



The Seeker, Mike Moyers

FIRST   
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

Twenty-Fourth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Sunday, September 11, 2022  
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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Service Worship Sunday

Diane Bowers

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Ps. 14*

The Lord looks down from heaven

to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

**They have all gone astray, there is no one who is good, no, not one.**

Have they no knowledge,

those who devour God's people and do not call upon the Lord?

**O that our deliverer would come! Lord, restore our lives and make us glad!**

\*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, you call your church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

\*HYMN 12

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

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

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. Let the sound of our confession cause celebration in heaven.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Jer. 4:12, 22; Ps. 14:1; Luke 15:5*

**Creator of the universe, we imagine that we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us to our foolishness. In judgment, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home—until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken, and life is restored.**

*Silence is kept.*

#### POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATER

Remember your baptism and be thankful!

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Lam. 3:21-24*

But this we call to mind, and therefore have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. In the name of the Lord, who is our portion and our hope, I declare that our sin is forgiven. May our mouths be filled with praise. **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.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*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 first begun.*

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mighty God, you spoke the world into being; speak now to our hearts. By the power of your Spirit, make these ancient words live, that we might be shaped into your people, eager to bear your claim in the world and to give flesh to your future. For we pray in the name of Jesus, who leads us into life. **Amen.**

### READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 14                      A song of God's covenant people. **Amen.**

Luke 15:1-10                The Gospel of the Lord. **May Jesus Christ be praised.**

### SERMON

“The Seeker”

Rev. Matt Curry

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*from a Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

## THE EUCHARIST

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

MUSIC FOR THE OFFERING

*Zion's Walls*

Aaron Copland

\*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

**Holy God, giver of wine and bread, send us from your table in confidence that we are your own children, born of your Spirit, fed at your table, filled with your grace, sent to speak your truth and offer your love to the world in Christ's name. Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

\*HYMN 475

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

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*\*Rise in body or spirit*

**LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

Preacher: *Rev. Matt Curry*

Liturgist: *Diane Bowers*

Communion Servers: *Deanna and Lloyd Wehrung*

## The Life of the Church

**Wednesday Night Faith Formation** kicks off Wednesday. Each Wednesday evening this fall from 5:00-7:00, we will gather for dinner, a brief time of worship, and classes for children, youth, and adults.

For the first six weeks, the adult class will be studying *Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship for a Changing Church* by Michael W. Foss. The book is available from most online retailers and as an e-book from the public library. For the first session, read through chapter 2.

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

### Marking Ordinary Time

The new banners adorning our sanctuary were created by liturgical artist Clee Lee, an elder at Second Presbyterian Church of Nashville. We are highlighting some of the symbolism that has been incorporated into these banners which are for the season of Ordinary Time.

The banner on the congregation's right is filled with crosses and other symbols for Christ and the church.

The Chi Rho symbol is one of the oldest forms of a Christogram. It is a combination of letters that form an abbreviation for the name Jesus Christ. Chi and Rho are the first two letters of Christ when spelled in Greek.



The Jerusalem Cross is a five-fold cross sometimes known as “cross and crosslets” and was used as an emblem and coat of arms of the Kingdom of Jerusalem from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The symbolism of the five crosses is sometimes explained as the five wounds of Christ on the cross, Christ and the four evangelists, or Christ and the four corners of the world.



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