

# First Presbyterian Evanston

**October 3, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.**

***Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time***

***World Communion Sunday***

## **FOCUS**

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### **Prelude**

Down to the River to Pray

*(Music: American Folk Traditional, arr. Philip Lawson, 2018)*

*As I went down in the river to pray, studyin' about that good old way and who shall wear the starry crown. Good Lord, show me the way. Oh, sisters, let's go down, come on down in the river to pray...Oh, brothers, let's go down...Oh, fathers, let's go down...Oh, mothers, let's go down...*

### **Welcome & Announcements**

## **EXALT**

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### **Opening Song**

He Reigns

*(Words & Music: Peter Furler & Steve Taylor, 2001, CCLI Song #4026635)*

It's the song of the redeemed  
Rising from the African plain,  
It's the song of the forgiven  
Drowning out the Amazon rain,  
The song of Asian believers  
Filled with God's holy fire,  
It's every tribe, every tongue, every nation,  
A love song born of a grateful choir.

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.  
It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,

He reigns, He reigns.  
Let it rise above the four winds,  
Caught up in the heavenly sound,  
Let praises echo from the towers of cathedrals,  
To the faithful gathered underground.  
Of all the songs sung from the dawn of creation,  
Some were meant to persist,  
Of all the bells rung from a thousand steeples,  
None rings truer than this:

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.  
It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.  
It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.

And all the powers of darkness  
Tremble at what they've just heard,  
'Cause all the powers of darkness  
Can't drown out a single word.

When all God's children sing out  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns, He reigns.

Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns.

It's all God's children singing  
Glory, glory, hallelujah,  
He reigns.

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

**All: Merciful God, we confess to you now that we have sinned. We confess the sins that no one knows and the sins that everyone knows. We confess the sins that are a burden to us and the sins that do not bother us because we have grown used to them. We confess our sins as a church. We have not loved one another as Christ loved us. We have not forgiven one another as we have been forgiven. We have not given ourselves in love and service for the world as Christ gave himself for us. In your mercy, forgive us. Send the Holy Spirit to us, that he may give us power, by your mercy, to live as you have called us to live. We pray all this and our silent prayers of confession in the name of Jesus. Lord, hear our prayers.**

*(Time of silent confession.)*

Leader: 2 Corinthians 5:18 reminds us that “God... reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.”

Revelation 7:9 share with us the glorious vision of our heavenly reconciliation with God and with each other: “After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

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 4:1-18

*(Verses 1-3 read in Arabic)*

Therefore, since it is by God’s mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. <sup>2</sup> We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God’s word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

*(Verses 4-6 read in Luganda)*

<sup>4</sup> In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your

slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*(Verses 7-12 read in Spanish)*

<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. <sup>8</sup> We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. <sup>11</sup> For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup> So death is at work in us, but life in you.

*(Verses 12-15 read in Tagalog)*

<sup>13</sup> But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup> because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup> Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

*(Verses 16-18 read in Assyrian Aramaic)*

<sup>16</sup> So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup> because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

**Sermon**

Four Reasons Not to Quit

*Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton, Senior Pastor*

## RESPOND

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### Sharing of Tithes and Offerings

#### Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to Him, are invited to take communion.*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(Prayer)...*

And so with all the company of heaven we lift up the song of your everlasting praise.

**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.**

*(Prayer)...*

...who, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'":

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*(Prayer)...*

Amen.

## **Communion Anthem**

### Shall We Gather at the River

*(Words & Music: Robert Lowry, 1865, arr. Aaron Copland, 1954,  
choral arrangement by R. Wilding-White, 1956)*

Shall we gather by the river,  
Where bright angel's feet have trod,  
With its crystal tide forever  
Flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,  
Soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
Soon our happy hearts will quiver  
With the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather by the river,  
The beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints by the river  
That flows by the throne of God.

## **The Apostles' Creed**

*(The leader reads in Mandarin and in German, and the congregation responds in the English translation)*

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 Spirit, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **Closing Song**

## Revelation Song

*(Words: from Revelation 5:12, 4:8; Music: Jennie Lee Riddle, 2004; CCLI Song # 4447960)*

Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain,  
Holy, holy is He.  
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on  
Heaven's mercy seat.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my ev'rything and I will adore You.

Clothed in rainbows of living color,  
Flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder,  
Blessing and honor, strength and glory  
And power be to You, the only wise King.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my ev'rything and I will adore You.

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder  
At the mention of Your name.



Jesus Your name is power, breath and living water,  
Such a marv'lous mystery.

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.  
With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings.  
You are my ev'rything and I will adore You.

## **Benediction**

**Postlude**                      Improvisation on "Revelation Song"  
*(FPCE Worship Band, 2021)*

## Today's Worship Service Leaders

**Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton**, Senior Pastor, Welcome, Sermon, Sharing of Tithes, Communion, Benediction

**Rev. Henry Coates**, Associate Pastor, Confession & Assurance, Communion

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

**Younan Shiba, Angela Mугanwa, Maria Ferry, Michelle Mariposa**, Scripture Reading

**Jixun Hu, Katy Ingle**, Apostle's Creed

**Bob Bastian, JJ Ivaska, Kim Klamm**, Elders, Communion Servers

**Crofton Coleman**, Worship Band Dir., Vocals, Piano

**Christie Miller**, Guitar; **Erwin Yasukawa**, Bass; **Kon Savoy**, Drums; **Tina Laughlin**, Percussion; Worship Band

**Members of the Chancel Choir**, Prelude and Communion Anthem

**Carol Smith**, Piano, Communion Anthem

**Hannah Dixon McConnell**, Dir. of Worship & Music, Choir Director

**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

**Aaron Budoff**, Building Team

**Bob Bastian & Kim Klamm**, Prayer Companions

## 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.

**Free Agape Fellowship Meal TODAY at Noon** – All are invited to join us as we deepen our bonds of Christian love & community. Weather-permitting, we'll gather on the lawn for soup & rolls in a standing reception style (chairs will be available). In case of inclement weather, join us in the well-ventilated Parlor.

**Our All-Church Retreat takes place October 15-16 here in the 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.

### **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.
- **Confirmation Class: 8th and 9th graders** are invited to gather in room 206.
- **10th, 11th, and 12th graders** are invited to help as a volunteer Sunday School teacher. Contact Pastor Amanda to express interest.



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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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