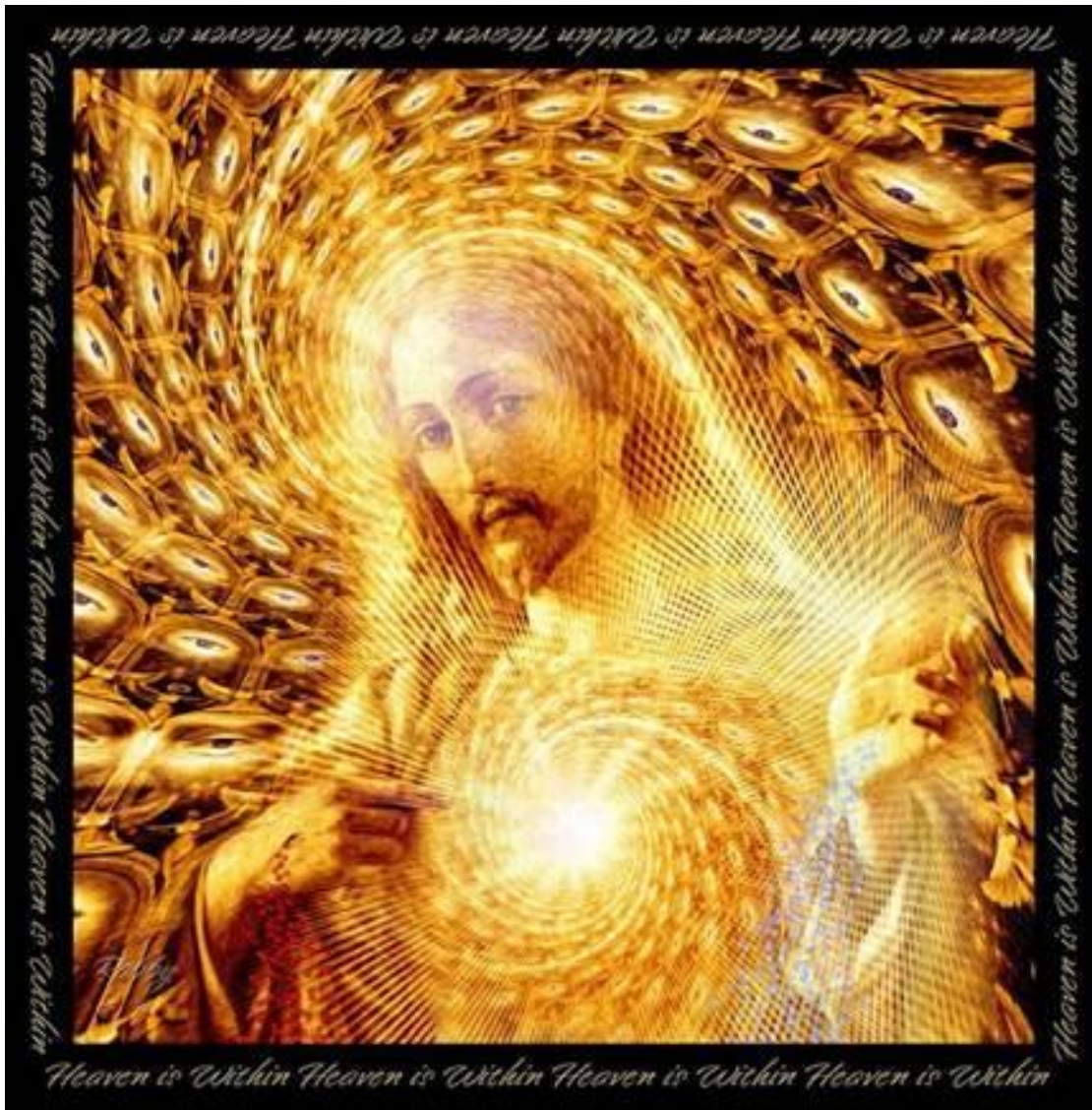


First Presbyterian Church of Naples

*In the Heart of Naples with the Love of God:
we worship, we love, we grow, we serve*



September 19, 2021
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 a.m.

Let us quiet our hearts, minds, and voices for the beginning of worship. At this time, please silence all cell phones.

The Prelude

Andante (Organ Concerto in F Major)

G. F. HANDEL

THE TIME OF GATHERING

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

Welcome and Life Together

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship

Leader: Truly God is in this place, and I did not know.

People: Truly God is in this place, and I did not know.

Leader: This Mystery has been hidden throughout the ages and generations

People: and has now been revealed to us.

Leader: Christ is in you.

People: The hope of glory.

All: Let us worship God!

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

*Hymn of Praise #409

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

- 1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.*
- 2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font and pulpit; here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.*
- 3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.*
- 4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!*

Call to Confession

REV. REX CHILDS

Siblings in Christ, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's grace and mercy, let us confess our sin together. Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

** Please stand if able*

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith. Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Receive God's forgiveness and be at peace.

