

First Presbyterian Church

Cleveland, Georgia

September 8, 2024



Growing together by sharing Christ's love

First Presbyterian Church

16th Sunday After Pentecost

September 8, 2024

We Gather to Worship God

Prayer of Preparation for Worship

It says in the Bible, O God, that you created the world through your Word. Your Word is powerful! And so are our words. They can heal, create a smile, be a declaration of love; but they can also hurt and destroy a sense of self-worth. Give us your wisdom, God of the Word, so that as a church and as individuals we use our words to build up and to destroy. Amen.

Prelude to Worship “We Bow Down” (arr. Mark Hayes)

Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission on our Year of Discernment

**Call to Worship*

from Proverbs 2

Incline your ear and hear my words, and apply your mind to my teaching.
It will be pleasant if you keep them within you, if all of them are ready on your lips.

So that your trust may be in the Lord, I have made them known to you today.

The rich and poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all.

****Gathering Prayer***

****Hymn***

“Let Us with Gladsome Mind”

GtG #31

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**O God of peace and wholeness,
We have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies,
but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love.
Break down those walls.
Help us to see that the way to your heart
is through the reconciliation of our own hearts and our enemies.
Bless them and us,
that we may grow in love for each other and for you,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Christ is our peace; those who are divided he has made one.
He has broken down the barriers of separation by his death
and has built us up into one body, with God.
To all who repent and believe he has promised reconciliation.
**We will live as those who are reconciled to God and one another.
Amen.**

****Song of Response***

“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

GtG #582

We Hear the Word of God in Scripture and Song

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Susie Allen

<i>Anthem</i>	“Consider the Lilies” (arr. Jane Marshall)	
<i>Gospel</i>	Mark 7:24-37	
<i>Sermon</i>	“Crumbs from Your Table”	
<i>*Hymn</i>	“In Christ There Is No East and West ”	GtG #317

We Respond to the Word of God

****Affirmation of Faith***

from the Iona Community

With the whole church
**we affirm that we are made in God's image,
 befriended by Christ,
 empowered by the Spirit.**

With people everywhere
**we affirm God's goodness at the heart of humanity
 planted more deeply than anything that is wrong.**

With all creation
**we celebrate the miracle and wonder of life,
 the unfolding purposes of God
 forever at work in ourselves and the world.**

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 for Giving and Reflection

“Sweet Hour of Prayer” (arr. Lee Rogers)

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

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Hymn** “Heaven Shall Not Wait” GtG #773

***Charge and Benediction**

***Benediction Response**
“They’ll Know We Are Christians” (Refrain) GtG #300

Refrain

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff is a melody line with lyrics underneath. The second staff is a guitar accompaniment line with chords written above it. The chords for the first staff are (C), D^b, and (Em) Fm. The chords for the second staff are (Am) B^bm, (Em) Fm, (Am) B^bm, (Bm) Cm, (Em) (Am/E) (Em) Fm, and B^bm/F Fm.

Postlude “Onward, Christian Soldiers” (arr. Carol Tornquist)



The flowers in the sanctuary are given by Nancy Webber
in honor of her daughter Catherine’s birthday.

Devotion for Discernment

Scripture: Micah 6:6-8

Focus Text: “What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God” (v. 8).

Listening to God: I demand integrity from my disciples. You cannot walk humbly with me and walk in arrogance with your brothers and sisters. You cannot be a saint in prayer and a tyrant in your job or with your family. I have given you many things that I intend you to use for the good of those in need around you. The quality of your human relationships shows the true quality of your relationship with me. If you are truly walking with me, I bring you face to face with the needs of my other children. As you treat them, so you treat me.

My Prayer:

Remember in Your Prayers

Members' Special Needs, at Home, or Hospitalized

Becky and Tony Clark
Mil Clyburn
Mary Ann Clyburn
Dale Williams

Jim Hiers
Bill Hines
Betty Goswick
Betty Sloop

Family and Friends

Barbara Russell, Betty Royd's niece
Rev. Roe Calloway
Rev. Rindy Trouteaud, her husband, Bob, passed away
Michael Nix, son of Dewayne Nix

The Week at a Glance

Monday, September 9

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 10

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm TGP

12:30 pm PW Bible Study

Wednesday, September 11

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm TGP

12:30 pm Bible Study

2 pm Knit'n'Stitch

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 12

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm TGP

Friday, September 13

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

Sunday, September 15

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10 am Coffee & Conversation

11 am Worship Service

Announcements & Upcoming Events

The **PW Bible Study** meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 10. Bring your lunch, the hostess will provide dessert and tea.

Knit'n'Stitch next meeting is Wednesday, September 11, at 2 p.m. Come join this active group that will be busy preparing for their booths at Agrifest and the Crafts & Cars event. Bring your ideas!

Wednesday Night Supper - Please join us on September 18 at **5 p.m.** for supper and updates on the Year of Discernment. **Note the change in time**, we want choir members to have time to participate. The dinner will be catered. The menu, a nod to a Summer Supper, is Baked Ham, Squash Casserole, Black-Eyed Pea Salad, Broccoli Cornbread, and Banana Pudding. **Please sign up in the upper narthex so that we have enough food for everyone.**

FPC will be hosting a **Crafts & Car Show** on Saturday, October 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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

Pastor:	Rev. Burnetta Armour
Director of Music:	David Arvold
Accompanist:	James Geiger
Organist:	Rachel Ficklin
Usher:	Becky Clark
Greeters:	Charles Massingale, Hugh Walters, Collin Armour
Liturgist:	Susie Allen
Elder of the Month for September:	Hugh Walters
Deacon of the Month for September:	Bob Thomason