



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

695 E. Calvin Street, Fayetteville, AR 72703 • (479) 442-4411 • www.fupcfay.org

September 24, 2023

8:30 a.m.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Phil Butin

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE

The Road Home
Music by Joseph M. Martin

Isaac Thomas, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP (base on Micah 6:8)

Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord:
Hear our voice and answer our prayers!
What does the Holy One require of us?
To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

*HYMN 741 (verses 1, 3, 5)

Guide My Feet
African American Spiritual

Glory to God

**Guide my feet while I run this race; guide my feet while I run this race;
Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Stand by me while I run this race; stand by me while I run this race;
Stand by me while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Search my heart while I run this race; search my heart while I run this race;
Search my heart while I run this race, for I don't want to run this race in vain.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison, seated*)

Amanda McDonald

*HYMN 693

Though I May Speak
Words and Music by Hal H. Hopson

Glory to God

**Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire, and have not love, my
words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**

**Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by love
within, the profit soon, turns strangely thin.**

(silent confession)

**Come Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love
guide every deed; by this we worship and are freed.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ has come into the world to save sinners, bearing our sins in his body on the cross that we
might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good.

Friends, believe in the good news. **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE (to the tune of *Though I May Speak*)

Glory to God

**A new command: Our love may be, the sign by which, the world will see that we belong to
Christ the one whose love has birthed, new life begun.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S SONG 591 (refrain only) *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

Words by Marty Haugen; Caribbean Melody; Arranged by John L. Bell

Glory to God

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Halle hallelujah!

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Jan Butin

ANTHEM

Embrace the Cross (I Am Crucified with Christ)

Words and Music by John G. Elliott

Cole Jackson, solo
Isaac Thomas, piano

I am crucified with Christ, therefore I no longer live,
Jesus Christ now lives in me.
Embrace the cross, where Jesus suffered,
though it will cost all you claim as yours.
Your sacrifice will seem small beside the treasure,
eternity can't measure what Jesus has in store.
Embrace the love, the cross requires,
Cling to the One whose heart knew every pain.
Receive from Jesus fountains of compassion,
only He can fashion your heart to move as His.
O wondrous cross, our desires rest in you,
O Lord Jesus, make us bolder to face with courage
The shame and disgrace you bore upon your shoulders.
Embrace the life that comes from dying,
come trace the steps the Savior walked for you.
An empty tomb concludes Golgotha's sorrow,
endure then 'til tomorrow, your cross of suffering.
Embrace the cross, the cross of Jesus.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING:

Galatians 2

¹⁵ We ourselves are Jews by birth and not gentile sinners, ¹⁶ yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through the faith of Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by the faith of Christ and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. ¹⁷ But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! ¹⁸ But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. ¹⁹ For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ, ²⁰ and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

SERMON

Searching for Justice

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (adapted from *The Confession of Belhar*)

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation and unity is both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ.

We believe that this unity of people must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways, such as: that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we need one another and build-up one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.

We believe that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

We believe that the credibility of this message is seriously affected, and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the separation of people perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity.

We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

We believe that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which permits unjust ideology in the name of the gospel.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Kristi Button

OFFERTORY

Goin' Home

Isaac Thomas, piano

African American Spiritual; Arranged by Antonín Dvořák and Joseph M. Martin

*RESPONSE 735 (verse 1)

I Need Thee Every Hour

Glory to God

Words by Annie S. Hawks; Music by Robert Lowry

**I need thee every hour, most gracious Lord; no tender voice like thine can peace afford.
I need thee, O I need thee, every hour I need thee!
O bless me now, my Savior, I come to thee!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Kristi Button

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Revs. Phil and Jan Butin

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy... Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices to the glory of your name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty... We offer ourselves to you... Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ has risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit... Send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.
Amen.

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION
BREAKING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Rev. Phil Butin

God, in your grace, **you hear our 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

***HYMN 415** (verses 1, 3) *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* Glory to God
Words by Joseph Hart; Music from *Walker's Southern Harmony*, 1835

**Come ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore.
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.
I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.**

**Come ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.
I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.**

***BENEDICTION** Amanda McDonald

POSTLUDE *Hymn to the Fallen* Isaac Thomas, piano
Music by John Williams

*(Our worship continues through the Postlude.
If you need to leave, please do so quietly. Otherwise, please remain seated.)*

PASTORS AND STAFF

Phil and Jan Butin, Co-Pastors
Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education
Cathy Hairston, Director of First School
Hyun Kim, Guest Organist
Stacey Luebker, Financial Administrator
Amanda McDonald, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries
Yesenia Nevarez, Interim Office Manager
Amy Rossetti, Communications Coordinator
Isaac Thomas, Director of Music Ministries
Christopher Verdery, Audio-Visual Coordinator
Xiao Yang, Choral Accompanist

INTERNS

Ceci Allen, Cole Jackson, Jeffrey Kurst, Isabelle Pennick

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH SPEAKERS

Amanda McDonald, Jan Butin, Lindley Ramsey, Ceci Allen,
Jeffrey Kirst, Isaac Thomas, Phil Butin, Kristi Button