



# First Presbyterian

## CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God  
September 25, 2022  
**Mission Sunday**

### WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (Hymn 422)

arr. Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, for God calls us here, to be a community of faith:

**where the hungry are served, there the thirsty are offered peace.**

Come, for God welcomes us here, into a sanctuary of grace:

**where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;**

**where the stranger is embraced with compassion.**

Come, for God reunites us here, siblings in that family called love:

**where care and kindness are offered,**

**where hands work to support those in need.**

Come, for God calls us to worship in joy.

\*HYMN 411 (V.1-4)

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Arise, your light is come!

The Spirit's call obey;

Show forth the glory of your God,

Which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come!

Fling wide the prison door;

Proclaim the captives' liberty,

Good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come!

All you in sorrow born,

Bind up the broken-hearted ones

And comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God's power will make us strong.

RESPONSIVE READING

Matthew 25:31-46

When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels are with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at his left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand,

'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

**Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?**

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, we confess that there are times when we are not mindful of your presence. We confess that to love you, we must love our neighbors. When you are hungry, we do not feed you. When you are thirsty, we give you nothing to drink. When you are sick, we do not care for you. When you are in prison, we do not visit. Please forgive us, and open our hearts and our minds and our spirits to your holy presence – that we may be willing to do what is holy and what is right.**

*Silent prayer*

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Word of God assures us that we are loved and forgiven. The Word of God assures us that we can love others through the Spirit of Christ. Trust God's Word, embrace and share the love of God!

**Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

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

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 10:13-15

SERMON

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A Brief Statement of Faith (excerpt), Book of Confessions, 11.2*

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

ANTHEM

Make This Church a Welcome Place

Williams & Raney

Lord of mercy, Lord of grace,  
Make this church a welcome place,  
To the hungry and the poor,  
May there be an open door.  
To the weary and distressed,  
May this be a place of rest.  
Lord of mercy, Lord of grace,  
Make this church a welcome place.

Reaching out to others,  
Serving both great and small,  
Sharing our abundance  
With one and all.

Lord of mercy, Lord of grace,  
Make this church a holy place,  
Where we come to seek the truth;  
Fill our hearts and worship you  
In our words and through our deeds,  
Knowing you will meet our needs.  
Lord of mercy, Lord of grace,  
Make this church a welcome place. Amen.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

2 Corinthians 8

Remember the generosity of the Lord Jesus Christ, who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

*Our offering is received in support of the church's mission and ministry. Please give by leaving your donation in the box at the front of the church, by mail or by making your donation online through our website, [eastonfpc.org](http://eastonfpc.org).*

OFFERING PRAYER

Bless the gifts given in thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all, that we might serve you and your people with great love. In Christ's name, amen.

\*RESPONSE

Doxology

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

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. 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.**

**WE GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\*HYMN 434 (V.1-4)

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

Today we all are called to be  
Disciples of the Lord,  
To help to set the captive free,  
Make plowshare out of sword,  
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst,  
Make love and peace our fast,  
To serve the poor and homeless first,  
Our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth  
Ordained our human race  
To live as stewards of the earth,  
Responding to God's grace.  
But we are vain and sadly proud,  
We sow not peace but strife,  
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud  
That threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down  
As in a mighty stream,  
With righteousness in field and town  
To cleanse us and redeem.  
For God is longing to restore  
An earth where conflicts cease,  
A world that was created for  
A harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God  
Act out the living Word,  
And walk the road the saints have trod  
Till all have seen and heard.  
As stewards of the earth may we  
Give thanks with one accord  
To God who calls us all to be  
Disciples of the Lord.

**\*BENEDICTION**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord our God. Amen.

**POSTLUDE**

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (Hymn 422)

arr. Callahan

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Worship Leaders

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Chancel Choir

Pat Koefoed, Liturgist

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed, Luke McGloughlin

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*Each Sunday we sing hymns taken from the blue hymnal provided for you in the pew where you are seated. Though we print the lyrics to the hymns in the bulletin, we encourage you to turn to the hymnal so you can also read the accompanying music.*

**Mark 10:13-15**

People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.