

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Presbyterian Church

Tallahassee, Florida

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 29, 2024, 11:00 AM



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## Land Acknowledgement

*As we come to worship, we acknowledge that the land on which we are meeting is the traditional and ancestral homeland of the Apalachee, Miccosukee, Seminole, and Black Seminole peoples. The people who called this beautiful land home for millennia were decimated, forcibly removed, and coerced from their homes. We the church recognize, remember, and are challenged by the stewardship of these indigenous peoples and their land. We acknowledge that the building in which we worship was built on the backs of enslaved peoples and funded by the sweat of their brows. We also acknowledge that until the mid-20th century we excluded people based on race. We repent of our complicity in the harm done to our siblings in the human family. We see our wrongs. We remember their place in our story, and we commit to shape our worship and service to reflect God's dream for a world where all members of the human family live together in justice and peace.*

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## GATHERING

Ringing of the Zimbelstern

Call to Worship

Ethan Murphy

We gather in this place  
seeking to live in faithful community  
and asking God to guide us.

**Lord, revive our souls,**  
that we might lift each other up.

**Lord, revive our souls,**  
that we might order our communities  
in ways that lead us toward love.

**Lord, revive our souls.**

Voluntary

Praise to the Lord

J. G. Walther

Opening Prayer

Rev. Glenn Hodges

\*Hymn 804

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

MARION

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

**Let the words of our mouths  
and the meditation of our hearts  
be acceptable to you, O Lord,  
our rock and our redeemer.**

**For you are our rock,  
and yet we place our faith in sinking sand.**

**You are our redeemer,  
and yet we are convinced that we must save ourselves.**

**You are our source of unity,  
and yet we isolate ourselves in every way we can.**

**You are our fount of forgiveness,  
and yet we fear that we will be condemned.**

**Forgive us, O Rock.**

**Forgive us, O Redeemer,**

**and show us what it means to forgive one another.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God.**

\*Response

Glory to God, Whose Goodness  
Shines on Me

GLORY TO GOD

Hymn 582

\*The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

## PROCLAIMING

Prayer for Illumination

O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

Hymn 459, v. 1

Hebrew Scripture

Esther 7:1–6, 9–10, 9:20–22

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

Hymn 330

Our Help Is in the Name of God  
Psalm 124

OLD 124TH

Epistle

James 5:13–20

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

\*Hymn 432

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

Gospel

Mark 9:38–50

Rev. Glenn Hodges

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

Sermon

## RESPONDING

\*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.**

Prayers of the People

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

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.**

Call to Offering

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes, and Offerings

Anthem

Christ, the Fair Glory

Robert J. Powell

*Christ, the fair glory of the holy angels,  
maker of all things, ruler of all nations,  
grant of thy mercy unto us thy servants  
steps up to heaven.*

*Send thine archangel Michael to our succor;  
peacemaker blessed, may he banish from us  
striving and hatred, so that for the peaceful  
all things may prosper.*

*Send thine archangel Gabriel, the mighty,  
herald of heaven, may he, from us mortals,  
drive every evil, watching o'er the temples  
where thou are worshiped.*

*Send from the heaven Raphael thine archangel,  
health-bringer blessed, aiding every sufferer,  
that, in thy service, he may wisely guide us,  
healing and blessing.*

*May the blest mother of our God and Savior,  
may the celestial company of angels,  
may the assembly of the saints in heaven,  
help us to praise thee.*

*Father Almighty, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
God ever blessed, hear our thankful praises,  
thine is the glory which from all creation  
ever ascendeth.*

\*Presentation Hymn 717

For the Life That You Have Given

PLEADING SAVIOR

\*Prayer of Dedication

## SENDING

\*Hymn 793

O Christ, the Healer

ERHALT UNS, HERR

\*Blessing and Charge

Lead a life worthy of your calling, giving glory to God in all things.

**Amen.**

The blessing of the one God—Spirit, Son, and Father—be with you now and always.

**Alleluia!**

Voluntary

Now Praise the Lord, My Soul

J. G. Walther

\*Asterisks indicate to please rise in body or spirit. Congregational responses are in **bold print**.

# IN WORSHIP TODAY

“Kingdom” or “Kindom” in the Lord’s Prayer? Our Scriptures were developed when Kingdoms were the going community structure. We realize now that other Biblical metaphors, like *koinonia*, more adequately capture the communities of care and genuine kin-ships about which Jesus taught and preached.

**Prayer Concerns** — **We offer prayers for healing** for Stephanie Niblack (daughter-in-law of Gary Niblack), Lorraine Williams (mother of Christy Williams), Jon Meier, Patricia Yeilding, Cindy Harden, Carol Lou Phillips, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Jodie Kim Geradine, Sandra Sherrard, Martha Snowden, and Catherine Parrish. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Evanna (Wayne Friedemann’s sister); Vanessa Joy, her husband Kyle, and their three daughters; and for Patricia McCoy Delancey, Thaddeus Gillon, and Aidan (grandson of Sue Safford). We pray for the staff and volunteers of Second Harvest of the Big Bend and all our mission partners; for all those recovering from storm damage; and for victims of gun violence in our community and our country. We pray for the Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba, Pastor Izett Samá Hernández, and Pastor Alison Infante. We pray for peace in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, and around the world. **We also pray for those in military service**, including Brian Guisao, Ross Yielding, David DelRossi, and Owen Elzie.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A Congregational Meeting** will be held immediately following worship today. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a committee to nominate new ruling elders for the class of 2027. This committee will also fill vacancies on the Board of Trustees and Endowment Management Committee and be in charge of selecting next year’s nominating committee.

**Children** are welcome in this service as full members of God’s family. Parents and children are invited to use whatever is useful in the basket by the back door. Child care for children under the age of kindergarten is in the Education Building. Please note that during worship the Education Building is locked. Please enter through the breezeway door.

