

First Presbyterian Evanston

July 16, 2023 – 10 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

FOCUS

Prelude

Agnus Dei

(Words & Music: Michael W. Smith, 1990, after Revelation 19:6; CCLI Song #626713)

*Alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty reigns! Holy are You Lord, God Almighty!
Worthy is the Lamb! You are holy! Amen.*

EXALT

Welcome

Call to Worship – from Psalm 119

Leader: Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

**All: I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.**

Leader: I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word.

**All: Accept my offerings of praise, O LORD,
and teach me your ordinances.**

**Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.**

Opening Song

We Fall Down

(Words and Music: Chris Tomlin, 1998, CCLI Song #2437367)

We fall down,
We lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus;
The greatness of
Mercy and love,
At the feet of Jesus.

And we cry holy, holy, holy,
And we cry holy, holy, holy,
And we cry holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.

We fall down,
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At the feet of Jesus;
The greatness of
Mercy and love
At the feet of Jesus.

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And we cry holy, holy, holy,
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Holy, holy, holy is the Lamb.

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Remember that our Lord Jesus
can sympathize with us in our weakness,
since in every respect he was tempted as we are,
yet without sin.

Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace,
that we may receive mercy
and find grace to help in time of need.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**All: God of mercy, whose loving-kindness endures forever:
we confess that often we have failed to receive and give love;
to care for others as we care for ourselves;
to forgive and accept forgiveness.**

**We remember good intentions that were not put into actions;
harsh words that were hurtful;
selfish purposes that caused pain;
persistent pride that would not yield.**

**We acknowledge our fear in the face of death
and our failure to accept the hope you offer us in Christ.**

**Hear us, O Lord,
as in this silence, we make our confession to you.**

(A time of silence is kept.)

**Gracious God, forgive us and help us to forgive others;
heal us from the pain of self-condemnation;
free us from the burden of failures that cannot be corrected;
renew us with your loving assurance
that our sins have been forgiven,
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.**

Leader: Hear the good news from Romans 8:34!

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ, and 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.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Song of Response

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

(Words & Music: John Newton, Chris Tomlin, & Louie Giglio; CCLI Song #4768151)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now I'm found;

Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

And grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed.

My chains are gone, I've been set free;

My God, my Savior has ransomed me,

And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.

My chains are gone, I've been set free;
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, amazing grace.

My chains are gone, I've been set free;
My God, my Savior has ransomed me,
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love, amazing grace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine,

Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

ENCOUNTER

Children's Moment

Passing the Peace of Christ

Scripture

Job 23:1-9

Then Job answered:

- ² “Today also my complaint is bitter;
his hand is heavy despite my groaning.
- ³ Oh, that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!
- ⁴ I would lay my case before him
and fill my mouth with arguments.
- ⁵ I would learn what he would answer me
and understand what he would say to me.
- ⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?
No, but he would give heed to me.
- ⁷ There the upright could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.
- ⁸ “If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;
- ⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

Psalm 22:1-11

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my
groaning?
- ² O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night but find no rest.
- ³ Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
- ⁴ In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵ To you they cried and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
⁶ But I am a worm and not human,
scorned by others and despised by the people.
⁷ All who see me mock me;
they sneer at me; they shake their heads;
⁸ “Commit your cause to the Lord; let him deliver—
let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”
⁹ Yet it was you who took me from the womb;
you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.
¹⁰ On you I was cast from my birth,
and since my mother bore me you have been my God.
¹¹ Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is no one to help.

Sermon Surrendering to God when Answers Don’t Come
Rev. Judith Watt, Guest Preacher

RESPOND

Sharing of Tithes and Offerings

Hymn of Response I Surrender All

*(Words: Judson Wheeler Van De Venter, 1896; Music: Winfred Scott Weeden, 1896;
CCLI Song #23189)*

All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

I surrender all,
I surrender all.
All to Thee my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine.
Let me feel the Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.

I surrender all,
I surrender all.
All to Thee my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to Thee.
Fill me with Thy love and power,
Let Thy blessing fall on me.

