



# First Presbyterian Church

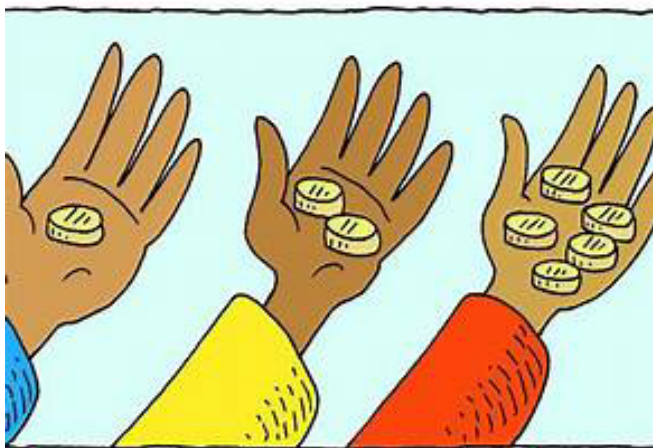
## Sunday, November 19, 2023



*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 righteousness, you overcome those who abuse their power and lift up those who suffer. Even now, when evil seems to hold sway, we know that you will have the last word. Keep us faithful as we wait and watch for your coming realm, when you will welcome all your children into your kingdom of justice, peace, and love. Amen.

#### Prelude

*I Love Him*

arr. Elmo Mercer

#### Gathering for Worship

Leader: It is God who creates us and redeems us and sustains us.

**All: Hallelujah! Let us worship the Lord our God!**

#### \*Hymn #664

*Morning Has Broken*

#### \*Call to Confession:

Leader: Even though we are sinners, we have faith that the Lord is patient and merciful. Let us confess our sins together and in the presence of God.

#### \*Prayer of Confession

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Wise and loving God, we confess that we sometimes make foolish choices.**

**We do not always use the gifts you give us to your glory.**

**Sometimes we don't use them at all.**

**Help us to overcome our insecurities and our short-sightedness**

**and to more boldly go where you lead us.**

**We pray all things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

*\*Please stand as you are able*

### **\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news that God is gracious indeed and in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**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*

(sing twice)

### **Children's Sermon**

Counting Blessings and Giving Thanks



### **Prayer for Illumination**

Reader: Holy Spirit, inspire us to hear your Word in the reading of the scriptures and the preaching of the Gospel. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

### **Old Testament Lesson**

Psalm 123 (OT p. 572)

<sup>1</sup> To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

<sup>2</sup> As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the LORD our God, until he has mercy upon us.

<sup>3</sup> Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt.

<sup>4</sup> Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease,  
of the contempt of the proud.

### **Special Music**

*Come Follow Me*

Jay Althouse

### **New Testament Lesson**

Matthew 25:14-30 (NT p. 28)

<sup>14</sup> For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup> to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup> The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup> In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup> But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." <sup>22</sup> And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." <sup>23</sup> His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." <sup>24</sup> Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup> so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." <sup>26</sup> But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup> Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return,

I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Proclamation of the Word**                      Free Investment Advice

**\*Affirmation of Faith: The Confession of 1967**

**Section 9.26**

Leader: Let us confess our faith...

**All: Life in Christ is eternal.**

**The resurrection of Jesus is God's sign**

**that God will continue his work of creation and reconciliation**

**beyond death and bring fulfillment to the new life begun in Christ.**

**\*Hymn #462**

*I Love to Tell the Story*

**A Splash of Green**

Beth Malmquist

**Invitation to the Offering**

Leader: With gratitude and thankfulness,

let us give our tithes and offerings to God through the church and ministries.

**Offertory**

*Sonatina in B flat Major, Op. 29, No.1*

Jacob Schmitt

**\*#606 Doxology**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Leader: Thank you, loving God, for all you have given us- and continue to give. We return a portion of your gifts to us and ask that you will use it to help to fulfill the coming of your kingdom in our world. In Christ we pray. **Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer and Congregational Prayer**

**Joys and Concerns** (*In the bulletin, on cards, or via Zoom Chat*)

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 #367**

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

Minister: May the blessing of light be on you - light without and light within.

May the blessed sunlight shine on you like a great peat fire,  
so that strangers and friends may come and warm themselves at it.

May light shine out of the two eyes of you, like a candle set in the window of a house,  
bidding the wanderer come in out of the storm. May the blessing of the rain be on you,  
may it beat upon your Spirit and wash it fair and clean,  
and leave there a shining pool where the blue of Heaven shines, and sometimes a star.

May the blessing of the earth be on you, soft under your feet as you pass along the roads,  
soft under you as you lie out on it, tired at the end of day;  
and may it rest easy over you when, at last, you lie out under it.

