

# ***Worship at First Presbyterian Church***

***Sunday, September 22, 2024 at 10 am***

*"Be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME**

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### ***COME PEOPLE OF THE RISEN KING***

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Come people of the Risen King,  
Who delight to bring Him praise;  
Come all, and tune your hearts to sing  
To the Morning Star of grace.  
From the shifting shadows of the earth,  
We will lift our eyes to Him,  
Where steady arms of mercy reach,  
To gather children in.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Let ev'ry tongue rejoice!  
One heart, one voice;  
O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come those whose joy is morning sun,  
And those weeping through the night;  
Come those who tell of battles won,  
And those struggling in the fight.  
For His perfect love will never change,  
And His mercies never cease,  
But follow us through all our days,  
With the certain hope of peace. *[Refrain]*

Come young and old from ev'ry land,  
Men and women of the faith;  
Come those with full or empty hands,  
Find the riches of His grace.  
Over all the world, His people sing;  
Shore to shore we hear them call  
The truth that cries through ev'ry age:  
Our God is all in all. *[Refrain]*

*"Come People of the Risen King" by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Stuart Townend  
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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASSING THE PEACE, PRAYERS FOR THE CONGREGATION**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

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Keep us safe, O God,  
for we have come to you for refuge.

**We bless you for your guidance;  
Day and night you give us your instruction.**

\* *Please stand if you are able*

We know you are always with us,  
in times of difficulty we will not be shaken for you are right beside us.

**Therefore our hearts are glad; we rejoice in you.  
We rest in your safety.**

You show us the way of life,  
granting us the joy of your presence—  
and the pleasures of living with you forever.

**Let us worship our ever-present and always caring God.**

*Based on Psalm 16:1, 7-11.*

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### ***IN THE GARDEN***

I come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,  
The Son of God discloses.

*And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
None other has ever known.*

He speaks, and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;  
And the melody that He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing. *[Refrain]*

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Tho' the night around me be falling;  
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe,  
His voice to me is calling. *[Refrain]*

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## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

### **CHOIR**

### **READING AND PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD**

*Sermon: "The Promise of God's Presence"*

#### **Psalm 139:1-11, 17-18, 23**

*For the choir director: A psalm of David.*

- <sup>1</sup> O LORD, you have examined my heart  
and know everything about me.
- <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down or stand up.  
You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.
- <sup>3</sup> You see me when I travel  
and when I rest at home.  
You know everything I do.

\* *Please stand if you are able*

- <sup>4</sup> You know what I am going to say  
even before I say it, LORD.
- <sup>5</sup> You go before me and follow me.  
You place your hand of blessing on my head.
- <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,  
too great for me to understand!
- <sup>7</sup> I can never escape from your Spirit!  
I can never get away from your presence!
- <sup>8</sup> If I go up to heaven, you are there;  
if I go down to the grave, you are there.
- <sup>9</sup> If I ride the wings of the morning,  
if I dwell by the farthest oceans,
- <sup>10</sup> even there your hand will guide me,  
and your strength will support me.
- <sup>11</sup> I could ask the darkness to hide me  
and the light around me to become night—  
<sup>12</sup> but even in darkness I cannot hide from you.  
To you the night shines as bright as day.  
Darkness and light are the same to you. . . .
- <sup>17</sup> How precious are your thoughts about me, O God.  
They cannot be numbered!
- <sup>18</sup> I can't even count them;  
they outnumber the grains of sand!  
And when I wake up,  
you are still with me! . . .
- <sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
<sup>24</sup> Point out anything in me that offends you,  
and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

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### RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE WITH OUR OFFERINGS

*The metal basket in the offering plate is for gifts to support  
our deacons' provision of care, support, and financial assistance to those in need.*

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### DOXOLOGY

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

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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### HYMN #361: *HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION*

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

\* *Please stand if you are able*

“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;  
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

## CALENDAR

- TODAY** Choir Practice (9:00 in Parlor)  
Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)
- Tuesday, Sept. 24** Tuesday Crew (9:00–11:30)
- Wednesday, Sept. 25** Quilting Group (10:30 – 2:30)
- Sunday, Sept. 29** Sunday Worship (10:00 in the Sanctuary)  
Sharing Table (before and after the service)
- LOOKING AHEAD** Saturday, November 2:  
Spaghetti Dinner and Craft Fair Fundraiser

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