This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

*We invite you to stand as able.

- The Gathering -

Prelude Chorale Prelude on "Rockingham" by Parry Tami Newsom, organ



Rev. Matt Nieman

Call to Worship

Greeting

There is good and there is wicked in the world.

Lord, help us find the good.

The wicked are perishing. Like chaff, they will not stand before the Lord.

Lord, drive wickedness away with the wind.

The good is like a tree, planted by streams of sweet water.

Lord, let goodness yield its fruit in every season.

Our delight is in the law of the Lord.

Let us meditate upon God's promises from morning into night.

*Hymn #457

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

Toulon

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we fail to put our trust in you completely. Instead, we calculate our gains and losses, hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life. Forgive us, and help us to treasure only you, that we may follow you faithfully and discover the blessings only you can give.

(please continue in silent prayer)

*Kyrie eleison #574

Lord, have mercy

Johnson

*Declaration of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri #579

Gloria Patri

Greatorex

*The Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

~ The Word ~

Prayer for Illumination

Gary Heidinger

God of wisdom, by your Spirit speak this day a word of life, and plant in us the power of your righteous love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 18:1-11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139

Dr. Angela Batey, cantor

Hopson

[Pew Bible pg. 720]



Lord, you have searched me, you know me through and through.

You know when I rise up; you know when I rest; you read my thought from far away. You watch over each step; you know when I sleep; you are acquainted with all my ways. **(R)**

Even before a word is on my lips, you know what is in my heart. You are before me and behind me and all around me; you lay your hand upon me. **(R)**

Every part of me, O Lord, you created; you knit me together in my other's womb. I will praise you for the wonder of my being, for the wonder of all you have made. (R)

Lord, you know me through and through; you saw me before I was born; my days were recorded in your book even before my days were to come (R)

How dear to me are your thoughts, O God; I could never count them. I could not count them any more than I could count the sand, and if I could, you would still be with me. **(R)**

Second Scripture Reading: Luke 14:25-33

[Pew Bible pg. 78]

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

"The Hard Words of Following"

~ The Response ~

Rev. Matt Nieman

Affirmation of Faith (General Assembly, 1981)

We believe that God came to redeem this world of lost children, and to open the way to eternal life, through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. This Jesus who is one with us in our common humanity, is one with God as the incarnation of the second Person of the Trinity. Therefore, we confess that Jesus is one person, truly God and truly human. This mystery of God's grace in Jesus Christ, which can be experienced and proclaimed, but never fully explained, is what ties Christians together in a common faith and life across the centuries.

The Anthem

You Are Wonderfully Made Chancel Choir Pepper Choplin

You are wonderfully made. You are God's creation. Let no one bring you down by what they say. You are wonderfully made.

Remember that you're a child of God, part of God's creation. So when you feel that you are weak and flawed, remember that you're a child of God.

Love your neighbor as yourself, the commandment still holds true. But how can we love someone else if we never learn to love ourselves?

Call for the Offering



You can use the QR code to give online or place your offering in the baskets located at the Sanctuary doors. Thank you for your gifts.

~ The Eucharist ~

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

in the name of the Lord._

Lift up your hearts.

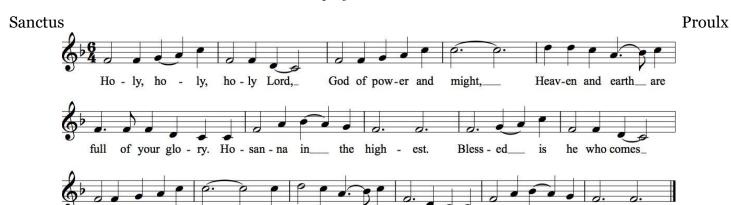
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(prayer continues)





The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

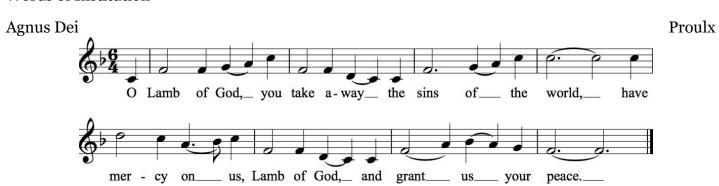
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

Ho san-na in the high-est, ho san-na in the high - est.

Words of Institution



The Communion of the People

The Prayer after Communion

~ The Sending ~

*Hymn #507 I Come With Joy Dove of Peace

*Benediction

*Congregational Response #358 Help Us Accept Each Other

Baronita

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; Teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe We are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

*Postlude Trumpet Tune McMahon

Tami Newsom, organ

A/V Team ~ Ken Ladrach, David Long, and Mason Warren

Please use one of the methods below to record your attendance with us today:

Scan this QR code and click on the generated google doc link, or

- Go to https://tinyurl.com/record-FPC-attendance, or
- Email the office at office@fpctn.org, or
- Sign the pew attendance pad.

Looking for ways to be involved in Worship?

Sign-up to be an usher, scripture reader, or communion server!

All ages are invited to sign up.

