



The laying on of hands at the ordination of Rev. Margaret Towner, the first woman ordained as Presbyterian minister in the United States, 1956

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

Reformation Sunday  
Sunday, October 30, 2022  
10:30 A.M.

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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## THE GATHERING

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### PROCESSIONAL

*Highland Cathedral*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 46*

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;

**The God of Jacob is our refuge.**

### \*OPENING PRAYER

*John Knox (c. 1513-1572)*

O Lord, strengthen our faith. Kindle it more in ferventness and love towards you,  
and our neighbors, for your sake. Most dear Father, do not let us receive your word  
in vain, but grant us the assistance of your grace and Holy Spirit, that in heart, word,  
and deed, we may sanctify and worship your name. **Amen.**

### \*HYMN 275

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

EIN' FESTE BURG  
*Martin Luther (1529)*

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Andi 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

*Rom. 3:23-24*

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Martin Luther (1483-1546)*

**Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give.**

*Silence is kept for personal confession.*

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Rom. 5:5*

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Believe this good news and give thanks: 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 649)

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.*

**THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*John Calvin (1509-1564)*

Almighty and gracious God, since our salvation stands in our knowledge of your holy word, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that our hearts may be freed from the chains of sin, so that we may hear and receive your word, recognizing your gracious will for us. Teach us by scripture to love and serve you with delight, praising and glorifying you in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 100

A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

Romans 1:16-17, 3:19-31

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Re-Formation”

Rev. Matt Curry

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*from the Confession of Belhar*

**We believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and nourishes the Church from the beginning of the world to the end. The Church is holy; the Church is universal; it is the fellowship of God's children, called together from the whole of humanity to proclaim God's wonderful**

deeds. We believe that the reconciling work of Christ gives birth to a uniting Church, because Church unity is a gift from God and a goal we need to strive for. The unity of the Church must become visible so that the people around us can see how separation and hatred are overcome in Christ. We believe that genuine faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership in this Christian church. We praise God that race, class, gender, or culture does not determine who belongs to this Church.

## THE EUCHARIST

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*Old Hundredth*

R. Vaughan Williams

\*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**      *Book of Common Prayer of St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh (1637)*

**O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts upon us than we are to seek them. You are always more willing to give than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

\*HYMN 687

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*RECESSIONAL

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*\*Rise in body or spirit*

**LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *CeCe Robinson*

Communion Servers: *Anna & Troy Robinson*

Musicians:

*Adam Bigge, Bagpipes*

*Jeff Moles, Organ*

## The Life of the Church

**The Annual FPC Fall Festival** is this afternoon from 4-6pm! Invite your friends to join us for trunk or treating, games and activities for all ages, and the return of the chili cookoff.

**Wednesday Night Faith Formation** continues through November 16. Dinner is served at 5:00, a brief worship time is at 5:40, and classes for all ages are from 6:00-7:00.

The adult class on Wednesday nights is studying Michael W. Foss's *Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship for a Changing Church*. For Wednesday, November 2, read chapter 9.

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

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to obey in life and in death.

We reject the false doctrine, as though the church could and would have to acknowledge as a source of its proclamation, apart from and besides this one Word of God, still other events and powers, figures and truths, as God's revelation.

*from The Theological Declaration of Barmen*

This statement, part of our *Book of Confessions*, was written by German church leaders in 1934 to speak clearly to the popular "German Christian" movement, which saw no conflict between Christianity and the ideals of Hitler's National Socialism.

## About Reformation Sunday



Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion on October 31, 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Presbyterianism is the name given to one of the groups of ecclesiastical bodies that represent the features of Protestantism emphasized by French lawyer John Calvin, whose writings crystallized much of the reformed thinking that came before him. Our liturgy and music today celebrates our Reformed heritage and the roots of Presbyterianism that were formed in Scotland in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.



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  
Kevin Parker, Staff Accountant  
Dylan Schroader, Custodian  
Emmy Voyles, Nursery Care Provider