

First Presbyterian Church

Cleveland, Georgia

September 29, 2024



Growing together by sharing Christ's love

First Presbyterian Church

19th Sunday After Pentecost

September 29, 2024

We Gather to Worship God

Prayer of Preparation for Worship

Reigning God, whose dominion is over all worlds, and whose witnesses come from many places and points of view, expand our knowledge of your truth and our appreciation of diversity so we find common ground with others rather than being stumbling blocks in their way. Show us how to be at peace with one another and faithful to you. Amen.

Prelude to Worship

Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

**Call to Worship*

Based on Numbers 11:16-29

The Lord redeems the life of his servants.

Thanks be to God!

No one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

Praise the Lord.

**Gathering Prayer*

The fifth Sunday (today) is Change Sunday at FPC! Please put your extra “change” in the basket at the rear of the sanctuary to support the Joyful Ladies Sewing School in Kenya. Write “Joyful Ladies Sewing” on the memo line of a check.

***Hymn**

“There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

GtG #408

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God, our strength and savior, you know our great transgressions, our hidden faults, our secret sins. With our hands we grasp at power; with our feet we stumble into evil; with our eyes we look out for ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God, and lead us in your holy way of life and love and peace; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: Christ himself is the Word that offers eternal life to all who receive him. This proves his love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

***Song of Response**

GTG #582

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen**

We Hear the Word of God in Scripture and Song

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Becky Clark

Choral Anthem

Epistle

Mark 9:38-50

Sermon

“Stumbling Blocks and Tasteless Salt”

***Hymn**

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

GtG #343

We Respond to the Word of God

***Affirmation of Faith** From the *Confession of Belhar (10.5)*

We believe that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Prayers of the People and 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.

Offering

Offertory: A Time of Giving and Reflection

***Song of Gratitude**

“May the Peoples Praise You” (Refrain) *FPC Songbook #48*

***Hymn** “How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord” *GtG #432*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

“They’ll Know We are Christians (Refrain) *GtG #300*

Postlude

Please join us for a potluck lunch immediately following the church service today. Everyone is welcome and we always have plenty of food!

Devotion for Discernment

Scripture: Matthew 6:19-24

Focus Text: “No one can serve two masters” (v. 24)

Listening to God: You were created to have me at the center of your life. If I am in my proper place in your affection, everything else in your life will be in balance. If you allow any other thing (even good things such as family or job or hobbies) to move to the center of your life, eventually everything will fall out of balance. You cannot be your own center of gravity. My will is the best thing that could ever happen to you and those around you. I always have your best interest at heart. Can you trust me for this?

My Prayer:

Prayer Reminders

Family, friends and those recovering will be kept on our pastoral care list for one month unless an extension of time is requested. Please notify the church office of any changes. **Bold** print indicates new prayer requests. You can call the church or send your new requests to info@fpcleveland.org.

Members with special needs, at home or hospitalized

Hugh Walters

John McGee

Eric Wall

Mil Clyburn

Sandi Nellis and Family

Mary Ann Clyburn

Family and friends

Barbara RussellBetty Royd’s niece

Cookie Mathis

Pepper HaywoodFriend of Penny Murdoch

In the military

Zack Ciriello..... Ciriello and Murdoch family
Greyson Ekdahl-McBride Ciriello and Murdoch family
Charlsie MaddoxMaddox family
Tyler LovellRoyds family

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Crafts Sale & Car Show: FPC will be hosting a Crafts & Car Show on **Saturday, Oct. 12**, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you are interested in having a craft table or showing off your car, please fill out and turn in a registration form and payment to the church office. Registration forms and flyers for you to share are available in the Upper Narthex.

Weekly Bible Study: The Bible study group is continuing its fast-paced review of the New Testament on **Wednesday, Oct. 2**, at 12:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Bring your lunch and join the discussion!

Presbyterian Women: The Coordinating Team will meet on **Wednesday, Oct. 2**, at 2 p.m. The PW Bible study group will meet on **Tuesday, Oct. 8**, at 12:30 p.m. Bring your lunch; dessert and beverages provided.

Peace and Global Witness Offering: The PC(USA) Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected on **Sunday, Oct. 6**, World Communion Sunday. See the insert in the bulletin.

Presbyterian Men: The men will hold their monthly luncheon and business meeting on **Thursday, Oct. 17**, at noon.

Presbytery Meeting: The Northeast Georgia Presbytery will meet at FPC on **Tuesday, Oct. 22**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The preschool will not be in session that day.

The Week at a Glance

Monday, Sept. 30

Office Closed

Tuesday, Oct. 1

9 am - 1 pm: Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm: TGP

Wednesday, Oct. 2

9 am - 1 pm: Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm: TGP

12:30 pm: Bible Study

2 pm: PW CT Meeting

6:30 pm: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Oct. 3

9 am - 1 pm: Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm: TGP

Friday, Oct. 4

9 am - 1 pm: Office Hours

Sunday, Oct. 6

9:30 am: Choir Rehearsal

10 am: Coffee & Conversation

11 am: Worship Service &
Communion

PastorRev. Burnetta Armour
Director of Music: David Arvold
Accompanist:James Geiger
Organist: Rachel Ficklin
Liturgist: Becky Clark
Usher:.....Penny Murdoch
Greeters:.....Charles Massingale, Hugh Walters, Collin Armour
Videographer: Kim Ciriello
Administrative Assistant:Britt Jacobs
Elder of the Month, September Hugh Walters
Deacon of the Month, September Bob Thomason

THE SESSION

Reverend Burnetta Armour, Moderator

Bruce Morgan, Clerk of Session

Jim Hiers, Clerk of Session, Emeritus

CLASS OF 2024

Phil Baughman

Worship

Jim Crawford

Membership

CLASS OF 2025

Bruce Morgan

Administration &

Finance

Hugh Walters

Building & Grounds

Elaine Wiegert

Discipleship

CLASS OF 2026

Judy Massingale

Membership

Nancy Webber

Communications

THE DIACONATE

Rita Morgan, Moderator

Judy Massingale, Session Liaison

CLASS OF 2024

Viveca Cooper

Debbie Wessely

CLASS OF 2025

Rita Morgan

Adele Page

CLASS OF 2026

Kim Ciriello

Bob Thomason



First Presbyterian Church

147 N. Main Street

Cleveland, GA 30528

706-865-6499

www.fpcleveland.org