

First Presbyterian Church of Inverness
September 22, 2024
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 20



— *Gathering* —

WELCOME

PRELUDE

DR. MARINA VEILER

INTROIT

“Be Still and Know”

CHANCEL CHOIR

OPENING SENTENCES

In this time set apart for worship, the Holy Spirit invites us:

Draw near to God, who is steady and sure.

Draw near to God, who welcomes those often overlooked.

Draw near to God, who draws us together, threads woven in a shared fabric of faith.

Let us worship the Lord!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Faithful God, you do not promise that following you will be easy, but you teach us that your way is one of peace, gentleness, and mercy, of welcome for all. Guide us by your wisdom and inspire us to embrace this way of living, so that we might draw near to you. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN #12**

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

***CONFESSION AND PARDON**

You told us, O Lord, that whoever wants to be first must be last and servant of all. Oh, how we long to be first, O God: to climb every ladder, frame every achievement, get every promotion, and obtain every glory. Oh, how we long to be first, O God, and oh, how we dread being last. Forgive us, O humble Christ, and by your forgiveness, teach us. Teach us to reframe our priorities. Teach us to be servants first, and to let our lives flow from a heart of faith. (Silent confession) Let all God's children say, Amen.

***SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE**

***GLORIA**

Halle, Halle, Halle

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

hal - le -

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le -

hal - le -

lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Fine

CHILDREN'S SERMON

LORI WOLFORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God of abundant grace, **hear our prayer.**

ANTHEM

"Only a Holy God"

CHANCEL CHOIR

— *Word* —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

PSALM READING

PSALM 1

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;
but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

**They 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.**

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement, nor sinners in the congregation of
the righteous, for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the
wicked will perish.**

GOSPEL READING
EPISTLE READING

Mark 9:30-37
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

SERMON

"Oh to Be Wise"

PASTOR LOU ELLEN HARTLEY

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #840

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives: O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought. My
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul;
It is well with my soul;

it is well; it is well with my soul.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

TRADITIONAL APOSTLES' CREED

— Eucharist (Giving Thanks) —

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY #609**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

— Sending —

***HYMN # 765**

May the God of Hope Go with Us



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
;Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a - ti, Se - ñor.

BLESSING AND CHARGE

POSTLUDE (WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO BE SEATED TO HEAR THE CLOSING MUSIC)

Church Staff and Contact Information

Church Office 352-637-0770, fpcinvooffice@gmail.com

Lou Ellen Hartley, Pastor – revhartley1000@gmail.com

Lori Wolford, Dir. of Outreach & Christian Education, dcelori.fpc@gmail.com

Lesa Shelton, Music Director

Marina Veiler, Organist

Danny Birstler, Sound Booth Coordinator

Vicki Oorbeck, Child Care Attendant

Laura Morrow, Office Administrator

Bruce Cook, Prayer Warrior

Danny Sullivan, Facilities Manager

Gary Oorbeck, Grounds |Maintenance |Security

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott, Parrish Associate for Visitation

Treasurer Email: fpcinvFinance@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

Closed on Friday

Our Elders

Class of 2024: Caryl Birstler (clerk), Alicia Downing, George Schumacher, Carolyn Smith

Class of 2025: Barbara Dee Cawley, Jerry Reynolds, Leah Robinson

Class of 2026: Barbara Caudill, Bruce Cook, Lesa Shelton, John Morrison

Our Deacons

Class of 2024: Wilma Abel, Sandy Boyette, Ron Shafer, Mary Beth Smith

Class of 2025: Toni Scott, Phoebe Schumacher, Amanda Morrison

Class of 2026: Ray Birstler, Donna Dublo, Nancy Harris, Adele Wardrup

WORSHIP FLOWERS

Nursery and Sunday School for All Ages

Infants and Pre-K

CE Hall, Room 2

Ms. Vicki

Elementary (K-5)

CE Hall, Room 4

Ms. Mary Beth

Men's Bible Study**

CE Hall, Room 5

Rev. Dr. Mark Scott

Adults

Library

Barbara Caudill

Secondary/Youth Group (6-12)

CE Hall, Room 5

Ms. Lori, Mr. Ron &

6:00 p.m.

