

First Presbyterian Church

Rev. Robert Malsack, Interim Pastor

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Preservice Music (*a time to quiet our souls*)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Announcements

Prelude (*a time for spiritual focus*)

Opening Prayer

*Praise Medley

Insert

Prayer of Confession:

Lord God, we learned very early in life that good little boys and girls get presents and bad little boys and girls get coal. Here we sit many years later still holding to that belief that we deserve good things because we have been relatively good and that ‘bad’ people should get their due. Because we are so sure that is the way things are supposed to be, we have gotten upset with You when difficulties come our way wondering, ‘What did I do to deserve this?’ Even worse, we have failed to reach out to people defined by our society as ‘bad’ and considered them undeserving of grace. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

(silence for reflection and personal confession)

Response:

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Dearly beloved, hear and believe the good news of the gospel,
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen. Alleluia!

*Gloria Patri (*Avery & Marsh*)

**Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be world
without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning is now
and ever shall be world without end. Amen.
A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. A---men. Amen!**

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Time with Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Terry Sovey

Scripture Lesson: Jonah 3:10-4:11

Pg. 775, Pew Bible

Responsive Reading: Psalm 145:1-8

Pg. 524, Pew Bible

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

Pg. 825, Pew Bible

Sermon: *The Parable of the Generous Landowner*

Presentation by the Kitchen Committee

*Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*):

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and
renewer of life.**

**The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free
to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds
us together with all believers in the one body of Christ,
the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to
pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as
Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with
others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

Prayers of Intercessions

Prayer Concerns: Susie Neitzel, Theresa Ozzello, Phil Peterson,
Sue Fraker, Margaret Spooner, Anne Starr, Chuck Jennings,
Geri Anderson, Charlie Novara, Scott Doda, Kathy Eavenson,
Bonnie Hyde, Mary Rushford; the family of Ray Cameron;
the PNC; missionaries, Sam and Cayla

The Lord's Prayer: *Our Father* (K. Kelly)

Choir

The Offering

Offertory

*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.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

No. 648

*Charge and Benediction

*Response: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

v. 4

*Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.

CHURCH NOTES

Today: 5:00p.m. High School Event: Mangia

Monday: 10:00a.m. Kitchen Painting

Tuesday: 1:00p.m. Shawl Ministry

Wednesday: Young Disciples:

3:30p.m. 4-year-olds – 8th Graders

5:00p.m. 9th – 12th Graders

6:30p.m. Adult Choir

Thursday: 9:30a.m. Sit, Chat, Finish That

All high schoolers are invited to join us tonight for Mangia.

We, along with The Cure, will meet from 5:00-7:00p.m. for a night of dinner, Bible Study, and games.

Fall Fest is Wednesday, October 7th, from 5:00–7:00p.m.

We need lots of CANDY, volunteers, and 12 prize pies for the pie auction! Please see where you can plug-in at the sign-up table in the Fireside Room.

Ushers and Readers are needed for the 4th, 11th, and the 25th in October. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Fireside Room.

Sweet Breads: We have finished with the summertime bakery and are now going back to sweet breads for Sunday morning fellowship. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Fireside Room or you can just bring them in on any given Sunday. You can also drop off sweet breads anytime and we'll put them in the freezer to be used as needed.

Ushers: Mike and Susan Corcoran; Louise Swope and Patty Hord