



*The Best Supper, Jan L. Richardson*

FIRST   
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

World Communion  
Sunday  
Sunday, October 3, 2021  
10:30 A.M.

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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## THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, if you are willing.

**Come into this place, but be prepared to find yourself sitting next to your worst enemy.**

Come into this place, but be prepared to find yourself offering prayer with someone whose values and way of life revolt you.

**Come into this place, but be prepared to find yourself.**

Be prepared to find in yourself dark places, dark thoughts, that you would prefer to remain unacknowledged.

**Be prepared to know you are loved, but be prepared also for the outrageous news that every other human being is loved no more and no less, no matter what you or they do.**

Come, if you are willing.

\*OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN 669

*Cantemos al Señor / Let's Sing unto the Lord*

CANTEMOS AL SENOR  
United States

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Matt Curry

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

1 John 3:2

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of the children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**For the roads that we have blocked,  
For the bridges that we didn't build,  
For the empty table that we didn't fill,  
Forgive us.**

*Silence is kept for personal confession.*

SUNG RESPONSE (Hymn 789) *Saranam* ("I take refuge" or "surrender") India/Pakistan

*The congregation joins the choir on this line when directed:*



POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Persistently, patiently, lovingly, God pours out grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.

**Loved, we are sent to love those who have been forgotten. Forgiven, we are freed to offer mercy to those who are cruel to us. Graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. 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 103)     *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

Korea

*Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people.*

*Come, hope of unity; make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all people.*

**THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread. Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may grow in faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 133:1-3                      Here ends the Psalm. **Amen.**

John 13:34-35                      The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

1 John 4:9-11                      The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Hardest Saying”

Rev. Matt Curry

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;**

the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Western Academy at the Neblett

Olga McKissic

## THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: Peace & Global Witness Offering

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*Ewe Thina (We Walk His Way)*

South Africa

\*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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you!  
San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te g - do - ra!

My heart knows how to say to you: you are ho - ly, Lord!  
Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res. Se - ñor!

Hymn 595, Argentina

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

**O God, send us out from our Lord's table to answer his summons into new life and to follow him with joy and gladness. Set our feet in his holy way, that our lives may be signs of his life and all we do may show forth his love. Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

\*HYMN 340

*This is My Song*

FINLANDIA  
United States/Finland

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY

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*\*Rise in body or spirit*

**LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Ashley Hicks*

Communion Servers: *Cindy Little & Marilyn Van Winkle*

Liturgical Resources Used: *Liturgies from Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World*, Claudio Carvalhaes

# The Life of the Church

**The Western Academy at the Neblett Center** is a recipient of funds raised by today's Peace & Global Witness Offering. Please stay briefly after worship in the front of the sanctuary to hear from Olga McKissic about the work of The Western Academy in empowering African American young men in Owensboro.

**The CROP Hunger Walk** will be held next Sunday immediately following worship. The walk will be one mile around our church neighborhood. Contribute to our FPC team's fundraising to combat hunger in our community and around the world by visiting [bit.ly/fpccropwalk](http://bit.ly/fpccropwalk) or marking a donation "CROP Walk" in the offering plate.

**Fall Pastor's Bible Study** continues on Zoom at 6:00pm each Wednesday. This week's discussion will focus on chapter 7 of the Gospel of Mark.

**Fall Fellowship and Cider Making** will be held next Sunday afternoon, October 10, beginning at 2pm at Dick and Tina Temple's farm. Details and directions are in our print and email newsletters.

Our gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enable us to work together to build God's Household of Peace where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace, and justice.



MATTHEW 25

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

SEPTEMBER 5-OCTOBER 3, 2021



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  
Dennis Jewett, Director of Music  
Patrick Ritsch, Organist  
Stephanie Dube, Director of Youth Ministries & Weekday School  
Sasha O'Bryan, Office Manager & Pastoral Assistant  
Staci Estes Horn, Financial Secretary  
Dylan Schroader, Custodian