Please go to: http://tinyurl.com/FPCvolunteerSignUp and sign up in the appropriate available time slot. If you have any questions, contact Mikie Lancaster, Ken Ladrach, or the church office (865/966-9547).





Members

Larry Byars, Lisa Bradney, Pat Dail, Dean & Lucy Fleming, Chuck & Norma Foriska, Meredith & Tucker Fritz and baby Marigold Elizbeth, Frank Guess, Beth & Jimmy Loyless, Ann McAnally, Maria Medina, Irma McGuffey, Tami Newsom, Donna Phillips, Beth White, Gayle Williams

Relatives of Members

Angela Gibson, sister of Beth Allen Family of Robby Gibson, nephew of Beth Allen, upon his death

Friends and others

Gene Bird, his wife and daughter Barbara and Kim, friends of Joanie Scheuer

WHAT'S HAPPENING...

TEMBER

Quest Class for Adults

Myself: A User's Guide - Finding Fulfillment by **Understanding Yourself and Serving Others**

How do your life experiences, personality and skills pair with what you love to do and your spiritual gifts? A lively and enjoyable experience of self-discovery that integrates biblical teaching with the social sciences and self-reflection. https://tinyurl.com/MyselfAUsersGuide or use the QR code.



Join us on Monday, September 15, 22, 29 & INTEGE October 6 from 5:30 - 6:30pm in the Narthex. Let us know you're coming by signing up at:



Quest Sundays for Children & Youth

BABYSTEPS

BabySteps is open Sundays during normal church explore and play in a safe and loving environment while



A fun Sunday morning option for Kids ages 3-9 during the 9am worship service. In KidsQuest, students discover and explore the love of God through Bible verses, songs, videos and exciting activities such as art & science!

KIDSTART

A fun Sunday morning option for Kids ages 3-9 during the 10am hour. In KidStart, students are given the opportunity to build on the lessons learned in KidsQuest through games & other exciting learning opportunities.

YOUTHQUEST

This class meets at 10am in the Youth Room. Through this course, students will begin to explore the movement of God throughout the media we consume.

WAYPOINT YOUTH COLLECTIVE

Youth Collective meets on Sunday evenings starting at 5:30pm in the youth room. Each Sunday, students will gather together to grow in their faith through Bible

CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLERS!

Join us at the PET Middle School Retreat, September 26-28! Together we will look at the magnificent story that unfolds in the Bible and learn how our own stories fit into God's grand story! Contact Mason Warren for more details.



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



How to Volunteer with CCAHT

The mission of Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking (CCAHT) is to unite and equip the East Tennessee community to end human trafficking. CCAHT will sponsor an orientation session on September 18, from 5-6:30pm, for those who wish to do volunteer work with them. (There is a minimum age limit of 18 years old to do volunteer work on their behalf.)

The volunteer work may include lawn work in their small garden, organizing items that have been donated to them, assisting with moving of a residence, or other types of opportunities that arise over time. CCAHT requires that volunteers complete the orientation session before doing any work. If you are interested in attending the orientation, contact Kirk Morris for more information or to carpool to the orientation session. You will also need to fill out the volunteer inquiry form at this link:

https://growfreetn.org/volunteer/



Don't forget to sign up in the Narthex to serve at VMC. We have 4 more months of serving this year!



Meals with a Mission

Our next congregational mission project is scheduled for November 2 where we will work together to pack chicken soup!

This Week at FPC

Sun, Sept 7

9am Casual Worship Service/Sanctuary

10am Soul Cafe/Narthex

Pastor Matt's Class/Library

KidStart/Room D

YouthQuest/Youth Room

11am Traditional Worship Service/Sanctuary

5:30pm Youth Collective/Youth Room

Mon, Sept 8

10am Book Club/Library 10am Chair Yoga/Narthex 11am Library Reserved

4pm Stephen Ministry/Library

7pm Christian Formation Committee/Zoom

Tues, Sept 9

9:45am Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary 10am PW Circle #1/Room A 10am PW Circle #2/Library

12:15pm Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary

6pm Personnel/Library

7pm BS #444/FH, Room A, Narthex

Wed, Sept 10

9:45am Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary

10am PW Circle #3/Library 12pm Parlor Reserved

12:15pm Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary

6pm Casual Worship Team Rehearsal/Room A 7:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal/Room A

Thurs, Sept 11

8am Men's Bible Study/Narthex

6:30pm CS #444/FH, Narthex, Room A, Room D, Youth Rm

Fri, Sept 12

10am Chair Yoga/Narthex

5pm Chamber Singers Retreat/Entire building

7pm Gentle Yoga/Narthex

Sat, Sept 13

9am Chamber Singers Retreat/Entire building



September 28

One Worship Service at 10am with Bluegrass Music

Tailgate Party to follow

Bring your favorite team gear to decorate a lunch table. There will be prizes for the

best decorated table!

RSVP up here:

https://tinyurl.com/FPCTailgateParty



October 4

Foodies Menu

Appetizer – Stuffed Mushrooms
Entree – Coq au vin over noodles
Salad – Orange & beet salad
Dessert – Apple pie with ice cream
Sign up in the Narthex

