



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
**KIRKWOOD**

WELCOME TO WORSHIP  
September 17, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.  
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Mission:** We are called to be a welcoming and supportive community whose inspiring worship of God encourages everyone to deepen their faith and to respond to the needs of the world with the compassion of Christ.



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

\_\_\_\_\_ **\*Please rise in body or in spirit.** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Chiming of the Hour**

We encourage you to quiet your minds and hearts for worship at this time.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Sign the Friendship Register at the end of your pew and pass it to your neighbor.

## **Organ Voluntary**

Tierce en Taille

Gaspard Corrette

## WE ADDRESS OURSELVES TO GOD

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: In this time of worship, may we learn afresh to be,

**People: The change the world needs,**

Leader: The light in the shadows,

**People: The truth in the darkness,**

Leader: The healing in the hurt.

**People: As we are remade once more,**

Leader: In the image of Jesus,

**All: May God's love dance through us!**

**\*Processional Hymn** "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" Hymn #620

### **\*Prayer of Confession** (Unison)

**Generous God, who made humanity in amazing diversity, so that we might, together, comprehend your boundless marvels, we join creation in praising you! Gracious God, who entrusts the care of all creation to us, and gives to us the gift of creativity, we ask that you forgive us...**

- **For all the times we are, in our impatience and greed, destructive rather than creative;**
- **For all the ways we look upon difference as something to destroy, rather than as a miracle to appreciate and preserve;**
- **For all our choices that reflect fear of people who are unlike us, objectifying them as less that we are, missing their gifts.**

**Help us to see past our own limited viewpoints, to learn from our past shortcomings, and to learn from and delight in our distinctions, that we might, in all our colors, orientations and languages, be one in praising you...**

### **\*Silent Confessions**

**\*Assurance of God's Grace**

**\*Congregational Response** "We Are Forgiven"

Hymn #447

**We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

**\*The Passing of the Peace**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us share that peace with one another.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture Reading**

Ezekiel 47:6-12; Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 817

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

"Psalm 1"

Mark Hayes

*Blessed are the ones who delight in the law of the Lord. On God's law they meditate day and night.  
They are like a stream planted by the water, which yields its fruit in season,  
whose leaf shall never wither, and all they do shall prosper.  
Blessed are the ones who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked, or stand in the way of sinners,  
Or sit in the seat of mockers, for they delight in the law of the Lord.*

**Scripture Reading**

Matthew 4:18-22; Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 3

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Humility (A Perseverance Story)*

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*Hymn**

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

Hymn #721

(Stanzas 1 and 4 sung by all; Stanza 2 sung by low voices; Stanza 3 sung by high voices)

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer** (Unison)

**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.**

**Offertory Sentences**

**Offertory Anthem**

"Sweetest Name I Know"

text: Luther Bridgers

music: David Foley

*There's within my heart a melody Jesus whispers sweet and low:  
"Fear not, I am with thee, peace, be still," in life's ebb and endless flow.  
Jesus, blessed Jesus, sweetest name I know, fills my every longing, keeps me singing as I go.  
All my life was wrecked by sin and strife; discord filled my heart with pain.  
Jesus swept across the broken strings, stirred the slumbering chords again.  
Feasting on the riches of His grace, resting 'neath His sheltering wing,  
always looking on his smiling face, that is why I shout and sing!*

**Prayer of Dedication****WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD****\*Closing Hymn**

"In Christ Called to Baptize"

Hymn #297

**Benediction****Choral Response**

"A Gaelic Blessing"

John Rutter

*Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you.  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you.  
Deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.  
Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world, to you.*

**Organ Voluntary**

Grand Jeu

Pierre DuMage

**Worship Leaders:**

Rev. Dr. Bill Smutz, *Interim Senior Pastor*  
Rev. Linda Maconochie, *Interim Associate Pastor*

**Music Ministry:**

Bill Stein, *Director of Music Ministries*; Hayden Vaughn, *Music Associate*;  
Bob Hardy, *guitar*; Chancel Choir

**Acolyte:**

George Dunaway

**Cross Bearer:**

Henry Meyer

**Ushers:**

John Becker, Jason Mitchell, Kristy Mitchell, Missy Wulff  
Art McDonnell, Robert Schneider, *Assistant Head Ushers*  
Larry Erwin, *Usher Captain*

**Livestream Host:**

Frank Darr