Miss Krys

****Men's Bible Study will meet in the Youth Room (Room 5) on September 15 and 22, while the New Members Class meets in the Parlor.**

“SOCKTOBER”

The Youth Kids would like to invite the congregation to participate in their yearly “Socktober” event. We will be collecting socks and underwear for the Citrus County Homeless Coalition from **September 22nd through October 13th**. To kick-off their mission project, the kids invite everyone to *wear crazy socks to church next week!*

THE VOTE’S IN

The Thursday Bible Study Group voted to study I, II, and III John of the New Testament for the 2024 Fall session. **Time is 10:00 a.m., every Thursday, in our church Fellowship Hall. Starting date is September 26th**. What’s on *your* schedule for Thursday mornings? Come join this group for Bible study and lively discussion, fellowship, and the “cookie of the week.” A small group is a wonderful way to get acquainted within a church family. See you on the 26th?

SAVE THE DATES

Theology & Wine has kicked off our fall gatherings. They will meet on **October 3rd, November 7th, and December 5th**. There is a **sign-up sheet for October 3rd** in the narthex. We hope that you can join us!

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

On **October 6th**, the first Sunday of October, we will be collecting for the special offering, Peace & Global Witness. This coincides with our observance of World Communion Sunday.

The Peace & Global Witness Special Offering is used to support local, national, and global missions. The Peace & Global Witness Offering draws Presbyterians together and provides exposure to active peacemakers as well as education and resources to empower congregations and individuals to become peacemakers, themselves. These collective efforts support resources in dealing with conflict, provide nurturing reconciliation, and stand in support of our global siblings, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere.

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

On **Saturday, October 26th** the Christian Education and Outreach Committees will be hosting Trunk-or-Treat for our community. This year we will have a bounce house, games, and trick-or-treating. *Suzie Sweet Treats* will also be joining us as a fundraiser for our youth.

We need your help! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you would like to “host” with your car. We are also collecting candy to be given to our “hosts” to hand out as the children trick-or-treat. Candy donations can be dropped by the church office during the week or placed in the donation bucket in the narthex. We look forward to this wonderful annual event and hope you will join us!

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, September 22, 2024

- 9:00 Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:00 Men's Bible Discussion—Youth Room
- 9:00 New Members Class – Parlor
- 10:00 Sunday School-Children – CE Wing
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 6:00 Anchored Youth Group – Youth Room

Monday, September 23, 2024

- 5:30 Boy Scouts

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

- *9:00 Blessings
- 10:00 Prayer Gathering – Parlor
- 11:00 Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 5:30 Session – Library
- 5:30 Deacons – Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 Boy Scout Leadership Meeting – The Gathering Place

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

- *9:00 Blessings
- 9:00 Staff Meeting
- 10:00 – 12:00 Rock of Agers – FH**
- 6:00 – 7:00 Cub Scout Recruiting – FH**

Thursday, September 26, 2024

- *9:00 Blessings
- 10:00 Thursday Bible Study - Library

Friday, September 27, 2024

Saturday, September 28, 2024

- 10:00 – 11:30 CCCC Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 2:00 – Chuck Christoffers Celebration of Life followed by a Reception in the FH**

Sunday, September 29, 2024

- 9:00 Adult Sunday School - Library
- 9:00 Men's Bible Discussion—Parlor
- 10:00 Sunday School-Children – CE Wing
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 6:00 Anchored Youth Group

*Outside Groups

** FH = Fellowship Hall

A SPECIAL

Thank You

TO THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ushers

*Ben & Nancy Harris
Jerry Reynolds*

Ask Me Desk

*Maxine Henderson
Sandra Koonce*



*But the wisdom
that comes from heaven
is first of all pure;
then peace-loving,
considerate,
submissive,
full of mercy
& good fruit,
impartial & sincere.*

James 3:17