



**First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Worship  
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 12, 2021**

\*All who are able, please stand.

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE**

**TOLLING OF THE HOUR**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (responsive)

Strong God of love:

**Your Son Jesus told us that in this world we will endure tribulation.**

If we should suffer for righteousness' sake,

**Save us from self-righteousness.**

Give us grace to pray for enemies

**And to forgive them, even as you have forgiven us;**

**All: through Jesus Christ, who was crucified but is risen,**

**whom we praise forever. Amen**

**\*HYMN #37**

“Let All Things Now Living”

1 Let all things now living  
a song of thanksgiving  
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;  
who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us,  
by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us;  
pure light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:  
till shadows have vanished,  
all fearfulness banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.

2 By law God enforces,  
the stars in their courses,  
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains,  
the rivers and fountains,  
the depths of the ocean  
proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing  
our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,  
till all things now living  
unite in thanksgiving:  
to God in the highest,  
hosanna and praise!

**ALL TO CONFESSION**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against each other in our pursuits of power, control, and security. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.** (Silent Confession)

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### \*RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen. (*sing 3 times*)  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

### \*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(*children may now go to Sunday School*)

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you; **and also with you.**  
(*For the safety of all, please share the peace with a smile or wave from your seat.*)

## GATHERING SONG

"Surely the Presence"



Sure-ly the pres-ence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his might-y pow-er and his grace. — I can



hear the brush of ang-el's wings, I see glor-y on each face. Sure-ly the pres-ence of the Lord is in this place.

## MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Rally Day Kick-off

Rick Masten

## SCRIPTURE

2 Kings 4:1-7

Now the wife of one of the sons of the prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the LORD, but the creditor has come to take my two children to be his slaves." <sup>2</sup> And Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me; what have you in the house?" And she said, "Your servant has nothing in the house except a jar of oil." <sup>3</sup> Then he said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not too few." <sup>4</sup> Then go in and shut the door behind yourself and your sons and pour into all these vessels. And when one is full, set it aside." <sup>5</sup> So she went from him and shut the door behind herself and her sons. And as she poured they brought the vessels to her. <sup>6</sup> When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." And he said to her, "There is not another." Then the oil stopped flowing. <sup>7</sup> She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go, sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on the rest."

**ANTHEM**

"Keep Your Lamps"

Andre Thomas

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup> Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup> And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup> But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup> Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

**SERMON****"The Community Light"****Faye D'Ippolito****\*HYMN #314****"Christ, Be Our Light"**

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
 Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
 Make us your own, your holy people,  
 light for the world to see.

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
 Longing for water, many still thirst.  
 Make us your bread, broken for others,  
 shared until all are fed. (Refrain)

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!  
 Shine in our hearts.  
 Shine through the darkness.  
 Christ, be our light!  
 Shine in your church gathered today.

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
 Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
 Make us your building, sheltering others,  
 walls made of living stone. (Refrain)

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
 Longing for hope, many despair.  
 Your word alone has power to save us.  
 Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
 many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
 Let us be servants to one another,  
 making your kingdom come. (Refrain)

**A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE**

O Lord of compassion, who wept at the tomb of Lazarus,  
 who mourned over the city of Jerusalem,  
 who stretched out your hands to embrace the suffering of the world  
 on the hard wood of the cross,

**Draw near to us now and hear our prayers****As we remember all those who lost their lives in the tragedy of September 11.**

We remember the individuals who died—

office workers, firefighters, police officers, airline passengers, flight crews.

*(Tolling of the bell)*

We remember also those who, driven by darkened zeal,  
committed these awful deeds.

Mindful of your judgment and your mercy,  
we lift them before you.

*(Tolling of the bell)*

We remember the families and friends of the victims  
who continue to mourn the loss of  
parents, children, husbands, wives, companions.

**O Christ, the great healer, as you comforted Mary and Martha  
in their time of sorrow, so encircle grieving families with your loving care.**

*(Tolling of the bell)*

We remember the Presbyterian churches who lost faithful members in the violence.

**O God of hope, give them assurance that as the one body of Christ,  
we may look forward to being united with them in the glory of Christ's resurrection.**

*(Tolling of the bell)*

We remember the cities of New York and Washington DC,  
which suffered particular losses on September 11.

Lord Jesus our Savior, as you longed to comfort Jerusalem,  
so bring comfort to the neighborhoods and communities  
still recovering from the devastation of plane crashes and collapsed buildings.

**Surround those devastated by tragedy with a growing sense of your presence,  
and lead them again to hope.**

*(Tolling of the bell)*

We remember all the nations who lost citizens in the tragedy of September 11.

God of all nations, watch over every country of the earth,  
comfort them in their distress, and draw us together  
into your one kingdom that cannot be shaken.

