

“Therefore we also will serve the

LORD,

for he is our

GOD.”

JOSHUA 24:18

First Presbyterian Church

1573 N. Highland Avenue Jackson, TN 38301 731-422-1591 fpcjacksontn.org

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 22, 2021

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Dear God, silence all voices within our minds but your own. Help us to seek and be able to follow your will. May our prayers be joined with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith, that together we may glorify your name and enjoy your fellowship forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C Major
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Fischer

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Molly Richardson

One: We are a community of faith that has been created by the love of God.

ALL: *We have been set free by the word of forgiveness in Jesus Christ.*

One: We have come, not to parade our own goodness, but to praise the holiness of God.

ALL: *We have come not to boast of what we have done, but to proclaim the redeeming work of Jesus Christ.*

One: Christ has called us to be ambassadors of His love and mercy!

ALL: *With all our being, we will praise you, O God, and tell of your kindness toward us. Let us worship the God who calls us and empowers us to love.*

MUSIC

Christians, We have Met to Worship
Campanile Quartet

arr. by Sondra K. Tucker

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Rev. John White

One: Lord Jesus, you used your hands to heal; to lift up; to bless; to sow kindness and tenderness in desolate lives.

ALL: *Forgive us when we keep our hands at our sides when we could be reaching out in love.*

One: Lord Jesus, you used your hands to bear the burdens of others and to feed the hungry.

ALL: *Forgive us when we use our hands to take care of ourselves without any thought for those who are hungry or overwhelmed with adversity.*

One: Lord Jesus, you used your hands to welcome and to include those who were considered outcasts by the society of your time.

ALL: *Forgive us when we clench our fists and exclude people simply because they are different from us. (continued)*

Lord Jesus, open our hands and our hearts to love as you loved and to care as you cared. Make us instruments of your peace, and work through us to bring healing and grace to every corner of your creation. Through Christ we pray, Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Rev. John White

One: Hear the good news: there is forgiveness and steadfast love with God who saves us from all our sins. God has shown this love for us in that, while we still were sinners, Christ died for us.

ALL: *Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!*

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (Hymn #581)**

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

ACT OF PRAISE

*Bound for the Promised Land
Campanile Quartet*

arr. by Sondra K. Tucker

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Laura Byrd, Director of BLAST Learning

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (See insert, Prayer Litany)

Rev. John White

***HYMN: 846 Fight the Good Fight**

DUKE STREET

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Molly Richardson

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Joshua 24:14-18
(Page 216)*

Elder Molly Richardson

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Ephesians 6:10-20
(Page 195)*

Rev. John White

SERMON

“Confronting the Spiritual Forces of Evil”

Rev. John White

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** From *The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)* Elder Molly Richardson
*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 Ghost,
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 sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

*(At this time, please find the red friendship pad located toward the center isle on each pew,
sign it, pass it down your row and back again, taking note of those who worship with you.)*

OFFERING

Rev. John White

OFFERTORY

As the Deer
Dr. Terry McRoberts

arr. by House

*Doxology (Tune: 591)

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*Dedicatory Prayer

Rev. John White

SENDING

*CHARGE

Rev. John White

*BENEDICTION

Rev. John White

POSTLUDE

Hymn Prelude on Ein feste Burg
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Held