All: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen! Amen!

Children's Time

NANCY VAN FLEET

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

DOMINIQUE O'CONNELL

Let us pray: Gracious God, we ask now that you would open our ears to hear and our hearts to receive your word. In Christ we pray. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 28:11-18

Our first reading this morning comes from Genesis, chapter 28. Hear now what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." ¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response

Surely the Presence of the Lord

LANI WOLFE

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*—PCUSA 1983)

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve...We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of Thanksgiving and 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.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory

Jesus, Name Above All Names

ARR. JOHN F. WILSON

Jesus, Name above all names, Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord! Emmanuel, God is with us, Blessed Redeemer, Living Word. My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine. For Thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, My Savior art thou, If ever I love Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

*The Doxology

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH

*Hymn of Commitment #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

- 1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.*
- 2. Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.*
- 3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Pisgah

DALE WOOD

Flower Dedication

The Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God.

Ushers

Jack Marsh (head usher), Cindy Esler, Lucy Koll, Bill Morgan, Jim Robertson

Greeters

Pat Collins, Doris Frace, Nancy Kay, Karen Parker

Prayer List

*Linda Arsenault

Ebbie Batcher

Darryl Bernhardt

Megan Ford

Gary Giltner

Giraldo-Castano Family

Scott McCullough

Dominique O'Connell

Rick Podgorny

James Seibold

Corey Sheaf

Vanessa Uzupes-Owens

Geoff Wiswell

*Corbin Wyant

The U.S. Military

Stephen Ministers and

care receivers

* church member

Missionary (Honduras)

Dorie Hjalmarson

Central Presbyterian

Reformed Church

(Matanzas, Cuba)

Lucia Bacallao

Walkiria Cardenas

Barbara Cuellar

Josefa de la Osa

Roberto Rodriguez

Gladys Tejeira

Welcome Back to Naples

If you have recently returned to Naples, please note it on the Friendship pad or contact the church office to let us know that you are back in town. Thank you and Welcome Back!

Stephen Ministry

Are you in need of prayer? Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one lay caring ministry we have at FPCN. Our lay caregivers, called Stephen Ministers, have been trained to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are going through a difficult time. To learn more or to pray with a Stephen Minister contact the church office.

Chancel Flowers

Have you considered a nice way of letting your friends and family know you are thinking of them? What about a dedication to the Chancel flowers, letting them know you care? Not only do the flowers enhance the beauty of our Chancel, but it also sends a special message to your loved one. Dedications are \$65 and can be reserved by contacting Angie Johnson at angiej@fpcnaples.org or calling the church office at 239.262.1311.

E-mail communications

In an effort to keep parishioners informed of upcoming events, e-mail blasts are being sent out on a weekly basis. If you would like to receive these e-mails, please contact Kathleen Law at kathleenl@fpcnaples.org or 239.262.1311 ext 2013.

Session Update

Due to the continued increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in Florida and Collier County, the high transmissibility of the Delta Variant, and relying on recent guidance from the CDC, advice from medical experts at Naples Community Hospital, counsel from Peace River Presbytery leaders, and embracing our call to love one another and care for those most vulnerable, your Session took the following actions on Wednesday August 4:

That until further notice,

1. All persons 2 years of age and over will wear masks in the building during worship and meetings onsite, preschool students excepted;
2. Congregational singing with masks be allowed during worship with the exception of the choir;
3. Fellowship Time after worship will continue with the wearing of masks but without food or drinks being served.

Thank you for your prayers, your cooperation and your vigilance. "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right for we will reap at harvest time if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." (Galatians 6:9-10).

For current and accurate information about COVID-19, you may visit the Naples Community Hospital website, www.nchmd.org.

Events

Seekers and Joiners Class

Do you want to know more about our faith, this congregation and how to become a member of our dynamic church? We want to encourage you in your journey of faith. A Seekers and Joiners class will be held this morning following the worship service in the Parlor. Information packets are available at the exit doors or at the class.

Kidz Lab and Youth Group

Our Kidz Lab (Sunday School) is held on Sundays from 11 - 11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Kidz Lab is for children in grades K through 5. Youth Group, for students in grades 6 through 12 will begin Wednesday, September 29 from 4:30 - 5:30 pm. and will also be held via Zoom. We will be sure to respond under our leadership's direction to when it may be in the best interest of our children and youth to once again meet in person. For Zoom links and more information, please contact Ashley Hancock, ashley.hancock@fpcnaples.org or Nancy Van Fleet, nancyv@fpcnaples.org.

Wednesday Morning Men: Faith and Fellowship

We continue our study on the Book of Acts. Please join us via Zoom on Wednesday, October 6 at 8 a.m. For link information, you may contact Bill Kearney, skearney239@comcast.net or Rev. Rex Childs, rexc@fpcnaples.org.