May it rest so lightly over you that your soul may be out from under it quickly;  
up and off and on its way to God. Now may the Lord bless you and bless you kindly. Amen.

### **Postlude**

*Give Thanks*

arr. Fred Bock

### **Moment for Reflection:**



### **Worship Assistants**

Diane Cash- Greeter  
Rob Jensen- Worship Assistant  
Jiyeon Lee- Accompanist  
Elwood Prest- AV Tech

Sarah Merideth- Head Usher  
Carolyn Hooker- Scripture Reader  
Carlyn Zimmerman- Special Music  
Kathy Manfredi- Zoom Greeter

### **NOVEMBER 19, 2023**

9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom  
Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Hosts: Lisa Hollabaugh and Ro Quick)  
Faith Dialogues in the Sanctuary and Via Zoom

### **NOVEMBER 22, 2023**

No Bible Study with Bill and JP will return 12/6.  
No Bible Study with Pastor Kerry this week, but it returns on 11/29.  
*No Choir Rehearsal this week*

**NOVEMBER 26, 2023 (CHRIST THE KING)**

9:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary and via Zoom.  
Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall (Host: Sarah Meredith)

**Pastor Kerry's Office Hours:**

Monday-Tuesday 9:00 am-12:00 noon

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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please fill out **Joys and Concerns** cards at the back of the sanctuary prior to the beginning of worship. The cards are on the table as you enter, and there is a basket to put the completed cards in. If you are participating via Zoom, use the Chat feature to let the Zoom Greeter know what your Joys and Concerns are (please complete asap during the service.)

**The Office will be closed November 23-26, 2023. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.**

**Reign of Christ Sunday** – Next Sunday, November 26, is Reign of Christ (or Christ the King) Sunday. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated.

**Preparing for Advent:**

**Saturday, December 2 – Advent decorating workday, 9:30 am.** We need willing and able hands to do the heavy lifting tasks of Advent decorating: setting up the trees, changing paraments, and hanging poinsettias and wreaths. We should be able to get everything done in a couple of hours. Questions? Ask Wendi Zea.

**Sunday December 3** – After Worship, join in as we put the final Chrismon ornaments on the Sanctuary tree, decorate the tree in Fellowship Hall, and enjoy other activities centered around the themes of Advent – hope peace, love and joy. There may even be a little carol dancing! Questions? Ask Judy Beyler.

*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.firstpresdale.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:**

- Areas of the world at war, peace in the Middle East
- Covid concerns
- Our Democracy in the face of social unrest and political polarization
- Those struggling with addictions and the consequences
- Transgender community under attack legislatively
- Those in the destructive path of natural disasters
- Those affected by threats of terrorism, mass shootings, and hate crimes
- Our National, State, Regional, and Community Leaders
- Those who are homeless, hungry, and in harm's way
- Those in shelters on the southern border
- Those who continue to be marginalized and underrepresented
- Military Service Members

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

This week, please pray for: **University Baptist Church**

The Mission/Ministry we are praying for this month: **Stewardship Facilities & Finance**

### ***Household Prayer: Morning***

Good morning, Lord. I welcome the new day, for it is a gift from you. Make me more faithful than I could be on my own, and use me to reflect your light, for there are so many who need to know your grace. Amen.

### ***Household Prayer: Evening***

Good evening, Lord. Thank you for bringing me through this day, its trials and its joys. You surprise me with wonder and overwhelm me with love. Keep me in your embrace tonight. Inhabit my dreams. Awaken me as one who is eager to serve you well. Amen.

*#664 Morning Has Broken*

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

1 Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rains new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation; praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day~

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

(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.

Psalm 123 (OT p. 572)

To you I lift up my eyes, O you who are enthroned in the heavens! As the eyes of servants  
look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our  
eyes look to the LORD our God, until he has mercy upon us. Have mercy upon us, O LORD,  
have mercy upon us, for we have had more than enough of contempt. Our soul has had more  
than its fill of the scorn of those who are at ease, of the contempt of the proud.

Matthew 25:14-30 (NT p. 28)

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to  
them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his  
ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and  
traded with them and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two  
talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and  
dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those  
slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents  
came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five  
talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and  
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of  
many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came  
forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more  
talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been  
trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your  
master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I  
knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you  
did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you  
have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you,  
that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have  
invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my  
own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten  
talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but  
from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless  
slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of  
teeth."

*#462 I Love to Tell the Story*

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922) Public Domain

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else could do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2 I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

*#606 Praise God from Whom 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.

*#367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

(All Rights Reserved Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-704922)

1 Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield,  
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;  
from each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;  
give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:  
come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!