

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**

September 15, 2024, at 10:00am

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING

PRESERVICE MUSIC

“Lord, Speak to Me”
“O Jesus, I Have Promised”
“Listen, God Is Calling”
“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”
“Will You Come and Follow Me”
“I Danced in the Morning”
“I Love You, Lord”
“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS/ PRAYER REQUESTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CHIMES

PRELUDE

“More Than Conquerors” (Peterson)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 116:5, 9

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;

our God is full of compassion.

Let us walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

***OPENING HYMN #839**

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!” (Knapp)

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

The Lord listens to the cries of the people who turn with full hearts to the One who has mercy. Let our tongues now make confession in the presence of God and of this body.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God, in the face of sin, our gravest enemy, we call to you for help. You know our fault before we speak. Forgive us for what we have done in opposition to your will. Forgive us for those things we have not undertaken and for which we know our wrong. We have not loved you and our neighbors as we ought. We have denied our dependence on you. Lead us away from this grief and sorrow. Save us so that we may fulfill our vows to you and attend to the needs of your people. Amen.

(In silent prayer, let us offer God our confession and our hope.)

***WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

God, who is gracious and merciful, knows the human desire to save our lives by avoiding Jesus' call to carry the cross. God, who is full of compassion, also knows that those who repent have set their minds and hearts on what endures for all time. Your sin is forgiven you. The Lord God is a very present help to those who seek to follow in the way of divine things. Go with God in joy as you take up your cross, in Jesus' name.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God, Alleluia! Amen.**

***HYMN #582** *“Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”* (Vasile)

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.

Chorus: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen. World without end,
without end. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. (Chorus)

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

As God's forgiven people, let us pass the peace to one another offering signs of welcome and acceptance of love.

REFLECTION WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Lucy Tucker

DUET

“Shine on Me” (Traditional Spiritual/Arr. Dilworth)

(Wayne Bevers & Bob Entrop)

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

You speak to us, Lord, with tongues of wisdom. Let your Holy Spirit now open us to hear with greater clarity the teachings of today, that we may hold dear in yet new ways what it is you will for us, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

FIRST READING

Psalm 27

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 4:1-18

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Your Loneliness and God's Presence"

Pastor Terry Aiello

*HYMN #724

"O Jesus, I Have Promised" (Mann)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God,
the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

In the face of adversity, the prophet Isaiah calls to the people: Let us stand up together. This is a call to us, as well, to stand together with our offerings, given for the well-being of the church and of those in need. We will receive them now.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Contemplation” (Scott)

*DOXOLOGY #606

Genevan Psalter

PASTORAL PRAYER / 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.**

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #838

“Standing on the Promises” (Carter)
September Hymn of the Month

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Go to the World!”

*Please stand if you are able where asterisks are printed.
Words in **bold print** are spoken by the congregation.

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