First Presbyterian Evanston

September 4, 2022 – 10 a.m. Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

FOCUS

Prelude

At the River

(Words & Music: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, arr. Aaron Copland, 1900-1990, from "Old American Songs, Second Set, No. 4)

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...

EXALT

Welcome & Call to Worship (Psalm 139:1-2, 5-6, 13-14, 17-18)

Leader: O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

ALL: You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

I try to count them – they are more than the sand; I come to the end – I am still with you.

Opening Song

I Will Follow

(Words & Music: Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Reuben Morgan, CCLI Song #5806878)

Where You go, I'll go Where You stay, I'll stay When You move, I'll move I will follow

All Your ways are good All Your ways are sure I will trust in You alone Higher than my sight High above my life I will trust in You alone

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose
I will follow

I will follow You

Light into the world
Light into my life
I will live for You alone
You're the One I seek
Knowing I will find
All I need in You alone
In You alone

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose
I will follow

I will follow You

In You there's life everlasting
In You there's freedom for my soul
In You there's joy, unending joy
And I will follow

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve

If this life I lose I will follow

Where You go, I'll go
Where You stay, I'll stay
When You move, I'll move
I will follow You
Whom You love, I'll love
How You serve, I'll serve
If this life I lose
I will follow You

I will follow You I will follow You I will follow You

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

All: Our Father, we come to you this morning, knowing that you know our hearts better than we know them ourselves. You see the deceit, the bitterness, the hurt, the resentment, and even the dark places hidden away that we are afraid to look at. And yet you still offer grace for us if we tell you what we have done or thought that is wrong. So, we ask you to search us, O God, and know our hearts; test us and know our anxious thoughts. Point out anything that offends you, and lead us in the path of everlasting life. Amen.

Leader: Please hear our silent prayers of confession now, Lord. (Moment for silent prayer.)

Psalm 19 says, "the sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God..." So, purify us from

our sins and we will be clean; wash us and we will be whiter than snow.

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:

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

Song of Response

Change My Heart, O God

(Words & Music: Eddie Espinosa; CCLI Song #1565)

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

You are the potter, I am the clay; Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

You are the potter, I am the clay; Mold me and make me, This is what I pray. Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, May I be like You.

Children's Moment

Passing the Peace of Christ

ENCOUNTER

Scripture

Jeremiah 18:1-11

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²"Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." ³So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the

LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Sermon

The Potter and the Clay Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton, Senior Pastor

RESPOND

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)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

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)...Great is the mystery of faith.

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

(Prayer)...Father most holy, now and always.

Amen.

Communion Anthem 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. My soul desire...

Prayer after Communion

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 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

Have Thine Own Way, Lord (Red Hymnal #39) (Words: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1906; Music: George C. Stebbins, 1907; CCLI Song #28225)

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me after Thy will, While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Search me and try me, Master, today! Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now, As in Thy presence humbly I bow.

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Wounded and weary, help me, I pray! Power – all power – surely is Thine! Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway! Fill with Thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!

Sending & Benediction

Postlude

Zion's Walls

(Words & Music: Anonymous, Revivalist song; melody and words credited to John G. McCurry, compiler of the "Social Harp," later published by George P. Jackson in "Down East Spirituals," arr. by Aaron Copland, 1900-1990, from "Old American Songs")

Come fathers and mothers, Come sisters and brothers, Come join us in singing the praises of Zion. O fathers, don't you feel determined To meet within the walls of Zion? We'll shout and go round

The walls of Zion.

Today's Worship Service Leaders

Dr. Rebecca Chu, Organist & Pianist, Prelude & Postlude, Songs & Hymns

Paul Koch, Vocalist, Prelude & Postlude, Songs & Hymns

Crofton Coleman, Worship Band Director, Songs; Tina Laughlin, Percussion

Hannah Dixon McConnell, Dir. of Worship & Music, Vocalist, Pianist, Welcome & Call to Worship

Caryl Weinberg, Director of Mission, Confession

Rev. Amanda Golbek, Minister of Children & Youth, Children's Message & Peace, Communion Jim Wildenradt, Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Raymond Hylton, Senior Pastor, Sermon, Sharing of Tithes, Communion, Benediction Bob Bastian & Betsey Newenhuyse, Elders, Communion Servers

Evan Peters, A/V Coordinator, Live Audio
Jim Teague, Director of Communications, Audio Assistant
John Carlson, A/V Volunteer, Online Chat
Jacob Collins, A/V Volunteer, Live Stream Technical Director
Kristen Collins, A/V Volunteer, Projection
Trudy Delfosse Wenger, A/V Volunteer, Online Chat
Qin Zhou, A/V Volunteer, Online Chat
Joe Sickles, Building Team

Carol Clanton, Stephanie Keene, Marcia Smith, Ushers Marge Stromberg, Greeter Sally Ivaska & Bob Hecker, Prayer Companions

Christian Education & Childcare

The Nursery will be open from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Youth/Children's Faith Formation activities will return September 18. Look for more information on the church website.

'The James Code' Adult Education Class concludes today. Our adult education class will meet in Room 213 and on Zoom after the service.

First Pres Announcements

The First Presbyterian Church of Evanston family and staff were stunned to learn, Wednesday morning, of the sudden passing of Jerry Sapp, our director of finance. We offer our condolences to his wife, Sue, his sons James and Michael, his grandchildren Eloise and Emerson, and all of Jerry's family and friends. Please keep them in your prayers.