**Almighty God, we remember before you all of the people and nations—  
those who have lived among us and those who lived far away—  
who have directed our steps in the way,  
opened our eyes to the truth, inspired our hearts by their witness,  
and strengthened our wills by their devotion.**

**We honor them in their death,  
and pray that we may one day dwell with them  
in the joy of your eternal kingdom. Amen.**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, PASTORAL 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.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN**

“This Little Light of Mine”

1 This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine,  
This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine;  
This little light of mine I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine;  
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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**Participants in this worship service:**

**Faye D'Ippolito**, guest pastor | Elder Rhonda Apessos, liturgist | **Rick Masten**, ministry minute  
**Shaun Cloonan**, minister of music | **Sunny Sakai**, pianist | **The Sanctuary Choir**  
**John Foster**, videographer | **Judy Mysels**, greeter

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or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at [www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood](http://www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood)



## **Welcome! Thanks be to God for allowing us to worship with you!**

### AUGUST 5, 2021 REVISED IN-PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES:

Due to the rise in cases of COVID-19 and the Delta Variant, and in response to Allegheny County moving from the moderate to substantial transmission rate, the Worship Committee has reinstated safety protocols for in-person worship following CDC recommendations as follows:

- **Properly worn masks are required for all those attending worship regardless of vaccination status**
- Please continue to observe social distancing in the marked pews
- **Congregational singing may continue while masked.** You are welcome to use the hymnals in the pews, stand and join in singing of hymns and responses. Lyrics will continue to be printed in the bulletin for those following along online.

We understand that each person is different with the possible risks he or she may have. Live-streamed online worship will continue to be available on Facebook and YouTube for those who choose to stay home until they feel safe to rejoin in person.

IF YOU ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY: first, welcome! Please fill out a blue visitor's card found in the pew rack. If you are interested in being on our email or newsletter mailing lists, provide that information so we can keep in touch. We hope you consider joining us more often!

BOOK CLUB CONTINUES, "Women of the Bible Speak" – by Shannon Bream, 10:00AM, Tuesdays at the home of Rhonda Apossos, 361 Maple Avenue, Edgewood.

INTERESTED IN BEING A LITURGIST? Contact Shaun Cloonan to sign up for an upcoming Sunday and assist our guest pastors in leading worship.

SESSION MEETING...Tuesday, September 14, 7PM via Zoom

CROP WALK is set for Sunday, October 10 at 1:00PM beginning at South Avenue United Methodist Church. Judy Mysels, Mariah Mysels, and Rhonda Apossos are currently signed up to walk for the FPCE team. Contact the office to join as a walker or to make a donation in support of local and global mission. Donations can also be made online at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/first-presbyterian-church-of-edgewood>

### UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

September 19 – Emerging Worship, Faye D'Ippolito preaching

September 26 – Heather Humphries Henkel preaching

October 3 – World Communion Sunday, Rev. Kellie Weekley-Mills preaching

October 10 – Rev. Fairlight Collins Lower preaching, baptism

October 17 – Emerging Worship, Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching

October 24 – Rev. Bob Ruefle preaching

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

AH=Apepos Home, B=Basement Band Room, C=Choir Room,  
GP=Gathering Place, L=Lounge, O=Office, PS=Pastor's Study,  
S=Sanctuary, Sc=Scout Room, SL=Side Lawn, SR=Social Room

### Today, Sunday, September 12

12:15PM Picnic Lunch (GP)

### Monday, September 13

7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

7:00PM Scouts (Sc/SR)

### Tuesday, September 14

10:00AM Book Club (AH)

7:00PM Edgewood Symphony Orchestra (S)

7:00PM Session Meeting (Zoom)

8:00PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

### Wednesday, September 15

7:00PM Vocal Confluence (S)

### Thursday, September 16

2:00PM Flute Lesson (L)

5:00PM Flute Lesson (L)

7:00PM Milepost6 (B)

### Friday, September 17

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

### Saturday, September 18

8:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous (SR)

### Next Sunday, September 19

9:30AM Worship Ensemble (S)

11:00AM Emerging Worship (S)

Youth Sunday School (GP)

## How can you become involved?

As we reopen, working to rebuild and reimagine the ministries at FPCE, consider if you have a heart for:

- Encouraging our younger members
- Learning more about God & faith
- Praising God through music
- Serving senior citizens
- Working in publicity/advertising

...please contact a member of our FPCE Family listed below for more details on how to become involved!

## OUR FPCE FAMILY

*Office & Cleaning Manager*

**Judy Mysels**

[office@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:office@fpcedgewood.org)

*Building Manager*

**Rob Mysels**

[building@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:building@fpcedgewood.org)

*Minister of Music*

**Shaun Cloonan**

[music@fpcedgewood.org](mailto:music@fpcedgewood.org)

*Pianist*

**Sunny Sakai**

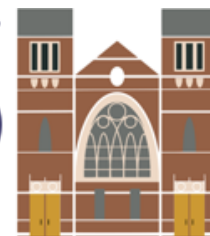
[Sunnysakai4@gmail.com](mailto:Sunnysakai4@gmail.com)

*Ministers*

**The Entire Congregation**



First Presbyterian Church of  
**EDGEWOOD**  
*The Community Church*



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,  
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to  
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

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