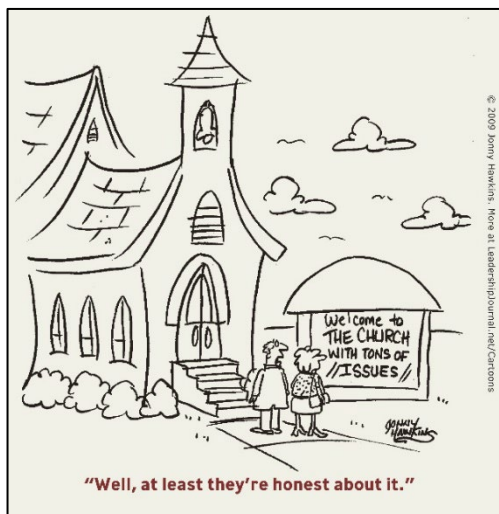
May the Holy Spirit, who gives us the understanding we need to love God and to love others,
give us unselfish and generous hearts, to heal relationships and to live in peace.

Postlude

Give Thanks

arr. Fred Bock

Moment for Reflection:



"Well, at least they're honest about it."

Worship Assistants

Kitty Trescott- Greeter
Jane Swanson- Worship Assistant
Jiyeon Lee- Accompanist
Elwood Prest- AV Tech

Rolanda Quick- Head Usher
Jay Brooks- Scripture Reader
Diane Cash- Zoom Greeter
Carlyn Zimmermann- Special Music

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.
Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Phyllis Beck, Jan Danley, and Jill Hertzling)

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Noon Presbyterian Women

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

10:00 am Bible Study with Bill and J. P.
3:30 pm Bible Study with Pastor Kerry via Zoom
6:30 pm Bible Study with Judy Beyler

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

5:30 pm Dinner Group

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

10:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.
Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Jessica and Nick Barker)

Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10:30 am-2:00 pm

If you would like a visit—or if you know someone who needs a visit—
please let Pastor Kerry or one of the Deacons know.

ANOUNCEMENTS

Church School is now meeting downstairs in rooms 041 and 043. Parents can pick up their children after the service by using the stairway near Fellowship Hall. Enter the double wooden doors by the water fountains, go down the stairs and turn right to go through another set of doors. The classrooms will be on your right.

Presbyterian Women will meet in Fellowship Hall at noon September 17. We will enjoy a "bring your own" lunch and some "how was your summer?" time before the meeting starts at 1:00 pm.

Dinner Group will meet September 19 at Cummare's, 1023 Chestnut Street Murphysboro, at 5:30. All are welcome to join us for good Italian food and fellowship. If you plan to attend, please email Jill at jillhertzling@aol.com.

Please, as you are able, continue to contribute financially to the life and ministry of the church through Sunday offerings, direct deposit, by sending checks in the mail, online at <http://www.firstprescdale.org> or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera.



Joys and Concerns

Please let the church office know if someone needs to be added to or removed from the lists below.

Remember to Pray for:

- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Areas of the world at war, peace in the Middle East
- Our Democracy in the face of social unrest and political polarization
- Transgender community and others under attack legislatively
- Those affected by natural disasters, threats of terrorism, mass shootings, and hate crimes
- Those who are homeless, hungry, marginalized, underrepresented and in harm's way
- Military Service Members

Each week we pray for one of the Carbondale Interfaith Council faith communities.

This week, please pray for: **Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Small Groups**

Household Prayer: Morning

As I open my eyes, I can see the heavens that tell of your glory.

Allow me to be part of this creation that proclaims your handiwork

And your real presence to the world. Amen

Household Prayer: Evening

As the day winds down, allow me to find satisfaction in the thought that I have taken my cross and followed you. Allow me to find rest in the knowledge that I did not act as if I was ashamed of you.

And if I failed you, forgive me and allow me to find solace in the new mercies of the morning. Amen.

1 When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!

2 Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss? My comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

3 Let earth's wide circle round in joyful notes resound: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air and sea and sky from depth to height reply: may Jesus Christ be praised!

4 Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Proverbs 1:20-33 (OT p. 584)

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

James 3:1-12 (NT p. 230)

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

#582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* (sing twice)
(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

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.

#708 *We Give Thee but Thine Own* Public Domain

1 We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

2 May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give.

3 The captive to release, to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace: it is a Christ-like thing.

4 And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be;
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

#606 *Praise God from Who All Blessings Flow* (Doxology)

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

#647 *Give Thanks*
(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy one;
Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy one;
Give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
Let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
Let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks. Give Thanks.