

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

First Presbyterian Church

Tallahassee, Florida

October 11, 2026, 11:00 AM



GATHERING

Before winter or never! There are some things which will never be done unless they are done "before winter." The winter will come and the winter will pass, and the flowers of the springtime will deck the breast of the earth, and the graves of some of our opportunities, perhaps the grave of our dearest friend. There are golden gates wide open on this autumn day, but next October they will be forever shut. There are tides of opportunity running now at the flood. Next October they will be at the ebb. There are voices speaking today which a year from today will be silent. Before winter or never!

Dr. Clarence E. Macartney, Come Before Winter

Ring of the Zimbelstern

Voluntary

Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend, BWV 632

J.S. Bach

Choral Introit

Jubilate Deo
Jubilate Deo, Alleluia!

M. Praetorius (1571-1621)

Call to Worship

Come, all who are tired of waiting for the "perfect moment."

The holy ground we stand on is here, and the time to worship is now.

We drop our excuses and our delays. We bring our full selves to God today.

God does not ask for a future, flawless version of you.

The Divine invites you into grace in this very square inch of time.

Forgive us for putting off your peace. Forgive us for delaying our obedience.

Let go of yesterday's regrets and tomorrow's anxieties.

The Spirit is moving among us right this second.

We are here. We are ready. Let us worship God together!

Opening Prayer

*Hymn 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, I come before You today with a quiet heart and an honest spirit. I confess that I have not used my time well. You have given me gifts, responsibilities, and precious days to live out my faith, yet I so often push my duties aside. I shrink back into hesitation and delay. I tell myself that tomorrow will be a better time, or I let fear, doubt, and laziness rob me of the moments You have blessed me with. Forgive me for treating my time as my own and for ignoring the promptings of Your Spirit to act with diligence and love. Fill me with a fresh zeal, a calm mind, and a joyful spirit so that I may work heartily—not just to meet a deadline, but as an act of worship to You.

*Silent Confession

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

*Assurance of Pardon

In Christ, God offers mercy, forgiveness, and healing.
By faith we are made whole that we may rise with Christ
and serve with the faithful Friends, believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia!

*Response Hymn 581

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

*The Peace

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

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Mark Phillips

WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Jackie Callahan

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1–15

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

Hymn 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (Psalm 90)

ST. ANNE

Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:9–15

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

Sermon

Come Before Winter

Rev. Mark Phillips

Do your best to come to me soon ... 2 Timothy 4:9

*Hymn 686

God of Our Life

SANDON

*Affirmation of Faith

from French Confession, 1559

We believe and confess only one God, who can do all things, is all-wise, all-good, all-just, and all-merciful. We believe that everything required for our salvation has been offered and communicated to us in Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God and God's eternal Son. Jesus Christ clothed himself in our flesh: God and human in one person. We believe that we are illuminated in faith by the unfathomable grace of the Holy Spirit. God imparts this gracious gift. By faith we receive grace to live holy lives in awe and reverence for God, for we receive what the gospel promises when God gives us the Holy Spirit. Faith does not cool our desire for good and holy living, but rather engenders and excites it in us, leading naturally to good works.

Prayers of the People

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.**

THANKSGIVING

Call For Offering

Presentation of Gifts, Tithes and Offerings

Anthem

Still I Sing Alleluia

LOCH LOMOND
arr. Kyle Pederson

*With Spirit before me, with Spirit behind,
with Spirit below and beside me; With Spirit all
around, even where affliction's found,
I will sing, I will sound, "Alleluia."*

*When darkness descends and the night never
ends, When my shadows and demons surround
me; When questions I spin echo answerless
within, Even then, even then, "Alleluia."*

*Alleluia, still I sing Alleluia,
Open us to You 'til we sing Alleluia.*

*Weave joy in our gain,
bring us hope in our pain;
Hear all prayers that we offer to you,
Lord; Breathe life into death,
draw us closer with each breath,
That our lips may confess, "Alleluia."*

*Alleluia, still I sing Alleluia,
Open us to You 'til we sing Alleluia.*

*So praise the Father, and praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit who moves in
and through all.
All creation sound the word so profound;
Let us sing, let us live, Alleluia!*

*Presentation Hymn 609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Prayer of Dedication

SENDING

*Hymn 719

Come, Labor On

ORA LABORA

*Charge and Benediction

*Benediction Response

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Jim Strathdee

*The Lord bless and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine on you,
And be gracious.*

*The Lord bless and keep you,
The Lord lift his countenance on you,
And give you peace. Shalom, Amen.*

Voluntary

Wir glauben all an einem Gott, BWV 680

J.S. Bach

IN WORSHIP TODAY

“Kingdom” or “Kindom” in the Lord’s Prayer? Kingdoms were the dominant community structure when our Scriptures were written. Some find it meaningful to think about other Biblical metaphors to convey the ethos of care and genuine kin-ships about which Jesus taught and preached. Please pray as you choose.

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations — We offer prayers for healing for Juana Maria Diaz Perez (mother of Ruben Diaz), Bob Rackleff, Rich Peyton, Martha Kutter, Joyce Crawford, Bev Breedlove, Tara Reynolds, Sandra Sherrard, Martha Snowden, Wayne Friedemann, Judy Arthur, John Cole, and Molly Harper’s grandmother, Nancy Forinash and her husband, George Gallupe. **We offer prayers for strength and mercy** for Patricia McCoy Delancey, Jeannetta Hoekman, and the family of Virginia Thomas. **We pray for the staff and volunteers** of Second Harvest of the Big Bend as well as those of all our mission partners. **We pray 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, Iran and around the world. **We also pray for those in military service**, including Ross Yeilding, David DelRossi, and Owen Elzie.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 door to the Narthex. Childcare for children under the age of kindergarten is in the Education Building, Room 205. 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 ground floor 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 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 after worship on the second Sunday of each month. Please join us in the courtyard for lemonade after service today!

The Session has called for a meeting of the congregation for today immediately following worship for the purpose of electing elders, trustees, and next year's nominating committee.

The Dinner/Study Group continues this Wednesday, October 14, 2026. Dinner will be at 5:30 PM followed by the study at 6:00 PM. A Zoom link will be available.

The Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Virginia Thomas will take place on Saturday, November 7, 2026, at 10:00 AM, followed by a reception in the Westminster Room.

CHECK-IN



Let us know you came
to Worship today!



QR CODES



GIVE ONLINE



Online Offerings &
Donations

MEMBERS OF SESSION 2026–28

CLASS OF 2026

Daniel Bruno
Eleanor Cleveland
Janet Fixel
John Mayo
Greg Riccardi, Clerk

CLASS OF 2027

Kay Crowell
Jon Dodrill
Caitlin James
Mary Kutter
Deb Whisnant

CLASS OF 2028

Carolyn Herrington
Sue Hightower
Bob McVety
Donnie Watts
Shirley Zahn

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

MINISTER
SCRIPTURE READER
CHOIR
CHOIR DIRECTOR
ORGANIST
VIDEO TEAM LEAD
SUNDAY HOST

Rev. Mark Phillips
Jackie Callahan
The Adult Choir
Bryan Stenson
Victoria Coey
Carl Morse
Becky Brown

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611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;
 3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.

Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pen-ing to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife.

Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 Joy - ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

This well-known melody was created to provide a choral setting for J. C. F. von Schiller's poem, "An die Freude" (To Joy), as the final movement of the composer's *Ninth Symphony*. The author, a prominent Presbyterian pastor and author, wrote the words with this tune in mind.

Glory Be to the Father

581

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

The first system of the musical score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by a half note G, a quarter note A, and a half note B. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be -

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a half note G, a quarter note A, and a half note B, followed by a quarter rest and a half note G. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a half note G, a quarter note A, and a half note B, followed by a quarter rest and a half note G. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The treble staff features a half note G, a quarter note A, and a half note B, followed by a quarter rest and a half note G. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

God of Our Life

686

1 God of our life, through all the cir-cling years, we trust in thee.
 2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a-bide.
 3 God of the com-ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.

In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.
 Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.
 When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a-lone. Our ref-uge be.

With each new day, when morn-ing lifts the veil,
 With thee to bless, the dark-ness shines as light,
 Be thou for us in life our dai-ly bread,

we own thy mer-cies, Lord, which nev-er fail.
 and faith's fair vi-sion chang-es in-to sight.
 our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

This text was created for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by its pastor. He wrote these words especially for this tune, originally composed for John Henry Newman's text "Lead, Kindly Light."

TEXT: Hugh Thomson Kerr, 1916, alt.

MUSIC: Charles Henry Purday, 1860; harm. John Weaver, 1986

Text © 1928 F. M. Braselman, ren. 1956 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education
 (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

Music Harm. © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

SANDON
 10.4.10.4.10.10

609

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

D A D

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

Bm A D G D Bm E A D

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

D

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

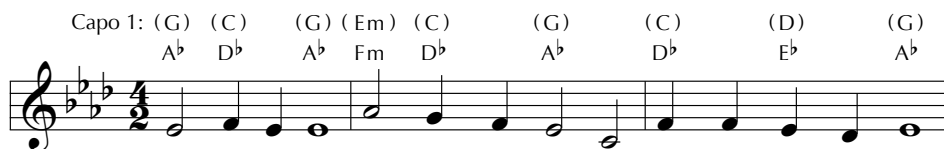
G A D Em A Bm

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

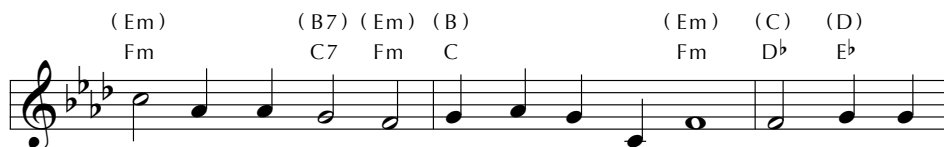
Em D G A Em G A D

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

719 Come, Labor On



- 1 Come, la-bor on. Who dares stand i - dle on the har - vest plain
2 Come, la-bor on. Claim the high call - ing an - gels can - not share;
3 Come, la-bor on. Cast off all gloom - y doubt and faith - less fear!
4 Come, la-bor on. No time for rest, till glows the west - ern sky,



while all a - round us waves the gold - en grain? And to each
to young and old the gos - pel glad - ness bear. Re - deem the
No arm so weak but may do ser - vice here. Though fee - ble
till the long shad - ows o'er our path - way lie, and a glad



ser - vant does the Mas - ter say, "Go work to - day."
time; its hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.
a - gents, may we all ful - fill God's righ - teous will.
sound comes with the set - ting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Using Jesus' harvest imagery in John 4:35–38 and Matthew 9:37–38/Luke 10:2, this urgent text sounds a compelling call to Christian service. The words gain energy from the strong unison tune in the English cathedral style, whose name echoes the Benedictine motto "Prayer is work."