

we have done those things which we ought not to have done.  
 O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults.  
 Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared  
 to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God,  
 for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life, to the  
 glory of your holy name...

...Time for silent confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

One: ...Friends, believe the good news of the gospel

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

One: Thanks be to God.

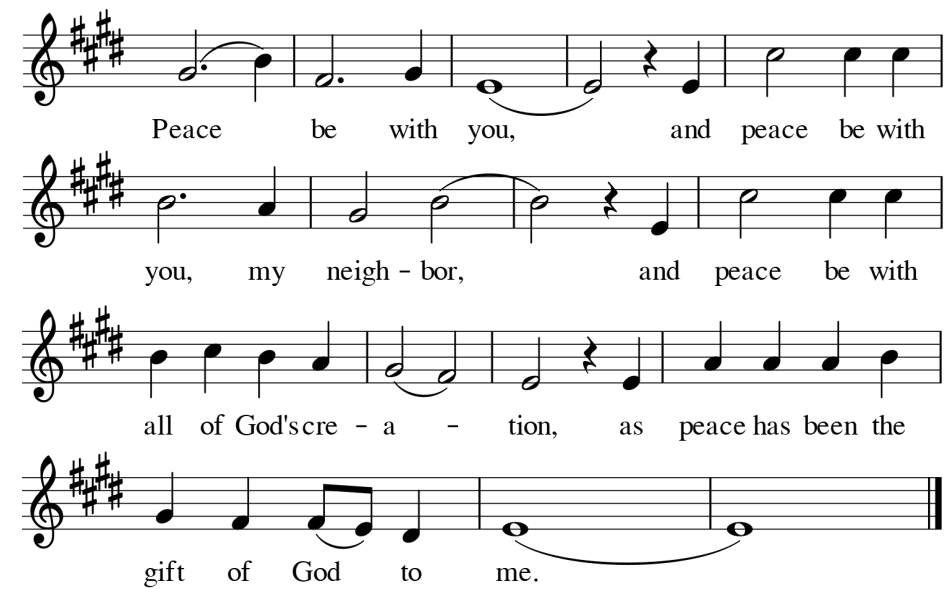
PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

\* PEACE RESPONSE:



Peace be with you, and peace be with  
 you, my neighbor, and peace be with  
 all of God's cre - a - tion, as peace has been the  
 gift of God to me.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S TIME. D.C.E. Mylika Selah

*Children who want to go to Sunday School can follow the teachers to  
 their room. Younger children may be dropped off at the nursery  
 (ages 0-4), and all children should be picked up  
 at their rooms following the service*

\* HYMN #372: "O for a World" Azmon

THE GOSPEL: Mark 9: 38-50 p.45 NT

THE HISTORIES: Esther 7: 1-6, 9-10, 9: 20-22 p.448-450 OT

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: "Lead Me, Lord!" Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;  
 make thy way plain before my face.  
 For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord only,  
 that makest me dwell in safety.

THE MESSAGE: "What Is Your Request?"

*"...the king again said to Esther ... what  
 is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it  
 shall be fulfilled." - Esther 7:2*

\* GLORIA PATRI:



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly  
 Spi-rit: as it was in the be - gin-ning, is  
 now, and will be for - ever. A men, A - men. A - men!

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

\* RECEIVING TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

One: "Bring the full tithe into my storehouse " says the Lord of hosts;

All: **"And thereby put me to the test, if I will not open the windows  
 of heaven for you."** Malachi 3:20

OFFERTORY: "Alla Sarabanda" R. Vaughan Williams

\* DOXOLOGY: (to the tune of "All Creatures of our God and King")

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
 Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia!  
 Praise Holy Spirit evermore.  
 Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Alleluia!**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION.

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *from our Earth Care Preamble, PC(USA)*

**Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all  
 creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this  
 earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future  
 use and enjoyment of human family. As God offers all people the  
 special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles  
 all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.  
 Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWED BY 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin  
 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.**

\* HYMN: "Perhaps You Have Been Chosen" Aurelia  
 (See insert)

\* BENEDICTION.

\* CHORAL BENEDICTION.

POSTLUDE: "Heut Triumphieret Gottes Sohn" J.S. Bach

*Join us in the narthex for coffee and fellowship -  
 and after that for Bible Study in the Heritage Room!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Please take time to sign the Friendship Pads!** These little booklets help us connect with new visitors, and are a great source of updated contact information too. If you would like a nametag, put a star by your name and we will make you one! They can be found in the narthex around fellowship time.

- **Today in Adult Education:** Join us for our final week of our Bible study of 1 Samuel. David continues to battle the Philistines while also keeping safe from King Saul. We won't get through the entire book as we had hoped because this study has sparked many lengthy and meaningful discussions. We hope you will come and join in the conversation.

- **Next Sunday in Adult Education:** Armando Pacheco will be leading the discussion, and here's how he describes it: "Join me in exploring how

our daily lives influence our theology and understanding of God. We will also reflect on how our experiences of God have evolved as we've grown. I'll share stories from my time as a religious brother and how those experiences shaped my personal beliefs and theology."

