

Followers of Christ, called to serve our community and be an actively-engaging light to the world.

We live into our faith, inspired by our worship, encouraged by our fellowship, empowered by our studies. As a Matthew 25 Congregation, we answer the call to provide food and shelter to those in need. As a More Light Presbyterians Congregation, we provide a safe and affirming worshiping community for LGBTQIA+ persons, celebrating the uniqueness and dignity of each person as they seek a home for their faith and confidence in the promises of God for them.

October 13, 2024 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go PRELUDE

Richard Pantcheff

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are delighted that you have joined us this Lord's Day. If you'd like to learn more about our mission and ministry, we invite you to speak to Rev. Susan. Restrooms & changing table are at the end of the hall to the left. Thank you for being with us!

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CHORAL INTROIT

I sing a song of the saints of God

(GTG #730, vs. 1)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,

Congregation: for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: O give thanks to the God of gods,

Congregation: for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord of lords,

Congregation: for God's steadfast love endures forever. Let us worship

God!

CHILDREN'S TIME

Anne Smart

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Listening God, hear your church today as we bring our joys and our concerns, our thanksgivings and our demands. Fill us with the assurance that you truly hear our words and thoughts, our songs and our tears. In the name of the one who always shows us the way, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Trusting in God's gracious mercy through Jesus Christ, let us confess the sin that separates us from God and our neighbors. Let us pray.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and merciful God, we often wonder what we must do to be right with you. The gospel tells us what you have done for us in Jesus Christ to make us right with you. We establish rules and try to follow them to win your love. You call us to trust in your grace and promises in Jesus Christ. We strive for security by piling up the things of this life. Jesus says, "Come, follow me." Lord, forgive our self-centeredness that seeks our well -being while we ignore the needs of others. Forgive our relying on ourselves rather than accepting fully Jesus' call to discipleship. Help us to seek your kingdom and righteousness first in our lives. Through Jesus Christ, amen.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHORAL RESPONSE

They loved their Lord so dear

(GTG #730, vs. 2)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,

Congregation: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Leader: Children of God, hear and believe the good news:

Congregation: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

GLORIA PATRI

HYMN NO. 581

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end! Amen, amen

PEACE

^{*}Please stand as you are able.

He has shown you what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, we join the psalmist as we say, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Psalm 119:105). As we hear your Word read and proclaimed today, may our hearts be illumined by your Holy Spirit. May our lives and actions reflect the light of your Word that others may follow your path, also. Amen.

	SCRIPTURE READINGS	Pew Bible Page #
OLD TESTAMENT	Job 23:1-9, 16-17	OT P 471
PSALM	Psalm 22:1-15	OT P 500
NEW TESTAMENT	Hebrews 4:12-16	NT P 220
GOSPEL	Mark 10:17-31	NT P 46

SERMON Reverend Susan Balfour

*HYMN 475

Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Declaration of Faith)

Jesus broadened the definition of neighbor to include those ordinarily despised and excluded. His life in behalf of others led to persecution and death. He commanded his disciples to live the same way. We believe Christ gives us and demands of us lives that recognize all people in all cultures as our neighbors on this planet. Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor, to treat our neighbor's needs as our own, to care passionately for the other's good, to share what we have. It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain which love involves.

INVITATION TO OFFERING



When the Apostle Paul called for Gentile Christians to contribute to the offering for the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem, he reminded them, "for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." Mindful of and grateful for the many blessings we have received from God, let us give generously that we may supply the needs of the saints and overflow with thanksgivings to God. You may present your offering at the front of the sanctuary, or if you prefer to contribute electronically, you can do so using the PayPal QR Code in your bulletin or visit our website at fpcmilledgeville.org.



Scan. Pay. Go.

OFFERTORY *DOXOLOGY

Be Still and Know

Andrew Moore

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia, Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Generous and merciful God, we thank you for your indescribable gift of Jesus Christ. As we present our offerings today, give us grateful and generous hearts, that we may always follow Jesus in what we say and do. Help us to remember that every generous act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, from you, our heavenly Father. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 697 Take My Life

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Go in Peace. AMEN!

CHORAL BENEDICTION They lived not only in ages past (GTG #730, vs. 3) POSTLUDE To God Be the Glory Christopher Tambling

Liturgy written by Philip K. Gladden, provided by $Presbyterian\ Outlook$ The sanctuary flowers were given by the Callender Family in honor of Astrid and Craig's birthdays.



LIMITED MOBILITY

Helen Danuser

CHURCH FAMILY:

Wesley Applebury, cancer recurrence and treatment, attending seminary in Atlanta, Columbia Theological Seminary, D. Wesley Applebury, Box 289, 701 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030

Jack Bivens, ongoing health concerns- at Autumn Lane in Gray, GA Nan Carpenter, ongoing health concerns Ellen Thompson, waiting on double hip replacement

EXTENDED FAMILY:

Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues Brad Blackham, friend of Jennifer Flory, open heart surgery/valve replacement and recovery

Michael Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's grandson, multiple health concerns
Blake Connlly, Mary Lucik's great grandson, ongoing health concerns
Bella Covone, Susan Balfour's niece, idiopathic hypertension
Susan Eilers, Mary Lucik's friend, cancer
Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer
Marshall Hodgman, Donna Gautier's son, recovering from heart surgery at home
Alonzo Kelley, Craig Callender's father, Stage 4 Melenoma
Velma Kelley, Craig Callender's grandmother, ongoing health concerns
Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns
Ben Morgan, Jennifer Flory's brother, ongoing concerns

Janie Mullis, Bill Werts' son-in-law's mother, ongoing health concerns
Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, ongoing health issues- at Carlyle House in
Macon

Paul Orman, Barbra Orman's husband, ongoing health concerns Ambriea Pearson, granddaughter of Sundae, ongoing health concerns Chris Pearson, Sunda Coleman's son, recovering at home; dialysis Runette Pounds, Sunda Coleman's mother, ongoing health concerns Gloria Roberts, Bill Werts' cousin, recovering from a traumatic fall Paul Schrage, Carrie Cook's father, ongoing health concerns Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis Windy Spaide, Craig Callender's sister, ongoing health concerns Special friend of Louise Sallstrom, ongoing health concerns Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards son-in-law, ongoing health concerns Ike Thomas, ongoing cancer treatments

Jeanene Vinson, former secretary at FPC, ongoing health concerns Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, at home in hospice care Wayne Woodard, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

IN ASSISTED LIVING

George and Nan Carpenter, PO Box 527, Jefferson, GA 30549
Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Nancy Holbrook, The Dublin Place, 504 Fire Tower Rd, Dublin GA 31021
Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Jackie Northington, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place, Ste 118
Suzy Smith, Savannah Court 1061 Willow Run Rd., Unit 4, Greensboro GA 30642

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: October 13- October 20

Today	9:30	Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship
	12:00	Youth Group
	1:00	The Bridge UMC Worship
Monday	6:30	PFLAG
	7:00	MSG
Tuesday	9:30	Food Pantry and Samaritan Ministry
	12:00	Kiwanis
	5:30	Session Meeting
Wednesday	6:30	Pot Luck and Bible Study
	6:30	The Bridge UMC Women Bible Study
Sunday	9:30	Sunday School
-	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship
	12:00	Youth Group
	1:00	The Bridge UMC Worship
	1:30	Homeless Awareness Club
	5:00	Presbyterian Women Bible Study





To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Offerings in October \$3,990.00 Anticipated October expenses: \$18,290.00

(Monthly expenditures may exceed anticipated amounts)



Join us for worship in-person, online at Facebook Live or on the radio at 102.3 WKZR radio every week.

Sunday: 9:30AM **Zoom Sunday School Class**, we are studying

The Collected Sermons of Walter Brueggemann www.Zoom.com, Meeting ID: 852 8172 1781

Passcode: 085809

Fellowship Sunday School Class, studying Living the Resurrection

by Eugene H. Peterson, meeting in the Parlor Room

10:15AM **Children's Sunday School Class**, singing, crafts and stories,

meeting in the Craft Room Upstairs

Wednesday: 6:30PM Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study, studying

the video series "Living the Questions 2.0", meeting in the

Fellowship Hall

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12



The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.



- 5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

This hymn of consecration radiates from the repeated word "take," resulting in a remarkably full survey of a person's attributes and possessions and giving weight to the "all" at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.