HUDDLE

The men's HUDDLE noon-time Bible Study meets each Thursday at noon in Spencer Hall with a Zoom option. Bring your Bible and your lunch! Join them for discussion and study. For Zoom instructions contact Rev. Rex Childs, rexc@fpcnaples.org.

Lunch Bunch

Don't go home or out to eat alone! Join other FPCN single men and women for lunch every Sunday after worship for a fun-filled Dutch-treat lunch at one of Naples' selected restaurants. You will get to know some nice people and have a wonderful meal. Best of all, you are not eating alone. Sign up in Spencer Hall after the service.

Giving Opportunities

Disaster Relief

We have all seen the images of devastation brought about by Hurricane Ida and the earthquake that struck Haiti. We would like to offer you an opportunity to financially support recovery efforts through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance organization. PDA deploys people on the ground to provide basic needs to those affected and helps them rebuild their lives.

If you wish to support these efforts, you may send a check made payable to First Presbyterian Church. Please note in the memo which effort you wish to support by indicating "Hurricane Ida" or "Earthquake Haiti." If you wish your contribution to be given to both efforts, simply indicate "Disaster Assistance" in the memo. You may also give online through our website, www.fpcnaples.org/give, using the drop down menu and selecting "Disaster Assistance." Please note, with the online option, you will not be able to designate which effort you will be contributing to but your donation will support both efforts.

Please contact Cleve Cleveland, Mission Chair, carleton_cleveland@hotmail.com or Anna Focht, Director of Finance, annaf@fpcnaples.org with any questions you may have.

The Birthday Fund

The Birthday celebration invites members and friends to give one dollar or more for each year of their life on a Sunday nearest to their birthday. These monies are placed in the permanent endowment of the church. Green giving envelopes are located at the exits. Please note on your check "Birthday Fund" or you can give online at www.fpcnaples.org/give, select Birthday Fund from the list of funds.

The Palms Society—Legacy Giving

Advice from the Palms Society Tree: Stand tall and proud - Remember your roots - Drink plenty of water - Be content with your natural beauty - Enjoy the view!

Speak to the earth and it shall teach thee - Job 12:8 At this time, let us take time to look at OUR earth and rejoice and remember all of God's works. If you want to remember our church in your estate plan, please contact Anna Focht, annaf@fpcnaples.org or Linda Gadkowski, linda.gadkowski@gmail.com.

STAFF

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone: 239.262.1311</u>	<u>Ext.</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Ministers			
Rev. Craig Goodrich, Senior Pastor		2035	craigg@fpcnaples.org
Rev. Rex Childs, Associate Pastor		2027	rexc@fpcnaples.org
Worship & Music			
Dr. Brice Gerlach, Director of Music Ministries		2039	briceg@fpcnaples.org
Osei Allen, Sound and Video Technician			
Caitlin Hancock, Sound and Video Technician			
Christian Education			
Jack Fogelman, Kidz Lab Teacher			
Audrey Gordon, Childcare Provider			
Ashley Hancock, Christian Education Assistant		2012	ashley.hancock@fpcnaples.org
Nancy Van Fleet, Director of Children and Youth		2029	nancyv@fpcnaples.org
Office			
Anna Focht, Director of Finance		2042	annaf@fpcnaples.org
Angie Johnson, Office Assistant/Receptionist		2000	angiej@fpcnaples.org
Kathleen Law, Communications Coordinator		2013	kathleenl@fpcnaples.org
Sharman Pfau, Executive Office Manager		2036	sharmanp@fpcnaples.org
Facilities			
Lisa Ethier, Custodian		2016	lisae@fpcnaples.org
Eduardo Martinez, Maintenance		2014	eduardom@fpcnaples.org
Sandy Poore, Director of Facilities		2028	sandyp@fpcnaples.org
Preschool			
Ashley Houk, Preschool Director		2009	ashleyh@fpcnaples.org
Lindsay Willkomm, Preschool Assistant Director		2038	lindsayw@fpcnaples.org

ELDERS

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Norman Brown	Carleton Cleveland	Teresa Doane
Duncan Connell	Deborah Meeson-Vige	Fran Engelhardt
Doug Jensen	Patty Rutzler	Linda Gadkowski
Saralene Oldham	Janice Witman	Roni Haggart
Barbara Weiss		Bill Kearney

DEACONS

Class of 2021	Class of 2022	Class of 2023
Jean Kasten	Barbara Beach	Pat Collins
Les Kasten	Richard Beach	Charles Fraley
Gary Nordbrock	Cindy Esler	Tedi Fraley
Betty Plum	Audrey Gordon	Nancy Kier
Gary Root	Karen Parker	Lucy Koll
Janet Root	Roy Parker	Eileen Malstrom
Lee Ryan	David Witman	Daisy Scott
Martha Waddell		Barbara Simons
Fred Witt		Roger Simons
Joyce Witt		Deborah Streamer
		Harry Streamer

