



Mumbai, India – the world's 12th wealthiest city, where 6.5 million people live in extreme poverty

FIRST 
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Eighteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Sunday, July 31, 2022
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CHORAL INTROIT

Write Your Blessed Name Upon My Heart

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ps. 107

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

For his steadfast love endures forever.

We cried to the Lord in our trouble,

And God delivered us from our distress.

Let us give thanks for God's steadfast love,

For the Lord's wonderful works to humankind.

For God satisfies the thirsty,

And the hungry God fills with good things.

*OPENING PRAYER

Generous God, in abundance you give us things both spiritual and physical. Help us to hold lightly the fading things of this earth and grasp tightly the lasting things of your kingdom, so that what we are and do and say may be our gifts to you through Christ, who beckons all to seek the things above, where he lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

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 our Summer of Sharing Wisdom Books program. They will return to the sanctuary before communion.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Ps. 107:43

Let us return to our God in confession, considering God's steadfast love.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ps. 107:7, Hos. 11:1-11, Lk. 12:13-21

Nurturing God, you continue to lead us in upright ways on account of your love for us. Yet we do not always follow your call; we turn away from you and go our own way. We focus on earthly accumulation rather than on spiritual faithfulness. We are overcome by greed and neglect the needs of those around us. We turn inward and shirk the responsibilities of life in community. Forgive us, and return us to our rightful home in you, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Silence is kept.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hos. 11:8-11

Hear these words from our God: I cannot give up on you—my compassion grows warm and tender. When my children come trembling, I will bring them home. Believe the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Amen!**

*GLORIA PATRI

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 697)

*Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee,
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.*

*Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Hosea 11:1-11 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 12:13-21 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

“Rich Toward God”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God’s commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a

covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered them from the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

And Can It Be
Shelby Ratliff, Soprano

Dan Forrest

*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:

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 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. You may take communion by taking a small piece of bread and dipping it in the cup. Pre-packaged elements are also available in baskets for a contact-free option.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen

THE SENDING

*HYMN 643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Larry Hale*

Communion Servers: *Deanna & Lloyd Wehrung*

Thank you, Patrick!

The Life of the Church

A Reception Celebrating Patrick Ritch will be held following worship today in Fellowship Hall. Patrick has served as our organist since 2013, enabling us to express our faith through music in wide-ranging ways. We are deeply grateful for his talent and commitment to our worship. Patrick will be moving to North Carolina to pursue graduate studies in choral conducting at East Carolina University and will serve as organist at an Episcopal church in Goldsboro, NC. We wish you all the best, Patrick!

A Back to School Blessing will be part of next week's worship service, offering prayer and encouragement to students, teachers, and school staff as the school year begins. We will also have a reception after the service to celebrate our high school graduates as they begin the next steps in their journeys.

The Spirit Lifters, a group of us who eat out together each month, will meet Tuesday, August 2 at 5:30pm at the Cupola Club. Please let Jerry Price know today if you would like to attend. All are welcome!

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



The 24th Annual Owensboro Multicultural Festival, a signature ministry of our church, is coming up Saturday, August 20, 10am-4pm. Here are ways to get involved:

Yard Signs are a great way to help create buzz about the festival. Put one in your yard or at your workplace. Sign one out near the Clinton Place Door.

Numerous Volunteer Opportunities will be available. We will need people to help with set-up, the church's booth, first aid, serving refreshments, and more.

Follow the festival on Facebook at facebook.com/owensboromulticulturalfestival. Help us by liking and sharing our posts.



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
Patrick Ritsch, Organist
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant
Kevin Parker, Staff Accountant
Dylan Schroader, Custodian
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider