

September 29, 2024; 9:00 am
Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

We Gather Together

Welcome to today's Service of Worship. Whether you are with us in person, joining us live on zoom, watching on our YouTube channel, or listening on KFIZ, we are glad you are here. For those in person, please use the time before worship to fill in the Friendship Pad in your pew. We extend a special welcome to our visitors, and if you have not already received your welcome gift, please pick one up as you leave the sanctuary after worship.

Copies of the Glory to God hymnal and Common English Bibles are available at the back of the sanctuary for your use during worship.

Prelude: "Though I May Speak"

arr. by Dale Wood

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin

Ringling of the Bell and entrance of the Light of Christ

***Call to Worship**

Carol W.

Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!

Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here.

We come with songs of praise, with prayers too deep for words.

Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth!

Blessed be the Lord!

*** Opening Prayer**

Lord of joy and mercy, be with us this day as we seek your voice and your guidance. Remove the obstacles that block our commitment and help us to truly be your disciples; for we ask this in Christ's Name. AMEN.

***Sung Response: GTG 12 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

Laurie C., Cantor

***Call to Confession**

Carol W.

The prayer of the faithful is strong and powerful, bringing forgiveness of sins. Let us confess our sins to one another and before our God, that we may be healed and forgiven.

***Prayer of Confession**

Today, O God, we ponder what you say to us through scripture and wonder what has changed. In today's gospel reading the disciples want to make decisions about "who's in" and "who's out" among Jesus' followers. It sounds all too familiar as we often make similar decisions. Forgive us if our actions, or lack of action, have contributed to whether people feel welcomed into, or excluded from, our fellowship.

Silent Confession

(In the silence of our hearts we confess our sins to God.)

Turn us again to you, serving joyfully and confidently. **Strengthen us all to witness to our faith with a freshness that attracts; a sincerity that convinces, and an integrity which confirms our allegiance to Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen**

***Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news! Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
Thanks be to God!

***Sharing God's Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!**

*(Please share the Peace of Christ with those around you using the ancient formula 'The Peace of Christ.' 'And also, with you.' Please be mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands or be too close. **We encourage you to use this time to send a text or emoji to someone who cannot be here.**)*

***Sung Response GTG 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"**

God's Word Is Proclaimed

Psalm Reading: Psalm 19:7-14 (Common English Bible)

(page 499 in the pew Bible, page 677 Common English Bible)

The Lord's Instruction is perfect,
reviving one's very being.

**The Lord's laws are faithful,
making naive people wise.**

The Lord's regulations are right,
gladdening the heart.

**The Lord's commands are pure,
giving light to the eyes.**

Honoring the Lord is correct,
lasting forever.

The Lord's judgments are true.

All of these are righteous!

**They are more desirable than gold—
than tons of pure gold!**

**They are sweeter than honey—
even dripping off the honeycomb!**

No doubt about it:

your servant is enlightened by them;
there is great reward in keeping them.

But can anyone know

what they've accidentally done wrong?

Clear me of any unknown sin

and save your servant from willful sins.

Don't let them rule me.

Then I'll be completely blameless;

I'll be innocent of great wrongdoing.

Let the words of my mouth

and the meditations of my heart

be pleasing to you,

Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Scripture Reading: Mark 9:38-50 (Common English Bible)

(page 45 in the pew Bible, page 1229 Common English Bible)

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone throwing demons out in your name, and we tried to stop him because he wasn’t following us.”

Jesus replied, “Don’t stop him. No one who does powerful acts in my name can quickly turn around and curse me. Whoever isn’t against us is for us. I assure you that whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will certainly be rewarded.

“As for whoever causes these little ones who believe in me to trip and fall into sin, it would be better for them to have a huge stone hung around their necks and to be thrown into the lake. If your hand causes you to fall into sin, chop it off. It’s better for you to enter into life crippled than to go away with two hands into the fire of hell, which can’t be put out. If your foot causes you to fall into sin, chop it off. It’s better for you to enter life lame than to be thrown into hell with two feet. If your eye causes you to fall into sin, tear it out. It’s better for you to enter God’s kingdom with one eye than to be thrown into hell with two. That’s a place *where worms don’t die and the fire never goes out*. Everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? Maintain salt among yourselves and keep peace with each other.”

