



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

June 16, 2024

8:30 a.m.

GATHERING

(Please use this time to prepare reflectively for worship.)

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Jan Butin

PRELUDE

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
Music by John Hughes Arranged by Gina Sprunger

Isaac Thomas, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP (From Isaiah 43)

The Lord says: Don't get stuck in the past, or dwell on what happened long ago.

Watch for the new thing that I am doing! It's happening already!

You can already catch a glimpse of it!

I will make a way in the wilderness,
And give you streams of water in the desert.

**We are the people you made for yourself,
And we will sing your praises!**

*HYMN 2117 (verses 1, 4, 5)

Spirit of God
Words and Music by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Sing the Faith

**Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin, blow as you always do; create us anew.
Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing, held in your hands, borne on your wings.
Alleluia, Come, Spirit, come! Alleluia, Come, Spirit, come!**

**Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name, the power to heal, to share your love
everywhere. We cannot fail or fall, or know defeat at all, held in your hands, borne on your
wings. Alleluia, Come, Spirit, come! Alleluia, Come, Spirit, come!**

**Spirit of God in all, we gladly hear your call, the life in our hands that sings, the power of your
wings. Born of your grace we rise, love shining in our eye, held in your hands, borne on your
wings. Alleluia, Come, Spirit, come! Alleluia, Come, Spirit, come!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*seated, unison*)

Everlasting God, you created us for yourself, and you've lavished your blessings on us—your beloved people—again and again. You've always been with us and the church we love. You are with us now. And we know you'll always be with us. You'll never let us go. But we confess that too often, we find ourselves looking over our shoulders—thinking about what happened in the past—instead of what you're doing right now in our midst. Forgive us, gracious God. By your Spirit, fill us with expectant hope as we watch eagerly for the new things that you promise you'll do among us in the days, months, and years to come. For we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.
(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

*RESPONSE 2162

Grace Alone
Words and Music by Scott Wesley Brown and Jeff Nelson

Sing the Faith

**Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,
every difference we will make is only by his grace.
Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,
every blessing left behind is only by his grace.**

[Refrain] **Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide.
Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.**

**Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,
everywhere we share his peace is only by his grace.
Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,
every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace.** [Refrain]

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Words by Robert Robinson; Music by Craig Courtney

Choral Interns
Xiao Yang, piano

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Phil Butin

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 15:36-16:12

After some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Come, let us return and visit the believers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." ³⁷Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. ³⁸But Paul decided not to take with them one who had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not accompanied them in the work. ³⁹The disagreement became so sharp that they parted company; Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus. ⁴⁰But Paul chose Silas and set out, the believers commending him to the grace of the Lord. ⁴¹He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. **16** Paul went on also to Derbe and to Lystra, where there was a disciple named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer; but his father was a Greek. ²He was well spoken of by the believers in Lystra and Iconium. ³Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him; and he took him and had him circumcised because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. ⁴As they went from town to town, they delivered to them for observance the decisions that had been reached by the apostles and elders who were in Jerusalem. ⁵So the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily. ⁶They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. ⁷When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; ⁸so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. ⁹During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over into Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. ¹¹We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

SERMON

Cultivating Flexibility

Rev. Phil Butin

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "A Declaration of Faith")

Amanda McDonald

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God kept his promises. All that we can ever hope for was present in Christ. But the work of God in Christ is not over. God calls us to hope for more than we have yet seen. The hope God gives us is ultimate confidence that supports us when lesser hopes fail us. In Christ God gives hope for a new heaven and earth, certainty of victory over death, assurance of mercy and judgment beyond death. This hope gives us courage for the present challenges we face!

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Divenire (to become)
Music by Ludovico Einaudi

Isaac Thomas, piano

*RESPONSE 647

Give Thanks
Words and Music by Henry Smith

Glory to God

**Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.
And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say, "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Amanda McDonald

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

Isaac Thomas and
Jan Butin, officiants

It is truly right and our greatest joy... Therefore, we praise you, saying
**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!**

You are holy, O God of majesty... Great is the mystery of faith.
Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us... Send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.
Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND SHARING OF THE CUP

(After you receive the elements, please use this time prayerfully and reflectively.)

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

The gifts of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, in your grace. **You hear our prayer.**

Kristi Button

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.

SENDING

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Jan Butin

*HYMN 485

We Know That Christ is Raised

Glory to God

Words by John Brownlow Geyer; Music by Charles Villiers Stanford

**We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold
And our despair he turned to blazing joy. Alleluia!**

**We share by water in his saving death. Reborn we share with him an Easter life
As living members of a living Christ. Alleluia!**

**The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The spirit's power shakes the church of God.
Baptized we live with God the Three in One. Alleluia!**

**A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.
The universe, restored and whole, will sing. Alleluia!**

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Phil Butin

POSTLUDE

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Isaac Thomas, piano

Music by William M. Runyan;
Arranged by Robin R. Mains and Dino Kartsonakis

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

Participants

Revs. Phil and Jan Butin, Co-Pastors
Isaac Thomas, Minister of Music/Commissioned Ruling Elder
Xiao Yang, Choral Accompanist
Kristi Button, Director of Christian Education
Amanda McDonald, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries
Christopher Verdery, Connor Button, and Drew Parker, Audio/Visual Team
Amy McCann, Membership Coordinator
Mindy Mock, Childcare Coordinator

Music and lyrics reprinted by permission, CCLI No. 2834670; CCLI Streaming License #20176939.
All scriptures from NRSV.