

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, October 8, 2023 – 10:30 AM

Order of Worship

Church Staff

Steve Frazier – Covenant Pastor
Edna Broadhurst – Director of Music
Gabrielle Goodrich – Secretary
Nancy Frazier – Guest Pianist
John Hackworth – Guest Musician

Week of October 8- Prayers of the People

- Mary Leming
- Charlie Sykes
- Bev Smith, Mallory's Mother-In-Law
- Josh Bennett
- Skip Parker
- Nancy Ward
- Jackie Lapointe
- David Stuart
- Deb Hardie
- Frances Hasty
- Paul and Alice Butler
- Lane Pittman
- Robert Norfleet
- Emily Bond
- Monica Manley
- Kathryn Duck

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Kyle McCormick
3 Michele Graupmann
3 Barbara Bond
11 Robby Pond
14 Merle Gootee, III
16 Amanda McCormick
21 Todd Taylor
21 Gail Pittman
24 John Fay
25 Frances Hasty
30 Tom Goolsby
31 Matthew Goodrich

*Welcome and Announcements-Thank you for joining us for this morning's worship service. We are glad to have you here! If this is your first time visiting with us, please fill out a visitor's form, found in the back of most pews. We would be pleased to add you to our email list. Welcome! **Today we have John Hackworth and Nancy Frazier contributing their musical gifts to our service. Thank you!***

Prelude Selection by Nancy Frazier

Choral Call to Worship

Call to Worship

Let us come to learn and to witness; to change and repent.
Let us come to worship!

*Hymn 385 "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession-followed by a time for silent confession and prayer

God's law is right and just, offering its wisdom and enlightenment. Yet we ignore the importance of God's law in our lives and persist in our own ways. In humility, let us confess our sins.

****God of the law and the prophets, we do not want to admit all the commandments we have broken. We worship idols of money, success, and power. We use your name to justify whatever we do. We do not honor each other; we covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others. Our sins are too many to name. Forgive us. Speak to us and we will listen, remembering that you are our freedom and deliverer.**

Assurance of God's Grace

Do not be afraid: God loves with an everlasting love; God's grace is unending. In Christ, we are forgiven.

****Thanks be to God for such graciousness!**

Response "Sing A New Song"

****Sing a new song unto the Lord. Let your song be sung from mountains high. Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing Halleluiah! (repeat)**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Anthem "How Firm A Foundation" arr. Hal H. Hopson

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God, and will still give you aid. I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, up held by my righteous, omnipotent hand. When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of woe shall not you overflow; For I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress. The soul that flees to me for repose I will not, I will not desert to the foes; That soul, though all hell shall endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake! How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your God and will still give you aid. I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand."

**Please rise in body or Spirit. | **Words in bold print are spoken aloud or sung in unison.*

*Doxology

****Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

October birthday blessing – all with October Birthdays are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

Prayers of the People

****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.**

Time with Children

*Hymn 288

“Spirit of the Living God”

First Lesson

Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, and 12-20

And God spoke all these words:

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

“You shall have no other gods before me.

“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

“You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

“You shall not murder.

“You shall not commit adultery.

“You shall not steal.

“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

When people saw the thunder and lightening and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, “Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die.”

Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.”

Second Lesson

Philippians 3: 4-14

Though I myself have reasons for such confidence.

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through

faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Sermon

“Breaking the Circle of Sin”

Dr. Steven Frazier

*Hymn 804

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!”

Benediction

*Benediction Response

“Jesus Be with Us”

Gambrell

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day to follow the Gospel and live as we pray. Send us your Spirit and show us your way Jesus be with us today. Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, scatter the systems of greed. Jesus be with us, make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Peace of Christ be with you.

****And also with you.**

Greet one another with the peace of Christ.

Please join us in the Courtyard Lobby for snacks after worship!

