

Everybody's Church



First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Sunday, September 26, 2021, 10:00am, Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Vision Statement

As Everybody's Church we commit ourselves to serving Christ by cultivating mission, inclusion and community.

Inclusion Statement

As Everybody's Church we strive to be a faithful, open and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other life circumstance.

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Bethany Peerbolte

INTROIT

"Christ Has Broken Down the Wall"
Chancel Choir

Miller

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 124)

Waymond Harris

One: How have you made it this far?

Many: The Lord has surely been by my side.

One: But you have faced so much from the world.

Many: With the Lord by my side the chaos has not overcome me.

One: Oh blessed be God!

**ALL: God has never left us and for that, we bring our praise.
Let us worship God!**

†HYMN 268

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Please join in reading those parts of the service printed in **bold**.

†When this symbol precedes an element of the service, please rise in body or in spirit.

Hymntune: DIADEMATA

CALL TO CONFESSION

Dr. John Judson

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, it is so nice to take it easy. We have used the commandment for Sabbath to justify complacency and contentment. When we encountered a fork in the road, we have chosen the path most taken instead of risking something hard for the sake of Your glory. Forgive us for staying the same when You have asked us to grow. We recommit ourselves to the hard parts in the name of Jesus....

Confession acknowledges the reality of sin in our personal and corporate lives. This practice relieves us from the burden of sin and reminds us of the promise of God's forgiveness and grace sealed in our baptism.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†OUR RESPONSE 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

**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.**

This brief hymn of praise is an ancient text known as the Gloria Patri or "lesser doxology." We sing it to express thanksgiving for God's forgiveness.

Proclaiming the Word

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We rejoice in the presentation for Baptism: Maeva Colucci Le Colas and Lily Jung Sook O'Connor.

Waymond Harris, Elder

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

One: The Lord be with you.

Many: And also with you

All: Spirit, who empowers us for God's will to be done, let this reading show us something we can take home and do not shy away from asking us to take something hard to sit with this week. Guide us and help us, Amen.

FIRST TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 2:1-4

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

"My Hope is Built"
Chancel Choir

Trenney

SECOND TESTAMENT LESSON

Ecclesiastes 11:1-6

One: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Thy Will be Done: We Can Do Hard Things"
Rev. Bethany Peerbolte

Responding to God

MEDITATION

"The Majesty and Glory of Your Name"
Lara Alami, vocalist

Fettke

Sealing the Word

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

Materials with additional activities to support faith at home are sent in an email each Sunday morning. Contact Cindy Merten or Dawn Swarthout if you would like to receive this information.

Please follow along with the reading on page 49 of the Old Testament in your Pew Bible.

Please follow along with the reading on page 621 of the Old Testament in your Pew Bible.

Use your bulletin or the prayer page in the Family Worship Resource to write or draw your prayer requests during the Musical Meditation in preparation for Prayers of the People.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

†HYMN 765 “May the God of Hope Go with Us”
(sung twice)

†BENEDICTION

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE “Chaconne in E Minor” Buxtehude

Andrew Herbruck, Director of Music Ministries, is playing the service.

Our Liturgist this morning is Waymond Harris. Waymond, his wife Angela and daughters Amarah and Harper, have been members of First Presbyterian since 2018. Waymond is currently serving his first term on Session and is a member of the Finance Committee.

The rose this morning is in celebration of the birth of Jacob Adam Hunt, son of Adam and Carelyn Hunt, grandson of Bazil Hunt on September 21, 2021.

Say hello to our newest members! This Sunday, we welcome new members into our FPC family at the 10am service. Take a moment and introduce yourself after worship or during coffee hour, and in the upcoming weeks help them get acclimated to “Everybody’s Church!” For anyone else interested in the membership journey, please reach out to Membership Coordinator Amy Zimmer, We plan to have another exploration dinner in the spring. amyzimmer@fpcbirmingham.org.

Many Ways to Give at FPC

To contribute online visit the giving tab
(using the QR code or go to
www.everybodyhurch.org) or



Text “GIVE” to



248-600-4919

HYMNTUNE: ARGENTINA

“May the God of Hope Go With Us,” Text by Alvin Schutmaat © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press). Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-702958. All rights reserved.

The service of worship concludes following the postlude. Please take this time to reflect on the day’s worship.

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down-ward bends his burn-ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / Canto de esperanza



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

This Argentine folk melody sets Spanish and English words, both created by a PC(USA) missionary with much Latin American experience. The two versions complement each other: the Spanish text offering a prayer to God, and the English one providing inspiration for the singers.