

First Presbyterian Church Worship Bulletin 9.29.24
19th Sunday After Pentecost

Gathering Music

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of the Day

God, just as You called Moses so long ago, so You call each one of us to speak and act on Your behalf in our world today. Give us courage to step out in faith, to follow where You lead without hesitation or fear, trusting that Your presence goes with us, and that You will provide all that we need. Amen.

Remembering our Baptism

Remember your baptism **and be thankful.**

Prelude

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus Arr: Fred Bock

***Call to Worship**

Exodus 34:6-7

The LORD our God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger;
abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,
keeping love for the thousandth generation
forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.
Let us worship our gracious, just, and holy God!

***Hymn of Praise**

Here I am, Lord #525

*1. I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save*

[Chorus]

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart*

*2. I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

[Chorus]

*3. I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away
[Chorus]*

Call to Confession

Though we can be a stiff-necked people, straying far from God's desires for our lives, God still chooses to go with us on the journey. Knowing God is faithful, loving, and just, let us turn back again to God, confessing our sins as we trust in God's forgiveness. Let us lay our burdens before God as we pray together...

Laying our Burdens Before Christ

God of Grace, on our faith journeys, we struggle to stay on the path with you. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, or home. Forgive us, Presence of Peace. Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Help us follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet. Amen.

Prayer Song Precious Lord 404(v1)

*Precious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light; Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.*

Silent Reflection and Confession

***Proclamation of the Gospel**

This is the good news: God graces everyone with the same gifts: mercy, restoration, new life. God has kept the covenant. We have been forgiven, and we have been made new people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

We have received peace and forgiveness from Christ so that we may share them with one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of Christ.

***The Gloria Patri**

Prayer for God's Wisdom

Liberating God, we praise you for delivering your people of old from enslavement in Egypt and opening up a new and unexpected future before them. They experienced your grace and mercy in awesome and life-sustaining ways. Through these acts you showed your compassion for the weak and powerless of this world. We praise and adore you for opening up a new future for us when your love and compassion, your mercy and grace became enfleshed in Jesus Christ. He delivered us from the bondage of evil and sin through his death on the cross. As we reflect on the scriptures and pray for our journeys, let us trust in your wisdom to show us the way to deliverance and liberation in our lives and our world. Amen.

Message Interactive Prayer Stations: The Exodus Journey

This morning we will receive, meditate, and respond in prayer to the scriptures through several interactive prayer stations. You may go to them in any order. At each of them, you will find a scripture and a suggested prayer-act. Please use them as the Spirit moves you. The bulletin provides space for jotting your reflections and thoughts at each station.

If you would prefer not to move about the room, you may take this time for personal meditation in scripture and song. The scriptures used at each station, as well as questions for reflection, are provided in the bulletin.

Our musician will offer us moments of reflective music and silence.

Prayer Stations *Freedom for Faithfulness: Praying through Exodus*

Station 1: Exodus 3: 1-12 *God's Call to Freedom*

Station 2: Exodus 14:8-15, 21-29 *God's Liberating Acts*

Station 3: Exodus 15-16 *God Provides in the Wilderness*

Station 4: Exodus 20:1-17 *God Guides the Free People*

Questions for Reflection Please See End of Bulletin

***Hymn of Response** Walk with Me #2242 in *Sing the Faith*
Chorus:

*Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build the land that God has planned
where love shines through.*

*1 When Moses heard the call of God
he said, "Lord, don't send me."
But God told Moses, "You're the one"
to set my people free."
[Chorus]*

*2 Now Peter was a most unlikely man
to lead the flock;
but Jesus knew his holiness
and he became the Rock.
[Chorus]*

*3 Young Mary Magdalene was sure
her life could be much more,
and by her faith she dared to let
God's love unlock the door.
[Chorus]*

*4 And when you share your faith with me
and work for life made new,
the witness of your faithfulness
calls me to walk with you.
[Chorus]*

Prayers of the Community & Lord's Prayer

To respect others' privacy, we ask that you first ask permission from an individual for whom you would like to request the congregation to pray. Please share only their first name and avoid detailed descriptions of their situation in awareness that your words are recorded online.

Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

Offertory
Hayes

Oh Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go Arr: Mark

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Receive and bless these gifts, O God, which we bring in response to the many gifts with which you have blessed us. As you graciously bestow these varying gifts upon us, so may we as graciously use them to serve others, and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Here I Am

Arr: John Carter

Remembering in Prayer

Praise and Thanksgiving: *(Lord, hear our praise)*: For professors, staff and students at EOU as they begin classes.

Ministry of the Church in the Community: Boy Scout Troop 514

Healing and Encouragement *(Lord, hear our prayer)*:

Homebound: Ernie, Carlene and Wayne, Sheri and Jim, Connie S, Shirley

For those seeking healing and comfort: Will, Greg, Ebel family, Tracey, Hazel, Denny, Marsha, Eric, Shelby, Rita, Jimmy, Pattie, John, Linda, Michael, Steve, and Susan, John, Matthew, Ila, Dan, Jan P, Fred, Christrey, Preston, Betty, friends fighting cancer, Fox, Grandma Ida, Brenda's friend Cade, Rita, Kimberly & Chris, Gene, Dorothy, Peggy's family, Shannon, Ross, George, Corban, Nicholas F. & family, Cindy & Steve, Ukraine and Middle East

For Our Nation: Patience and understanding during this charged political season.

Psalm :

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
Psalm 124:8

Freedom for Faithfulness: Praying through Exodus

Read the scriptures, reflect on the questions, and jot your thoughts below:

Exodus 3:1-12: God's Call to Freedom

- What are you seeing or hearing in your life and the world that calls you to take notice and take action?
- What freedom have you found in responding to God's call?

Exodus 14:8-15, 21-29: God's Liberating Acts

- What liberating acts has God done in your life?
- What people and places in your life or the world still need deliverance?

Exodus 15-16: God Provides in the Wilderness

- When was a time of uncertainty in which God provided for your needs?
- When have you learned about relying on God?

Exodus 20:1-17: God Guides the Free People

- How have God's commandments taught you to use your freedom for faithfulness?
- Which commandments are the easiest and hardest for you?

Upcoming Events

There will be no Frozen Chosen this week. We will resume October 6th.

Community Fellowship Night Dinners start on October 2nd at 6:00 pm in the PFC.

World Communion Sunday on October 6th will be at the Zion Lutheran Church at 10:00 am.

The LPW Bazaar is just a month away. It's not too early to begin projects and plans.

On-line donations are now being accepted. If you wish to support the church ministry by donating with your credit or debit card, click on the "Give Now" link on the church webpage, www.fpclagrande.org, or use the QR code.

