



St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland, known as the "Mother Church of World Presbyterianism"

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



Reformation Day
Sunday, October 31, 2021
10:30 A.M.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

THE GATHERING

PROCESSIONAL

Amazing Grace

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

*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

Jeff Moles

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 624)

attr. John Calvin (1545)

*I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art, my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake; I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.*

*Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness; no harshness hast thou and no bitterness.
O grant to us the grace we find in thee, that we may dwell in perfect unity.*

*Our hope is in no other save in thee; our faith is built upon the promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure, that in thy strength we evermore endure.*

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

Jeremiah 31:27-34 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 3:19-28 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

John 8:31-36 The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

SERMON

“Free Indeed”

Rev. Matt Curry

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Book of Order, F-1.03

The Church is the body of Christ. Christ gives to the Church all the gifts necessary to be his body. The Church strives to demonstrate these gifts in its life as a community in the world. The church is to be a community of faith,

entrusting itself to God alone, even at the risk of losing its life. The Church is to be a community of hope, rejoicing in the sure and certain knowledge that, in Christ, God is making a new creation. The church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down. The Church is to be a community of witness, pointing beyond itself through word and work in the good news of God's transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Pat Corkran

THE EUCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING *Old Hundredth Psalm Tune* Ralph 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

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 734

Hope of the World

DONNE SECOURS
Tune from Genevan Psalter, 1551

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RECESSIONAL

**Rise in body or spirit*

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Shannon Smith*

Communion Servers: *Craig & Lucy Smith*

Guest Musician: *Adam Bigge, bagpipes*

The flowers today were given by Brad Smith
in honor of Norma Smith, who is celebrating her birthday.

The Life of the Church

Fall Pastor's Bible Study continues on Zoom at 6:00pm each Wednesday. This week's discussion will focus on chapters 11-12 of the Gospel of Mark.

Spirit Lifters, a fellowship group that eats out together, will have dinner together at Olive Garden at 5:30 on Tuesday, November 2. RSVP to Jerry Price, kyprice@outlook.com.

Faith and Film Night returns at 7:00pm on Friday, November 12 in Fellowship Hall. We will screen the 2010 documentary film *Freedom Riders*, which chronicles the story of hundreds of civil rights workers who risked their lives to challenge racial segregation. Pastor Matt will moderate a brief discussion on faith and activism and the legacy of the Freedom Riders.

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.

About Reformation Day



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 16th 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
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
Kate Bowley, Nursery Care Provider