

# Everybody's Church



First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

Sunday, November 26, 2023, 8:30am, Christ the King Sunday

## 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.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lou Nyiri

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In Christ all things hold together;  
**Many: Christ is head of the church and Lord of all.**  
One: Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice.  
**Many: Christ will reign forever and ever.**  
All: Let us worship God!

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

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

The Call to Worship is based on Colossians 1:17–18.

†HYMN 263 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

Hymntune: CORONATION

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Righteous God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all. We confess that we have not bowed before him and are slow to acknowledge his rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all, that we may be loyal ambassadors, obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

We are an intentionally inclusive congregation and value the richness of worshiping with all God's people. There are times in the sanctuary when shouts or other loud noises may occur. We accept these without judgment, unless they are signs of distress in need of attention.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

One: Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts.  
**Many: Sovereign God, let your Spirit govern our lives until at last we see the fulfillment of your realm of justice and peace;**  
One: We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All: Amen.**

**FIRST TESTAMENT READING**

Psalm 95:1-7a

One: The word of the Lord.  
**Many: Thanks be to God!**

Please follow along with the reading on page 550 of the Old Testament in your Pew Bible.

**SECOND TESTAMENT READING**

Ephesians 1:15-23

One: The word of the Lord.  
**Many: Thanks be to God!**

Please follow along with the reading on page 192 of the New Testament in your Pew Bible.

**SERMON**

“Worship Pilates”

Rev. Lou Nyiri

*For [God] is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. – Psalm 95:7a*

**MEDITATION**

“My Hope Is Built”

Trenney

Beth Lackey, Soloist

*Members and guests, please sign the Fellowship Pads to let us know of your presence with us.*

All that we have is a gift from God. In gratitude, we return a portion of those blessings to the work of God in the church.

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

**THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Lift up your hearts.  
**People: We lift them to the Lord.**  
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
Leader: Why do we give thanks and praise before this Table?  
**People: We give thanks for God’s work of creation, liberation, and salvation.**

Leader: ... who forever sing to the glory of Your name..

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, Heav - en and earth are  
full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, - ho -  
san - na in the high - est.

“Holy, Holy” Land of Rest,  
Words and Music: Richard  
T. Proulx © 1986, 2011 GIA  
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*A prayer of thanksgiving for the ministry of Jesus, offered by the pastor.*

Leader: Why do we eat bread at this Table?

People: On the night before He died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks He broke it, gave it to His disciples, and said, “Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Leader: Why do we drink from the cup at this Table?

People: The same night Jesus took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Leader: What do we remember at this Table?

People: We remember God’s gracious love for us, Christ’s death and resurrection for us, and the Spirit’s tender care for us.

Leader: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

*A prayer calling on the Holy Spirit, followed by prayers of thanksgiving, intercession, and supplication.*

All: 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.

## COMMUNION OF THE FAITHFUL

*All persons are invited to come forward and partake first of the bread, and then the cup in order to be strengthened by Christ's presence and power in the sacrament. All the communion wafers are gluten-free.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

†HYMN 268            "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

†BENEDICTION

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

The flowers today are given by Gerry Hansen in loving memory of her husband, Stanley Hansen, and their son, Philip Hansen.

Visitors, thank you for joining us today; please sign the Fellowship Pad or use this QR code to register your attendance:



## Many Ways to Give at FPC

To contribute online visit the giving tab (using the QR code) or go to [www.everybodyschurch.org](http://www.everybodyschurch.org).



Text "GIVE" to



248-600-4919

Hymntune: DIADEMATA

Welcome in Christ's name to First Presbyterian Church! You are welcome here just as you are at whatever place in your spiritual journey that you find yourself. If you have any questions about who we are, what we believe, or what we do, please ask one of our elders or pastors. They will be pleased to visit with you. Please know that you are invited to join us for coffee and goodies following the service in Calvin Hall.