I surrender all,
I surrender all.
All to Thee my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

I surrender all,
I surrender all.
All to Thee my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

Doxology & Offering Prayer

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (*Blue Hymnal* #592)
(*Words: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709; Music: Genevan Psalter, 1551; CCLI Song #56204*)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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 Hymn

All People That On Earth Do Dwell

(*Words: W. Kethe from Daye's Psalter, 1560;*

Music: arr. R. Vaughan Williams, 1953, for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II)

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,
Come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good:
His mercy is forever sure;

His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From men and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

Sending & Congo Mission Trip Commissioning

Benediction

Choral Benediction

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

(Words: Numbers 6:24-26; Music: Peter Lutkin, 1900)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.

Amen.

Postlude

Believe for It

(Words & Music: CeCe Winans, Kyle Lee, Mitch Wong, & Dwan Hill, 2021; CCLI Song #7169164)

They say this mountain can't be moved, They say these chains will never break, But they don't know You like we do. There is power in Your name.

We've heard that there is no way through. We've heard the tide will never change. They haven't seen what You can do. There is power in Your name, So much power in Your name. Move the immovable, Break the unbreakable, God we believe for it. From the impossible, We'll see a miracle. God we believe for it. We know that hope is never lost, Oh, for there is still an empty grave.

God we believe, no matter what, There is power in Your name,

So much power in Your name. Move the immovable...

You are the way when there seems to be no way.

We trust in You, God, You have the final say. Move the immovable...

You said it, I believe it. You said it, It is done. Move the immovable...

Today's Worship Service Leaders

Crofton Coleman, Worship Band Dir., Vocals, Piano; **Daniel Mpanda**, Vocals

Dr. Rebecca Chu, Organist

Tina Laughlin, Percussion

Fred Bryant, Acoustic Guitar; **Kon Savoy**, Drums; **Bethany Vaughan**, Trumpet

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

Chancel Choir

Caryl Weinberg, Dir. of Mission, Welcome, Offering Invitation & Offering Prayer, Sending

Valrie Barrett, Elder, Confession & Prayers of the People

Jim Teague, Dir. of Communication, Children's Moment, Video Switcher

John Powell, Scripture Reading

Rev. Judith Watt, Guest Preacher, Sermon, Commissioning & Benediction

Evan Peters, A/V Coordinator, Live Audio

Noah McLeod, A/V Volunteer, Projection

John Carlson, A/V Volunteer, Online Chat

Joe Sickles, Building Team

Amanda Jenta, Tuah Jenta, Marcia Smith, Ushers

Bob Bastian, Greeter, Prayer Companion

Angel Samuel, Prayer Companion

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.

Pillars of Reformed Christian Faith Adult Ed. meets in Room 213 at 11:30 a.m.

Join us outside after the service (weather permitting) for "**Lemonade on the Lawn,**" a time of fellowship hosted by the Deacons!

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 every week. July 16, 2023

Your Name

Family members' names/ages

Street Address, City, State, Zip

Phone: Cell Home

Email address

- Send me the weekly E-newsletter
- First time visitor
- Occasional attendee
- Regular attendee/member

- Single
- Married
- Have children at home
- Junior/High School student
- College student/Graduate student

I'm interested in:

- Knowing Jesus better
- I need prayer or support
- I would like to speak with a pastor
- Joining a Small Group
- Joining the Welcome Team
- Worship Music Team
- Sound/AV/Video Team
- Prayer Team
- Becoming a Member
- I need a Stephen Minister
- Communion at home suggested for
_____ (name)

Please pray for:
(This is shared with pastors & confidential prayer team)

Support Evanston Students through the Deacons' Backpack Project

The Board of Deacons is collaborating with Family Focus to provide 50 area students with new backpacks filled with school supplies and other helpful items! The congregation is asked to donate toward the contents, including items such as earbuds, insulated water bottles, writing journals, and Target gift cards.



Please make your donation by Friday, July 28, 2023.

How to Donate



Scan the QR Code:
Select **"Backpack Project"** from the dropdown menu.

Give by check:
Make a check payable to First Presbyterian Church of Evanston. Indicate **BOD Backpack Project** on the memo line.

