



7th Century Mosaic of Abraham, Abel, and Melchisedek at the Basilica of Sant'Apollinare in Classe, Ravenna, Italy

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Twenty-Ninth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 17, 2021
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

Psalm 91:14-16

Those who love the Lord, God will deliver;

when they call, God will answer them.

God will be with them in trouble;

the Lord will rescue them and honor them.

With long life God will satisfy them

and show forth salvation.

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations. Preserve the works of your mercy, that your church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

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

Isaiah 53:6

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. Trusting in the tender mercy of God our Shepherd, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, through Jesus, you taught us that the last shall be first and the first shall be last, but we often struggle with creating space so that others might thrive. We are haphazard with your creation, choosing convenience over conservation, and recklessly assume there will always be enough to go around. We idealize the poor as “happy with their small portion” and put off acts of justice that restore opportunities for the vulnerable. We are often content for those on the margins to be “first” in the afterlife but not in this life. And sometimes we fall prey to the world’s priorities, which whisper that we must come in first and have the most and that we are always in jeopardy of not being enough. Help us, O God, to lean into the example of our servant savior, who models power in vulnerability and invites us to serve one another.

Silence is kept for personal confession.

CHORAL RESPONSE (Hymn 577)

Kyrie eleison. (Lord, have mercy.)

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Isaiah 53:4-5

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. Friends, in Christ, we are forgiven, loved, and freed. **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 749)

*Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom, to live in the freedom of the city of God.
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.*

*Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other as sisters and brothers united in love.
We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly;
We are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.*

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, by your Holy Spirit tell us what we need to hear and show us what we ought to do to obey Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 53:4-12 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hebrews 5:1-10 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Searching for Melchizedek”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Confession of 1967

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love.

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

Write Your Blessed Name

K. Lee Scott

*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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe, for you have satisfied our souls with this feast of your grace. Keep us faithful in your service until your realm of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

THE SENDING

*HYMN 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Debbie McCoy*

Communion Servers: *Tom & Susan Furlong*

The Life of the Church

The Annual FPC Fall Festival is back! Join us next Sunday, October 24, from 4:00-6:00 for food and seasonal fun. There will be trunk or treating, games, activities for all ages, and hot dogs for supper. All events will be held outdoors, so please bring a chair and dress comfortably—in costume if you'd like! Volunteers are needed to donate candy, set up a trunk or treat station, and provide prizes for the cake walk. Let Stephanie Dube know if you can help.

Fall Pastor's Bible Study continues on Zoom at 6:00pm each Wednesday. This week's discussion will focus on chapter 9 of the Gospel of Mark.

A Fall Youth Retreat is being held at Camp Pyoca in Brownstown, Indiana, and our youth are planning to attend November 19-21. More information is available from pyoca.org or through Stephanie Dube.





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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