



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 2023

First Presbyterian Church 1573 N. Highland Avenue 731-422-1591 fpcjacksontn.org

**TRINITY SUNDAY
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

June 4, 2023

GATHERING

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION: *Almighty God, you sent Jesus, our good shepherd, to gather us together. May we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us, listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John White

OPENING SENTENCES (*Isaiah 6:3*)

Rev. John White

One: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
ALL: *the whole earth is full of God's glory.*

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune
Dr. Terry McRoberts

Fedak

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: What does the Lord require of you?
ALL: *To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.*
One: What does God command of us?
ALL: *To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.*
One: God does not call us to ease or to comfort.
ALL: *But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.*
One: Let us worship the God who believes in us,
and trusts in us, and abides with us.
ALL: *Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way.*

***HYMN: 1** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA

PRAISE GOD AND CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. John White

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. John White

Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. John White

One: Persistently, patiently, lovingly, God pours grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.

ALL: *Loved, we are sent to love; Forgiven, we are freed to forgive; Graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.*

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: 447 *We Are Forgiven*

WE ARE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: *And, also, with you.*

THE WORD

ACT OF PRAISE

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Jeff Chambers, soloist | Pam Chambers, piano

Scholtes

arr. Hays

CONFIRMATION + COMMISSIONING (see insert)

Rev. Courtney Bowen + Molly Richardson

Ridley Alexander

Will Bodiford

Lily Byrd

Logan Jones

Jaxon Reynolds

Liam Richardson

Harrison Smith

Wilder Taylor

Sam Thompson

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Libby Smith

MINUTE FOR MISSION: NaCoMe Family Camp

Jamie + Marlie Richardson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. John White

*HYMN: 285 *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*

BRIDEGROOM

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Courtney Bowen

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 11:18-21* (page 168)

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: This is the word of God for the people of God. **ALL: *Thanks be to God.***

NEW TESTAMENT READING *Matthew 22:34-39* (page 25)

Rev. John White

One: This is the word of God. The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of the Lord endures forever.

ALL: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Tis Better to Have Loved...

Rev. John White

RESPONSE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from A Creed from Colossians 1:15-23**

Rev. Courtney Bowen

One: Who is Jesus Christ?

ALL: *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once we were alienated from God, but now God has reconciled us by Christ's physical body through death to present us holy in his sight. Thanks be to God!*

OFFERING

Rev. Courtney Bowen

OFFERTORY

A Gaelic Improvisation

Callahan

Dr. Terry McRoberts

*Doxology (Tune: 606)

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. Courtney Bowen

SENDING

HYMN: 32 *I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

***CHARGE + BENEDICTION**

Rev. John White

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Tallis' Canon

Tallis

Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE

Very Quickly

Bach

Dr. Terry McRoberts