

First Presbyterian Church of Naples

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



Christ and the Children, by Emil Nolde, 1910

September 26, 2021
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
LITURGY

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

The Prelude

Psalm XIX

BENEDETTO MARCELLO

THE TIME OF GATHERING

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

Welcome and Life Together

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

*Call to Worship

Leader: When the world around us seems to be shaking,

People: God's love is our foothold, which shall not be moved.

Leader: When the life within us is dry and parched,

People: God's word is our wellspring, our fount of living water.

All: Let us worship God!

A TIME FOR PRAISE AND CONFESSION

*Hymn of Praise #299 ***You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim***

HANOVER

- 1. You servants of God, your Master proclaim, and publish abroad Christ's wonderful name.
The name all victorious of Jesus extol, whose kingdom is glorious, who rules over all.*
- 2. Ascended on high, almighty to save, he still remains nigh; his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing, ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.*
- 3. "Salvation to God who sits on the throne!" Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim, fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.*
- 4. Then let us adore and give him his right: all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above, and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!*

Call to Confession

REV. CRAIG GOODRICH

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we thank you for your mercy, your forgiveness, your grace. We ask you now to search our hearts and try our thoughts and show us where we have fallen short. We confess, O Lord, that we want to be first, and that your call to servanthood has fallen on our deaf ears. We confess that we have not welcomed your beloved children as we ought and so we have not welcomed you. Forgive us, God of grace. In your mercy renew us with your courage, fill us with your love, that we may from this day forward, in the power of the Spirit, follow our Lord Jesus Christ.

A Moment for Silent Personal Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Receive your 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

REV. REX CHILDS

** Please stand if able*

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

GARY NORDBROCK

God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread. Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may grow in faith and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

First Reading

Psalm 1

PEW BIBLE PAGE 424

Our first reading this morning comes from the Book of Psalms. Hear now what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; ²but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. ³They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. ⁴The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. ⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; ⁶for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Response

Make Me a Servant

KELLY WILLARD

Make me a servant, humble and meek, Lord, let me lift up those who are weak; and may the prayer of my heart always be: make me a servant today.

Second Reading

Mark 9:30-37

PEW BIBLE PAGE 821

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. ³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Afraid to Ask"

REV. REX CHILDS

*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 Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal... 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.

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

When Peace Like a River

PHILIP BLISS

ARR. DALE GROTHENHUIS

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say: it is well, it is well with my soul. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul.

*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 #459

O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

- 1. O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.*
- 2. The church from you, dear Savior, received this gift divine;
and still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,
amid the rocks and quicksands still guides, O Christ, to you.*
- 3. O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold
to bear before the nations your true light, as of old;
O teach your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace,
till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see you face to face.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Toccata

GORDON YOUNG

Offering

Offering boxes and baskets are located near the exit doors.
You may also submit your offering by mail or online at www.fpcnaples.org/give.

Flower Dedication

The Chancel flowers are given by the three Hagerson daughters,
in honor of their mother, Shirley, on her 90th birthday.

Usher

Bill Kearney (head usher), Ned Camuti, Dottie Morse, Saralene Oldham, Patty Rutzler

Greeters

Pat Collins, Doris Frace, Nancy Kay, Karen Parker

Prayer List

*Linda Arsenault
Darryl Bernhardt
Megan Ford
Giraldo-Castano Family
Scott McCullough
Dominique O'Connell
Rick Podgorny
James Seibold

Corey Sheaf
Vanessa Uzupes-Owens
Geoff Wiswell
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

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.

Giving

Your gift has an impact on every aspect of our ministry. Our entire church community is grateful for your continued support of and belief in the mission of The First Presbyterian Church of Naples. You may give by using the donation boxes at the church exits, mailing your contribution to the church at 250 Sixth Street South, Naples, FL 34102, or give online through our secure website, www.fpcnaples.org/give. For information or questions regarding your giving, please contact Anna Focht, Director of Finance at annaf@fpcnaples.org.

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
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Osei Allen, Sound and Video Technician			
Caitlin Hancock, Sound and Video Technician			
Christian Education			
Jack Fogelman, Kidz Lab Teacher			
Audrey Gordon, Childcare Provider			
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Facilities			
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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

