



The Bridge, John August Swanson

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Sixth Sunday
of Easter
Sunday, May 22, 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.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ps. 67

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Let the peoples praise you, O God;

Let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase;

God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us;

let all of the earth revere the Holy One.

*OPENING PRAYER

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

*HYMN 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

UNSER HERRSCHER

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Patrick Wallace

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 are a people living in sin. We are a people in need of God's vision, praying for our eyes to be opened. We are a people in need of God's reversal, praying for our hearts to be softened. We are a people in need of God's reconciliation, praying that our faces might be illumined by God's presence. Let us claim our need of God, confessing our sin together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we equate our judgment with your judgment, and often consider our ways to be your ways. We define peace as the absence of disruption, holding our comfort as your aim and thinking our preferences reflect your way. Too often we act as if we are your authoritative witnesses, believing our worldview corresponds with your vision, and that our narrative contains your hope for the future. O God, dislodge us from our sinful assumptions. Forgive our selfish views. Correct us with your truth and teach us by your Spirit.

Silence is kept.

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

It is the Lord who opens eyes to see. It is the Lord who softens hearts to hear. It is the Lord who returns us to God's presence. Peace, peace, peace—you are loved. You are enough. You belong. In Jesus Christ you are restored.
Thanks be to our God forever and ever.

*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 375)

*Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.*

*On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever all the happy golden day.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Astonishing God, you give us a vision of the heavenly city, the new Jerusalem, your home among mortals on earth. Help us see a larger vision of your loving care for all creation. May we heed your call to move beyond our comfortable circles, and into unfamiliar places, as we seek to share your dream of a world made new. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

John 14:23-29 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

Revelation 21:10; 21:22-22:5 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Jeff Moles

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

"The Immigrant's Creed," José Luis Casal

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger, and returning to his own country suffered the oppression of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. Jesus was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured, accused and condemned to death unjustly. But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead, not as foreigner but to

offer us citizenship in heaven. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races. I believe that the church is the secure home for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it, who speak the same language and have the same purpose. I believe that the communion of the saints begins when we accept the diversity of the saints. I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal, and in reconciliation, which identifies us more than does race, language, or nationality. I believe that in the resurrection God will unite us as one people in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time. Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal in which no one will be an immigrant but all will be citizens of God's kingdom, which will never end. Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

City Called Heaven
Nadia Wilkes, Soloist

Poelinitz

*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

Living Christ, as you open the scriptures to us you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread. Let us now go forth from this place, fed at your table and filled by the Spirit, to walk with you all the days of our lives, and proclaim the glory of your resurrection to all the world. Amen.

THE SENDING

*HYMN 374

O Holy City, Seen of John

MORNING SONG

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Jeff Moles*

Presiding at the Table: *Dennis Jewett*

Liturgist: *Tom Furlong*

Communion Servers: *Susan Furlong & Larry Hale*



The flowers today are given by Kenny and Winny Lin
in memory of their daughter Yee-Shin Lin.

The Life of the Church

Vacation Bible School will be held June 6-10. Kids age 4 through 5th grade will gather from 9am-Noon to grow in faith, have fun, and change the world as we celebrate our call to be caretakers of God's creation. Register online at bit.ly/FPCVBS2022.

We still need many volunteers to pull off a special week for our young people. Contact Stephanie Dube or Jeff Moles if you are interested in helping.

On Pentecost Sunday, June 5, we will hold a Festival of the Creative Spirit following worship. This will be an opportunity for members of our church community to share their creativity with us all – painting, quilting, crafting, photography, and more. Contact the church office if you would like to exhibit your creativity. More details are available in Presbynotes or on Facebook.

Mission Committee will meet today following worship in the parlor.

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





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
Kate Bowley, Nursery Care Provider