

# First Presbyterian Evanston

September 26, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.  
*Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

## FOCUS

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### Prelude

### Soul Desire

*(Words & Music: Niles Borop & Mark Baldwin, recorded by Deniece Williams, 1986)*

*Lord, when you placed Your hands upon me I knew that I would never be the same.  
For in that moment I became your servant, And since that day I only have one aim:  
My soul desire is to be used - An empty vessel longing to be filled by You.  
My soul desire is to serve You, Lord, To do Your perfect will,  
To work each day and build Your Kingdom: This is my soul desire.  
Lord, I do not seek to claim the glory. I only wish to be under Your control.  
For I know that You alone are worthy, And it's You who placed this longing in my soul.*

### Welcome & Announcements

## EXALT

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### Opening Song

### My Lighthouse

*(Words & Music: Chris Llewellyn & Gareth Gilkeson, 2013, CCLI Song #7002032)*

In my wrestling and in my doubts,  
In my failures You won't walk out.  
Your great love will lead me through.  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

In the silence You won't let go,  
In the questions Your truth will hold.  
Your great love will lead me through.  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You.  
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,  
I will trust the promise,  
You will carry me safe to shore,  
Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.

I won't fear what tomorrow brings,  
With each morning I'll rise and sing.  
My God's love will lead me through.  
You are the peace in my troubled sea,  
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You.  
My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,  
I will trust the promise,  
You will carry me safe to shore,  
Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.

Fire before us, you're the brightest,  
You will lead us through the storms.  
Fire before us, you're the brightest,  
You will lead us through the storms.  
Fire before us, you're the brightest,  
You will lead us through the storms.  
Fire before us, you're the brightest,  
You will lead us through the storms.

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,  
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You.

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse,  
I will trust the promise,  
You will carry me safe to shore,  
Safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.

### **Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon**

**All: A Our heavenly Father, forgive our sins. Forgive the sins that we remember and the sins we have forgotten. Forgive our many failures in the face of temptation and those times when we have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times we have been proud of our achievements and those when we have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments we have made of others and the leniency we have shown to ourselves. Forgive the lies we have told to others and the truths we have avoided. Forgive us for the pain we have caused others and the indulgence we have shown ourselves. Lord God, have mercy on us and make us whole as we silently offer our prayers to you. Amen.**

*(Time of silent confession.)*

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

*(Rom. 8:34; 2 Cor. 5:17)*

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### **ENCOUNTER**

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#### **Children's Moment & Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Scripture**

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Surely we do not need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you or from you, do we? 2 You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all; 3 and you show that you are a letter of Christ, prepared by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

4 Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. 5 Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, 6 who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

7 Now if the ministry of death, chiseled in letters on stone tablets, came in glory so that the people of Israel could not gaze at Moses' face because of the glory of his face, a glory now set aside, 8 how much more will the ministry of the Spirit come in glory? 9 For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of justification abound in glory! 10 Indeed, what once had glory has lost its glory because of the greater glory; 11 for if what was set aside came through glory, much more has the permanent come in glory!

12 Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, 13 not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. 14 But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. 15 Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; 16 but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 18 And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image

from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord,  
the Spirit.

**Sermon**

The Pillars of Church Ministry  
*Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton, Senior Pastor*

**RESPOND**

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**Sharing of Tithes and Offerings**

**Song of Response**                      Ancient Words

*(Words & Music: Lynn DeShazo, 2001, CCLI Song #2986399)*

Holy words, long preserved  
For our walk in this world.  
They resound with God's own heart,  
O let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope  
Give us strength, help us cope.  
In this world, where'er we roam,  
Ancient words will guide us home.

Ancient words, ever true,  
Changing me and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts,  
O let the ancient words impart.

Holy words of our faith,  
Handed down to this age,  
Came to us through sacrifice,  
O heed the faithful words of Christ.

Holy words, long preserved  
For our walk in this world.  
They resound with God's own heart,  
O let the ancient words impart.