Jerry had joined the staff just this past February. In his brief time working with us, Jerry became known as a humorous, intelligent, and immensely talented individual who loved to solve problems and improve the efficiency of systems throughout the First Pres business office and IT operations.

Visitation will be held at Countryside Funeral Home 950 South Bartlett Rd. (at Stearns Road) in Bartlett, IL, on Friday, September 9 from 9 to 11:15 a.m. A memorial service will follow at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 415 W North Ave, Bartlett, IL, at noon. Interment will follow. More details and a complete obituary are available at https://firstpresevanston.org/sapp/.

Condolences – We offer our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Patricia Johnson who died Sunday, August 28. Pat was a former FPCE member, and sister to Nancy Sadek and Mike Campbell. A wake will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, September 2, at Grace Presbyterian Church, 440

Ridge Avenue in Winnetka, followed by a memorial service at 11 a.m. An additional service will be held at Central Presbyterian Church in New York City at a later date.

Condolences – We offer our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Catherine Latturner for the passing of her father, James Latturner, on August 30, 2022. A memorial service is being planned, with details to be determined.

Lemonade on the Lawn – After this morning's service, join us for Lemonade on the Lawn, out in front of our building. This event is hosted and sponsored by the Deacons!

'The James Code' Adult Education Class concludes today – Our adult education class will meet in Room 213 and on Zoom after the service.

The FPCE Building will be closed Monday, September 5, in observance of Labor Day.

Fall Kickoff Sunday is next week – As we mark the beginning of this season we will share a meal together after the service on September 11, and we will hold an open house to highlight various ministries and discipleship opportunities. Kickoff Sunday also begins our return to the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service schedule.

Take your worship journal home! - As the summer season draws to a close, all children are invited to take home any worship journals they have in the back of the sanctuary. We will be starting fresh in September with a new set of journals that will be released on kickoff Sunday!

Vision Keepers Dinner 2022 – We are proud to announce that Larry and Barbara Holm will be honored at this year's Vision Keepers Dinner hosted by Interfaith Action Evanston, benefiting our Evanston Warming Centers and Soup Kitchens. Please join us on September 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel in Skokie, in celebrating the countless hours and years of service and love that Larry and Barbara have poured out on First Presbyterian Evanston, our community and the world. Tickets are \$75.00 per person, and limited scholarships are available. Register by September 6. For registration and payment information, visit http://firstpresevanston.org/news-notes.

Nourish Women's Bible Study resumes Thursday mornings this Fall – The Nourish women's Bible study will resume on Thursday, September 8, at 9:30 a.m., meeting in Room 213 and also on Zoom. All ages are welcome, and childcare will be provided. This fall we will be holding a study series on "Women in the New Testament." Please join us and bring a friend! Questions? Need the Zoom link? Contact sallyivaska1@gmail.com.

Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study resumes in September - The Thursday Women's Bible Study fall term begins September 15, from 5:45-7 p.m. The meetings will be both in person, in Room 213 at the Church, and on Zoom. The first meeting on September 15 will be a gathering to welcome newcomers, inquirers and returning members. Light refreshments will be provided for those in-person. The study is based on John Stott's guide, "ACTS: Seeing the Spirit at Work." This study is open to women of all ages and newcomers are welcomed. Contact Jennifer Randolph at jen.rn@verizon.net for any additional information and access to the Zoom Link.

Family Small Group Returns September 18 –Parents and caregivers with kids aged 0 – college are invited to join our monthly family small group. It will meet the third Sunday of the month from 4-6 p.m. Dinner is provided. This group is for all parents and caregivers, come by yourself or with a spouse, whatever works for your family. Childcare will be provided for infant through fifth grade; youth will be in their own small group time. This is an opportunity to meet other parents and

caregivers, share the joys and challenges of raising children, and to grow in faith as together we study God's Word and call in our lives.

Calling all lost library books! – The First Presbyterian Church of Evanston Library is missing a number of books. Some are long overdue while others were borrowed without being properly checked out. Library volunteers are asking everyone to check and see if they might have one or more of these "lost friends" in their possession. No fines, penalties or criticisms will be levied. The library is just asking that the books be returned. All books can be dropped off at the front desk during the week, or at the Library on Sunday mornings. Questions? Contact Courtney Ivaska at courtney.b.ivaska@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

Parish Nurse Book Club – Our next book club meeting will be on Tuesday, October 19 from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Parlor. We will be reading "The Personal Librarian" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. According to Goodreads it is "the remarkable, little-known story of Belle da Costa Greene, J. P. Morgan's personal librarian—who became one of the most powerful women in New York despite the dangerous secret she kept in order to make her dreams come true."

First Presbyterian Church

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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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Welcome! We're glad you are here. We ask everyone to complete and return this page. Please tear it off from the stapled bulletin, to slip to the offering basket September 4, 2022 every week. Your Name Family members' names/ages Street Address, City, State, Zip Phone: □ Cell □ Home Email address I'm interested in: ☐ Send me the weekly E-newsletter ☐ Knowing Jesus better ☐ I need prayer or support ☐ First time visitor ☐ I would like to speak with a pastor ☐ Occasional attendee ☐ Joining a Small Group ☐ Regular attendee/member ☐ Joining the Welcome Team ☐ Worship Music Team ☐ Single ☐ Sound/AV/Video Team □ Married ☐ Prayer Team ☐ Have children at home ☐ Becoming a Member ☐ Junior/High School student ☐ I need a Stephen Minister ☐ College student/Graduate student □ Communion at home suggested for (name) Please pray for: (This is shared with pastors & confidential prayer team)