



This service is being recorded by video and audio means.

*We invite you to stand as able.

~ The Gathering ~

Prelude

How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

Callahan

Lynn Kszos, flute

Linda Stutzenberger, organ

Greeting

Rev. Matt Nieman

Call to Worship

Come Jesus, come.

We welcome your presence.

*Hymn #455

All Creatures of Our God and King

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*Call to Confession

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, you call us to step out in faith, trusting in you for all things. We respond to your command but then sink in doubt and fear. We hide from the challenges of bold discipleship. We are not able to fulfill your commandments, for our purposes are never in full accord with yours. Forgive us, we pray, when we confess with our lips but do not believe in our hearts. Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Lift us out of sin into the arms of your mercy. Though we are distracted by noise all around, allow us to hear your voice even when it is the sound of sheer silence.

(please continue in silent prayer)

***Kyrie eleison #574**

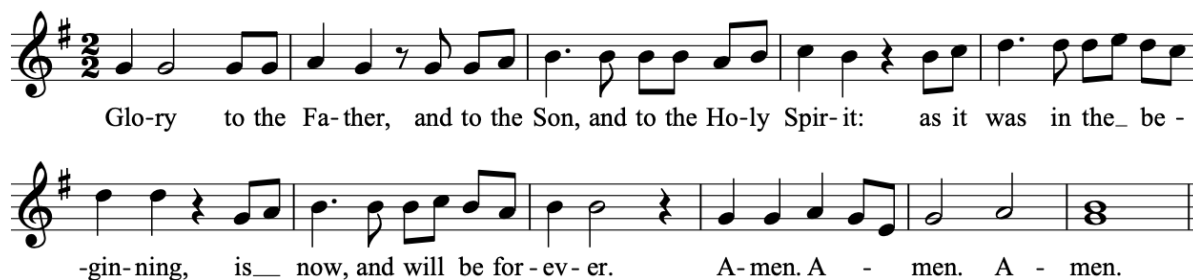
Johnson



***Declaration of Forgiveness**

***Gloria Patri #567**

Weaver



***The Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

~ The Word ~

Prayer for Illumination

Lynn Kszos

Gracious God, your word is very near, on our lips and in our hearts. As this Word is read and proclaimed, by the power of your Holy Spirit, make it become in us the word of faith. Then send us in joy to bring this word to others who also need the good news of salvation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading: Romans 10:5-15

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

“Surviving the Storm”

Rev. Matt Nieman

~ The Response ~

Affirmation of Faith (from the *Confession of '67*)

We believe that God's love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. Human thought gives to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.

Anthem

My Heart Ever Faithful

Bach/Schrader

Lynn Kszos, flute

Linda Stutzenberger, piano

In the Life of the Church

Presbyterian Women Installation of 2026-2027 Officers and Leaders

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.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

~ The Sending ~

*Hymn #280 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* Amazing Grace

*Benediction

*Response #369 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'm Gonna Live

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*Postlude *All Creatures of our God and King* Hopson
Linda Stutzenberger, organ

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

If you would like to sign up to be an usher, communion server or to read scripture please go to:
<http://tinyurl.com/FPCVolunteerSignUp>

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.



Members

Pat Dail, Jan Darnell, Brian Davison, Dave & Megan Figel,
Dean & Lucy Fleming, Frank Guess, Beth & Jimmy Loyless,
Ann McAnally, Irma McGuffey, Maria Medina, Tami Newsom,
Linda Nunley, Donna Phillips, John Thomason

Join us for a special time of Fellowship after worship.

Coffee, Lemonade, and Nibbles in the Narthex!

Help provide Nibbles for our 11:00 worship fellowship time after the service!

Sign up in the Narthex or at <https://tinyurl.com/NarthexNibbles>

or use the QR code 

*Narthex
Nibbles!* 



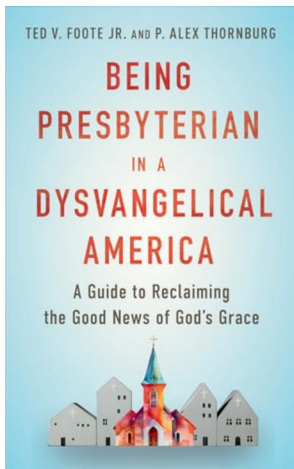
SOUL CAFE BEGINS A NEW STUDY

Beginning on August 23, and continuing Sundays until Advent, we will gather at 10:00 am in Room A to experience Jesus' message and understand a pattern of life that is fresh and surprising (even shocking at times). The goal is for everyone to hear, understand, discuss and confidently live the new life that Jesus intends for his people

The Sermon on the Mount is not only the most impactful presentation in history, but its two thousand or so words have shaped Western civilization more than any other source – written or oral. Matthew's record contains a microcosm of Jesus' entire mission and message for transforming every area of life.