Children’s Time

Jennifer Zander

Hymn: GTG 693 “Though I May Speak”

Sermon: “For or Against the Kingdom”

Rev. Dr. Craig Alwin



Prayers of the People

Arnold L.	Dick and Maryann*	Mike S.*
Ashley K.* (Dave E Daughter)	Gib D.	Nancy H
Bob & Ollive B.	Jesse F.	Qualine S.* (Jodi A mom)
Brian C.	Joan K. (Marcus A. Mom)	Pass Family
Bruce L.* (Arnold L's son)	Karen & David H.*	Pat D.
Chastity G. & Joan S.	Liam A.	Pat M.* (Bonnie H sister)
Corinne C.	Lynn K.*	Paul W.
Danielle B.	Lynn M.	Sally S.
	Marie L.	Sherry M.

The names in bold are new to the prayer list. The names with an asterisk (*) are not church members. However, a church member has received permission to ask that they be lifted in prayer.

If you or someone you know would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact a Deacon or the church staff. Prayer request cards are available in the Prayer Box located in the Narthex, in the church pews, or online ([click here](#)). You can place your prayer request in the offering plate or the lock box at the church office door. For electronic prayer requests, please complete the form and click submit.

If you have a pastoral concern, that happens before or after office hours, please call the office (920.922.0425), press #2 for Pastoral Care.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

We Respond to God's Word

The Practice of Gratitude

In response to God's Word and remembering all things come from God, we offer with thanks a portion of that which God has entrusted to us. The ushers will collect God's tithes and our offerings. For those who have given in other forms, there are cards in the pew racks that you may use as a tangible action of gratitude to God. No matter what we return to God in material forms, may we spiritually place our hearts, and our very lives, in God's hands, to be re-shaped for ministry in Christ, furthering God's kingdom here on earth.

Moment for Mission: Peace & Global Witness Offering PCUSA Video – ***"Sowing the Seeds of Peace"***

*For there shall be a sowing of peace;
The vine shall yield its fruit
The ground shall give its produce,
And the skies shall give their dew;
and I will cause the remnant of this people
To possess all these things.
Zechariah 8:12*

Offering Music: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" *Evelyn S.*
arranged by Nancy and Randall Faber

***Offertory: GTG 708** "We Give Thee but Thine Own" v. 1 & 4

***Offertory Prayer**

***Sending Hymn: GTG 804** "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" v 1, 3, 5

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: "St. Denio" *by Gordon Young*

This Week

Sunday

9:00-10:00am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
11:30-12:30 am

September 29

Worship
Fellowship Time
Growing Connections Lighted Cross Story
Sunday School in the Gathering Room
Learning Team

Monday

10:00-11:30am

September 30

Staff Meeting

Tuesday

6:30-8:00pm

October 1

Slow Church Study

Wednesday

8:00-9:00am
10:00-11:30am
4:00-5:00pm
5:15-6:30pm

October 2

Men's Breakfast
Slow Church Study
Hand Bell Rehearsal
Personnel Meeting

Thursday

1:00-2:00pm

October 3

Serving Team Mtg

Sunday

9:00-10:00am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
10:15-11:15am
11:30-1:00pm

October 6

Worship
Fellowship Time
Growing Connections Sermon Discussions
Sunday School in the Gathering Room
PYA Lunch & Activities

WEEKLY STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 22,2024

Individuals in Person: 101
Zoom Households: 8

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
09/22/2024	\$ 965.00 \$.00	Tithes/Offerings "Pave the Way"
9/16-20/24	\$ 2681.00 \$ 10.00	Vanco Online "Tithes/Offerings" Vanco Online "Pave the Way"
	\$ 3656.00	TOTAL INCOME FOR THE WEEK

Financial Giving and Gratitude

You can give online at www.fdlpresbyterian.org Giving page. (Click on 'Online Giving'.) You can also give by cash or check on Sunday morning, or by mail. We are so very thankful for your contributions that help us do God's work in our church and in our community.

GETTING CONNECTED:

Office Phone
920.922.0425

Office Email
fdloffice@fdlpresbyterian.org

Website
www.fdlpresbyterian.org

Breeze Subdomain: [FDLFirstPresb](#)

Facebook
[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](#)

YouTube
[First Presbyterian Church, Fond du Lac](#)

October

Deacon of the Month:
Amber Summeril

Elder of the Month:
Larry Johnson

STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Craig R. Alwin
pastor@fdlpresbyterian.org

Jennifer Zander
jzander@fdlpresbyterian.org

Kris Bartelt
kbartelt@fdlpresbyterian.org

Mary Robotka
mrobotka@fdlpresbyterian.org