Ancient words, ever true,  
Changing me and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts,  
O let the ancient words impart.

Ancient words, ever true,  
Changing me and changing you.  
We have come with open hearts,  
O let the ancient words impart.

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### **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.

## **Closing Song**

## Cornerstone

*(Words & Music: Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder  
Bradbury, composed & arranged 2011; CCLI Song #6158927)*

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love,  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace.  
In every high and stormy gale,  
My anchor holds within the veil,  
My anchor holds within the veil.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love,  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love,  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found.  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless stand before the throne.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love,  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all.

Christ alone, Cornerstone,  
Weak made strong in the Savior's love,  
Through the storm, He is Lord, Lord of all.

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

Improvisation on *Cornerstone*

*(arr. Crofton Coleman & members of the Worship Band)*

## Today's Worship Service Leaders

**Crofton Coleman**, Worship Band Director, Piano, Vocals, Prelude, Songs, Postlude

**Erwin Yasukawa**, Bass, **Kon Savoy**, Drums, **Daniel Allen**, Guitars & Vocals, **Judith Hylton**, Vocals, **Tina Laughlin**, Percussion

**Rev. Henry Coates**, Associate Pastor, Welcome, Greeter

**Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton**, Senior Pastor, Confession & Assurance, Sermon, Sharing of Tithes, Benediction

**Rev. Amanda Golbek**, Minister of Children and Youth, Children's Message & Peace

**Richard Jones**, Scripture Reading

**Lisa Bolsen Fisher**, Elder, Prayers of the People

**Noah McLeod**, Interim A/V Coordinator

**Jim Teague**, Communications Director, Projection

**Jake Collins**, A/V Volunteer, Live Stream

**John Carlson**, A/V Volunteer, Online Chat

**Jason Allen**, Building Team

**Daniel Teague**, Front Desk

**Sally Ivaska & Kim Klamm**, Prayer Companions

**Tuah Jenta**, Usher

**Bob Bastian & Marilyn Haase**, Greeters

## First Pres Announcements

**Fellowship time on the front lawn, TODAY** - Join us today, outside, after the service as our Deacons host our Sunday social gathering.

**Small Groups are launching now!** - Check out the groups in our updated handout online!

**Our All-Church Retreat takes place October 15-16 here in Sanctuary and streaming online** -

Dr. Andy Root will provide the teaching over three sessions. Registration is open on our website and we would encourage all to sign up as soon as possible to attend.

### **Adult Education – Sundays at 11 a.m.**

- Missions is sponsoring a class & film series on racial injustice as seen through the lens of Jesus' life and teachings. Classes are in person or via Zoom on Sundays at 11 a.m. in Room 213, and on some Wednesdays at 7 p.m. (Zoom only). Learn more online.
- Pastor Henry Coates leads a class entitled "Being Christian in a Secular Age: A Refresher to the Work of Andy Root" through October 10 in the Parlor. The class looks at ideas from the written works of all-church retreat speaker.
- A new "Life Together" class begins TODAY in Room 103, providing newcomers and those looking into membership the opportunity to explore what First Pres is all about.

### **Youth/Children's Education – Sundays at 11 a.m.**

- **6th and 7th graders** are invited to gather in the 3rd floor Youth Lounge for Sunday school with Pastor Ray and Oakley Smith.
- **Confirmation Class: 8th and 9th graders** are invited to gather in room 206 as we spend the year digging deep into our faith.
- **10th, 11th, and 12th graders** are invited to help as a volunteer teacher with the Children's Sunday school or attend one of the Adult Education classes. Contact Pastor Amanda if you want to volunteer.

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Mission Statement:

***First Presbyterian Church of Evanston  
exists to know Christ and to grow in him  
as we serve and make disciples in Evanston, the Chicago area,  
and the world.***



*This QR code will take you to a web page with links for giving and recording your attendance at today's service via the Connect Card.*

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