**Restrooms** are located in this building through the door at the end of each aisle of the sanctuary.

**An induction loop system** is available in the sanctuary. To use the system, switch your compatible hearing aid to the T–telephone mode or request a wireless headset from an usher.

**Large print versions** of the *Glory to God* hymnal and worship bulletin are available from ushers.

**Visitors:** We are glad you are here this morning! If you have questions about our congregation or about church membership, please let us know by using the friendship registers or speaking to one of the greeters so we can connect you with the right people. We welcome new members during worship on the second Sunday of each month.

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Online Offerings & Donations



Give Online!

QR Codes



Check-in

Let us know you came to Worship Today!



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### MEMBERS OF SESSION 2024–26

Class of 2024  
Peggy Wright-Cleveland  
Chris Corzine, Clerk  
John Hightower  
Martha Kutter  
Peggy West

Class of 2025  
Donna Barber  
Carolyn Bradley  
Debbie Gibson  
Patrick Kennedy  
Sue Safford

Class of 2026  
Jane Atkinson  
Daniel Bruno  
Janet Fixel  
Norma Meier  
Greg Riccardi

Designated Pastor ..... Rev. Glenn Hodges  
Parish Associate..... Rev. Dr. Greta Reed  
Director of Spiritual Formation ..... Pierce Withers  
Organist ..... Elizabeth LaJeunesse  
Choir Director..... Ethan Murphy  
Comm. & Admin. Coordinator ..... Kelby Yoder  
Financial Administrator..... Fran Owens  
Custodian and Sunday Host..... Becky Brown

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## 804 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

1 Re - joyce, ye pure in heart! Re - joyce, give thanks, and sing!  
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,  
 3 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go,  
 4 At last the march shall end; the wea - ried ones shall rest;  
 5 Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joyce, give thanks, and sing!

Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.  
 from youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:  
 the pil - grims find their home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.  
 Your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

*Refrain*

Re - joyce! Re - joyce! Re - joyce, give thanks, and sing!  
 Re - joyce! Re - joyce!

These stanzas are drawn from a much longer hymn created for the processional at an English choir festival in 1865. The original text lacked the refrain that gives the hymn so much of its energy and interest. That feature was added by the composer of this tune in 1883.

## 582

# Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
 B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F B $\flat$  F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
 2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)  
 F B $\flat$  E $\flat$  B $\flat$  Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)  
 C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)  
 Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

## 459 O Word of God Incarnate

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
 2 The church from you, dear Sav - ior, re - ceived this gift di - vine;  
 3 O make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of pur - est gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:  
 and still that light is lift - ed on all the earth to shine.  
 to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,  
 It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,  
 O teach your wan - dering pil - grims by this our path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.  
 a - mid the rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.  
 till, clouds and storms thus end - ed, we see you face to face.

The opening four lines of this hymn celebrate attributes of Christ that are revealed through holy Scripture, which serves as a lantern, a chart, and a compass for the church in seeking to know Christ better. The setting of the tune comes from Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*.

## Our Help Is in the Name of God 330

(Psalm 124)

1 Our help is in the name of God the Lord, the One who  
 2 When e - vil seems to have the up - per hand, call on God's  
 3 Praise God the Lord who hears the cap - tives' prayer. Like birds es -

made the heav - ens with a word, cre - a - tor of the  
 name: the Lord, the great "I AM." When trou - bles rise and  
 cap - ing from the fowl - er's snare we are set free; our

world, each liv - ing thing. Come, bless the Lord, lift up your  
 all a - round gives way, re - mem - ber God stays with us  
 prais - es now as - cend: "Blessed be the Lord: Cre - a - tor,

hearts and sing: "Our help is in the name of God the Lord."  
 night and day. Our help is in the name of God the Lord.  
 Sav - ior, Friend. Our help is in the name of God the Lord."

As a means of fostering the continuity of Reformed tradition, this paraphrase of Psalm 124 has been created to fit the tune that was used for the French paraphrase of Psalm 124 in the 1551 Genevan Psalter. The early psalters in English generally avoided such longer poetic forms.



# How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord 432

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A)(D)  
 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> Cm A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - came in hin - dranc - es more sure:  
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,

(G) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Bm) (G) (Em)  
 A<sup>b</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup> Gm Cm A<sup>b</sup> Fm



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re -  
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -  
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your  
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to

(A7) (D) (A7)(B) (Em) (G)(A7) (D)  
 B<sup>b</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>7 C Fm A<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>7 E<sup>b</sup>



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
 wind its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
 name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.  
 you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored, done.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This reflection on Christian vocation was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune, and the poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

## 717 For the Life That You Have Given

For the life that you have giv - en, for the love in

Christ made known, with these fruits of time and la - bor, with these

gifts that are your own: here we of - fer, Lord, our prais - es;

heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to

love and serve you, liv - ing what we pray and sing.

The text was commissioned in 1987 by Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, where it has continued to be used each Sunday as the offertory response. The triune activity of God as Creator (line 1), Savior (line 2), and Sustainer (line 7) enables and inspires our thanks and praise.

## 793 O Christ, the Healer



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for  
 2 From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our bod - ies  
 3 How strong, O Lord, are our de - sires, how weak our  
 4 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og -  
 5 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com -



health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to  
 clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we  
 knowl - edge of our - selves! Re - lease in us those  
 nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -  
 mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -



be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?  
 would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.  
 heal - ing truths un - con - scious pride re - sists or shelves.  
 clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?  
 rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This prayer for wholeness of body, mind, and spirit considers not only the infirmities of individuals but also those of localities, societies, and nations. In the midst of such widespread need, worshipping communities are called to continue Christ's healing work in the world.