Drop check in offering plate on Sundays or bring/mail check to the church office.

Anniversary Celebration for Jan and Tom Sullivan

Following the worship service on Sunday, July 23, we will celebrate Jan and Tom Sullivan as they mark 50 years of marriage AND 47 years of membership at First Pres. Join us outside for this special Lemonade on the Lawn with cake and light refreshments.

Scam Email Warning

First Pres staff and lay leaders will NEVER ask for direct financial assistance or gift card donations by email or text. Be suspicious of any email or text making these kinds of requests. If in doubt, call the church.



First Pres Announcements

July 16, 2023

Our guest preacher: Rev. Judy Watt

The Rev. Judith (Judy) Watt was ordained in 1994 at First Pres Evanston and served for nine and a half years as Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care. In 2003, she was called to be Pastor and Head of Staff at the Presbyterian Church of Palatine, where she served for eight years. In 2011, Judy joined the staff of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago as Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care, retiring in December of 2019. She served as Moderator of The Chicago Presbytery in 2011. Judy and her husband, Dave, joined First Presbyterian Church of Evanston in 1977 and raised their family here. Her call to ministry was nurtured by this congregation. Judy and Dave, who now live in Chicago, have two adult daughters and three grandsons.



Lemonade on the Lawn TODAY

Join us outside after the service (weather permitting) for "Lemonade on the Lawn," a time of fellowship hosted by the Deacons!

Pillars of Reformed Christian Faith - Summer Session

Continues today at 11:30 a.m. in Room 213. Facilitated by Richard Bell.

Outdoor Worship on July 30

First Pres will move our Sunday, July 30, 10 a.m. worship service outdoors into the parking lot. This is a great opportunity to invite family, friends, and neighbors to find out what we're all about. Lemonade on the Lawn will be held immediately afterward. This service will also be streamed live.



Save the Date – All-Church Picnic & Vespers August 6

The First Pres family will gather Sunday August 6 at 5 p.m. at Greenwood Beach in Evanston for our annual vesper service and all-church picnic! Details and sign up coming soon!

First Pres Hires Interim Senior Pastor

The First Pres Session voted unanimously Tuesday night to call Rev. Dr. Tassie Green as the church's interim senior pastor and head of staff. A special meeting was held by the elders to consider recommendation of the Interim Senior Pastor Transition Team to hire Dr. Green. The elders met Tassie and listened to her talk about her background and vision. After a time of questions and discussion, the vote was taken. This is a transitional role at the church, lasting for approximately 18-24 months.



Rev. Dr. Tassie Green

Tassie is a transitional ministry specialist and serves as team lead of MidAmerica/Lincoln Trails Synods' (MALT) "Art of Transitional Ministry," the required training for Transitional Ministers of the PC(USA). She has served congregations from 80-4000 members. She recently completed four bridge pastor terms at Hope Wheaton, Knox Pres Naperville, Heritage Carol Stream, and First Pres Deerfield. She has served in six other transitional roles and worked for the Presbytery of Chicago as a trainer and coach, plus served large congregations in Hinsdale, Indianapolis, and Philadelphia as a family minister.

Rev. Green's vision statement is, "Helping make Jesus real in people's lives, beginning with our own family." Tassie and her husband Ken are a clergy couple who live in Palatine, IL. They have two, grown children in their 20s: Michael and Carlina. Ken serves with the PC(USA) Board of Pensions as regional church consultant.

We look forward to Tassie's sharing her energy, joy, and motivation with all of us in order to discern what God is calling First Pres Evanston to be and to do in this next season of change and growth. She will begin full-time work at First Pres on Tuesday, July 25th.

A big thank you goes out to the First Pres Interim Senior Pastor Transition Team for their time and effort: Laurie Kaeser, Chair; Richard Bell; Jerry Gabrielse; LeRoy Klemt; Suzanne Sawada.

OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD Vacation Bible School



July 31 - August 4

9 a.m. - Noon Ages 4-11

Registration Deadline is 5 p.m. July 26



FIRSTPRESEVANSTON.ORG/VBS