Understand the Sermon on the Mount, and you understand Christ, his mission and his claim on our lives – every facet, every moment.

Mason will also be offering a version of this for our children during the 10 o'clock hour.



Pastor Matt's Class meets in the library at 10am on Sundays, and has begun a study of the book *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America* by Presbyterian ministers Ted Foote and Alex Thornburg. "Dysvangelical" names a theology that is distorted, dysfunctional, and dystopian, twisting the good news of God's grace into a message of fear, partisanship, and exclusion.

"With clarity, compassion, and a touch of humor, *Being Presbyterian in a Dysvangelical America* equips readers to name what feels wrong, rediscover what is right, and live into a gospel that is still good news for all."

As always, you need not have read the book to attend the class. In fact, invite a friend who might have interest in this discussion about the direction of the church and faith in our country today.

Join our Quest Through the Wilderness!

This fall, the Thursday evening Bible study group will begin an in-depth look at the Book of Exodus, from baby Moses to God descending in a cloud.



We meet from 7-8pm on Zoom almost every Thursday, but it's a come-when-you-can attendance policy, so don't let a busy schedule keep you away. If you'd like to know more, or to receive the Zoom link, please contact Elizabeth Wilson or the church office. Our first class, which will be orientation, introduction, and fellowship time, will be September 10.

We'd love to have you join us.

EXCITING NEWS! A NEW STEPHEN MINISTRY CLASS IS BEGINNING THIS FALL!

What is Stephen Ministry?

Stephen Ministry equips lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care to individuals in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives.

Who is a Stephen Minister?

A caring, Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports, and encourages.

As a Stephen minister, you will be very well trained and supported so that you are able to provide a high level of emotional and spiritual care.

A 2 hour weekly training Stephen Minister (SM) class will start October, 2026 through the beginning of December and start again February, 2027 through March with a SM commissioning worship service in April. We will then combine the current Stephen Ministry team with our newly trained team for monthly supervision and continuing education.

Please let us know if you are interested or have any questions as we would love to talk with you!

We need to hear from you by August 16 so we can plan our Fall schedule.

All our love and prayers in Christ!

Your FPC Stephen Ministry Team: Beth Martin, Jeanie Oakley, Joanie Scheuer



This Week at FPC

Sun, Aug 9	9am Casual Worship/Front Parking Lot 10am Soul Cafe/Room A Pastor Matt's Class/Library 11am Traditional Worship/Sanctuary 12pm Nibbles in the Narthex
Mon, Aug 10	10am Chair Yoga/Narthex 3:30pm Stephen Ministry/Library 7pm Christian Formation/Library
Tues, Aug 11	6pm Personnel/Library 7pm BS #444/FH, Room A, Narthex
Wed, Aug 12	12pm Mah Jong/Narthex 12pm Parlor Reserved 6pm Casual Worship Music Rehearsal/Room A
Thurs, Aug 13	8am Men's Bible Study/Narthex 9am Property Committee/Library 12pm Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary
Fri, Aug 14	10am Chair Yoga/Narthex 12pm Big Fish Chapel/Sanctuary 7pm Gentle Yoga Class/Narthex
Sat, Aug 15	Welcome Back Music Ministry Party/Off-site

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

AUGUST 16

Students are invited to bring your backpacks to worship for a special blessing for the start of the new school year!



Kids are invited join us for our final Faith Frontier on Sunday, August 9, where, in addition to our normal activities, our children will share some of the songs they have learned this summer during the 9:00 a.m. worship service.

As our KidsQuest summer on the Faith Frontier comes to a close, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this season so special. Whether you helped set up the KidsQuest space, volunteered on Sunday mornings, donated supplies, prayed for our ministries, or supported our children and youth in countless other ways, your generosity and dedication made this summer an incredible experience. Thank you for helping our young people grow in their faith!