- **October 2: Stories of... Childhood:** Join us for a new program, "Stories of..." - dedicated to listening to one another's life stories. It's amazing what people have done and seen, and what we can learn! This first gathering will be about stories of childhood, in Dodds Hall starting at 7:00 pm, with light food and beverages and a coffeehouse atmosphere. Start thinking now, and more information will be coming!
- **World Communion Sunday** is a time when the whole Christian family around the world celebrates communion together, as a sign of our commitment to this worldwide family to which we belong. We will sing music from around the world, invite many languages to participate in the service, and collect the Peacemaking and Global Witness offering. Last year, our congregation gave \$419 toward a total of \$818,329 supporting such projects around the world as a shelter program in El Salvador for internally displaced people and "returnees" - those who fled home looking for asylum and then had to return. This shelter program includes teaching nonviolence and sustainable agriculture and initiating community farming. This is one among many such projects—learn more from today's insert!
- **Welcome back to the Chancel Choir:** Anyone interested in joining our Chancel Choir is welcome. Come share your voice and be part of our music community. Director David Neal can be reached at [david.neal09@gmail.com](mailto:david.neal09@gmail.com).
- **December 14 - Yuletide Concert Dinner!** : It's never too early to sign up to volunteer to help support the youth in this festive fundraiser! Musicians, Kitchen helpers, and Clean up needed! Contact Mylika to sign up.

**Our greeters today are:**

Marilyn Ewing, Beth Patton, and Linda McLean.

**Our ushers today are:**

Charlie Woodworth, William Chen, Angie Chen, and Rick Vaughan.

**We hold in our prayers:** David Brown; Elanor Buck; Harris Faulkner; Betsy Mann; Stella Martz's nephew, Charles; Gaw Phaw; Vivian and Jim Russell, and Elaine Weiss.

We also pray for Tom Hurst, who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer; and for Maury Tigner's brother, Steven, and Elmer Ewing's older sister, Helen Joyce Barclay, as they near the end of their earthly days.

**CALENDAR OF CHURCH EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29:**

- 9:00-10:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:30-11:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)
- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)
- 11:30-12:30 pm Adult Education (Heritage Room)
- 11:30-12:30 pm Youth Group

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30.**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1:**

- 9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 7:00-8:00 pm AA Meeting (Dodds Hall)
- 7:00-9:00 pm Irish Music (Second Floor)

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2:**

- 9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
- 9:30-10:30 am Al Anon (Fireside Room)
- 9:30-10:30 am Wednesday Worship Meeting
- 7:00-9:00 pm Stories of ...Childhood (Dodds Hall)
- 7:00-9:30 pm Finger Lakes Pipe Band

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3:**

- 9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
- 2:00-7:00 pm Flight Performing Arts Voice Lessons (Choir Room)
- 6:30-9:00 pm Community Game Night (Dodds Hall)
- 7:00-9:00 pm YFN Music (Second Floor)
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4:**

- 9:00-1:00 pm FPCI Office Hours
- 9:00-12:00 pm Ithaca Welcomes Refugees (Heritage Room)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5:**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6:**

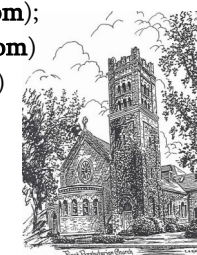
- 9:00-10:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:30-11:30 am Nursery Available (Second Floor)
- 10:00 am Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:00 am World Communion Sunday
- 11:00 am Fellowship (Narthex)
- 11:30-12:30 pm Adult Education (Heritage Room)
- 12:30-2:00 pm Deacons (Dodds Hall)

**The First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca**

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Building Superintendent: Joe Bocchiaro

For more info, please visit our website at [www.firstpresithaca.org](http://www.firstpresithaca.org) and find us on Facebook: First Presbyterian Church, Ithaca, NY.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ITHACA**



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607.272.2800  
Following Christ's teachings, we are fully inclusive in membership and leadership.

[firstpresithaca.org](http://firstpresithaca.org) A congregation proud to be PC(USA).



SEPTEMBER 29, 2024: 21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD**

*This service is being livestreamed! You can view services on our website. Please share your name in the Friendship Pads at the end of each pew. Numbered hymns are found in the purple hymnals in the pew racks.*

PRELUDE: "Rhosymedre" R. Vaughan-Williams

WELCOME: Rev. Kirianne Weaver

\* CALL TO WORSHIP: Liturgist: Elder Sylvia Reeves  
*from "A Wee Worship Book," 4th incarnation*

One: We are met in the presence of God,

**All: and we do not meet alone.**

One: With the angels in highest heaven,

**All: we gather to worship the Lord.**

One: With the saints of every age,

**All: we gather to worship the Lord.**

One: With the church throughout the world,

**All: we gather to worship the Lord.**

One: By children and babes at the breast,

**All: God's holy name is praised.**

One: With drums, stairs, and trumpets,

**All: God's holy name is praised.**

One: In barrios and basilicas,

**All: God's holy name is praised.**

One: And here with our hearts and our voices,

**All: God's holy name is praised.**

One: We are met in the presence of God,

**All: and we do not meet alone.**

\* HYMN #24: "God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" *Holy Manna*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and**