



Labyrinth, Mike Moyers

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Seventeenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Sunday, July 30, 2023
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,
Whose love has conquered death.

Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,
Who leads us into life.

*OPENING PRAYER

Eternal God, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Fill us with your mercy and your grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may so use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 310

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Stephanie Dube

May God be with you in worship here.

May God be with you in worship there.

Children may depart the sanctuary with their teacher for Worship & Wonder. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

We love God, and yet . . .

We are Christ's disciples, and yet . . .

We are guided by the Spirit, and yet . . .

there are many ways we do not live this reality.

Let us call upon the Spirit to intercede for us in our time of confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Spirit, intercede . . .

when we fall short of your glory,

when we do not deserve your promises,

when we do not act like those who have been called your family.

Spirit, intercede . . .

when our words wound,

when our silence speaks volumes,

when our actions are a far cry from what you would have us do.

Spirit, intercede . . .

break forth into our lives,

forming us into the image of your Son,

that we might never feel separate from you again.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beloved, hear this good news: God is for us.

Not even our sins can separate us from the love of God.

Glory be to God for this grace and mercy!

*GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 581)

GREATOREX

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since we have been reconciled to God, let us also be reconciled to one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

*SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 175)

LAFFERTY

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!**

**You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, Alleluia!**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Enlightening God, the unfolding of your Word gives light and provides wisdom to all who seek your truth. Open our minds and hearts by the presence of your Holy Spirit that the mystery of your heavenly realm is made evident here on earth. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 3:5-12 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 8:26-39 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“If God Is For Us”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rom. 8:1, 28, 38, 39

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Online giving is available at fpcobky.com

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Lisa Clark, Soloist

*THE DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise...
...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sung by all:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest!** *The prayer continues.*

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All who seek God are invited to the table, regardless of church affiliation or any other condition or identity. Usbers will guide you forward to partake by taking a small piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Prepackaged gluten-free elements are available in the baskets near the communion stations. Servers will come to those who prefer to remain in their seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy and eternal God, you are as far away as the distant stars and as close as our breath. You meet us at this table and we discover our hearts burning within us. Go with us as we leave this place, so that your light and your life may shine brightly for all to see. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 833

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Brad Smith*

Communion Servers: *Janice Odom & Harley Bravo*

The Life of the Church

Spirit Lifters, a group that eats out together once a month, will be enjoying dinner at the Cupola Club on Wednesday, August 2 at 5:30. Please let Jerry Price know if you would like to join. All are welcome!

The Monthly Men's Breakfast is BYOB! (Bring Your Own Breakfast). Join us at 8:00am on Saturday, August 5 in Fellowship Hall for a brief devotion, food, and fellowship.

A Back to School Blessing will be part of next week's service. We will pray for students, teachers, and school staff as they prepare to embark on a new school year.

Joyful Noise, a fun music making time for kids and youth, is held today after worship. Aryanne Brailsford will be leading this fun summer opportunity from 11:30am-12:00 noon each Sunday.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available. Please see an usher if you would like to use one.



The 25th Annual Owensboro Multicultural Festival is coming Saturday, August 19, 10am-4pm on our church lawn. This signature ministry of our church brings together thousands of people to celebrate the diversity that makes our community beautiful.

Volunteer Sign-Up will be available next week.



Yard Signs to promote the festival are available to check out in the hallway near the Clinton Place entrance. Please take one for your home and/or workplace to help us spread the word!

Follow us on Facebook for updates: facebook.com/OwensboroMulticulturalFestival



First Presbyterian Church is an inclusive community of faith called to proclaim the good news of the love of Jesus Christ for all people, and to join God in the building of a just, peaceful, and compassionate world.



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Rev. Matt Curry, Pastor
Jeff Moles, Director of Christian Education & Mission
Stephanie Dube, Director of Children's & Youth Ministries
Dennis Jewett, Director of Music
Tyler Simpson, Organist
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider