

The Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 4, 2022  
10:00 am

## **A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Amanda Avery*

PRELUDE

*Dr. Renee Huff*

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: At this hour, in small towns and big cities, in single rooms and ornate sanctuaries, many of our sibling Presbyterian congregations are also gathering.

**P: As we come into this space of hope and healing, let us remember that we are part of a great community of faith.**

L: We gather to be inspired by stories of love, justice, service, and truth.

**P: We gather to be touched by stories of hope and faith.**

\*HYMN #661 "Why Should I Feel Discouraged?"

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**P: Eternal God, we recognize that Your ways are mysterious. Teach us to be still and to wait for You. We confess our sinfulness, our need for control, and our discomfort with the unknown. Instead of turning to You, we numb our pain with temporary distractions. We pretend to have our lives together when we really feel inadequate and insecure. Thank You for Your patience with us when we are slow to recognize Your activity in our lives. You never give up on us, O Lord. God of grace, You show up in our lives in the most unexpected ways. Surprise us this week with an**

**awareness of Your presence. Replace our fear with trust. Turn our anxiety into wonder. As we come to you in silence, give us Your peace and joy as we live by faith and not by sight.**

L: In the strong Name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*- Silent Confession -*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**\*THE GLORIA #581 "Glory Be to the Father"**

**\*RECONCILIATION WITH ONE ANOTHER**

L: May the Peace of Christ be with you!

**P: And also with you!**

**THE FIRST READING**

Job 2:1-16

L: This is the Word of the Lord!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**THE SECOND READING**

Matthew 6:25-33

L: This is the Word of the Lord!

**P: Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON** "The Theology of Uncertainty" *Rev. Onnie*

**WE OFFER OUR GIFTS**

Call

The Anthem

The Doxology #606

*Old Hundredth*

The Dedication

**WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS**

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

*Hymnal pg. 35*

**+ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD +**

**\*HYMN #684** (spoken by all; see next page)

- V1:** Faith begins by letting go, giving up what had seemed sure, taking risks and pressing on, though the way feels less secure: pilgrimage both right and odd, trusting all our life to God.
- V2:** Faith endures by holding on, keeping memory's roots alive so that hope may bear its fruit; promised, our souls will thrive, not through merit we possess but by God's great faithfulness.
- V3:** Faith matures by reaching out, stretching minds, enlarging hearts, sharing struggles, living prayer, binding up the broken parts, till we find the common place ripe with witness to God's grace.

**\*BLESSING**

**\*POSTLUDE**

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PLEASE WELCOME REV. JANET ONNIE** to our pulpit today. Rev. Onnie has supplied pulpits, trained congregations in Lay Pastoral Care, and facilitated workshops on organizational and leadership development and conflict management. As an outspoken supporter of professional clergy, Rev. Onnie has served as a mentor and intern supervisor to ministers in formation and a good officer to troubled ministries. She was named Minister Emerita of the Tri-County Unitarian Universalists (FL) and served first, as treasurer, then as President of the Florida Chapter of the UU Ministers Association. As a founder of and contributor to interfaith organizations, she is a passionate advocate for social justice issues in cooperation with interfaith partners and allies, and is a frequent contributor to newspapers and public forums. She is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Christian Fellowship.

Rev. Onnie retired to Staunton, Virginia in January 2021, where she continues to supply local pulpits and, via Zoom, pulpits nationwide. She has recently completed service as sabbatical minister for a congregation in Canada. She also revived her pre-ministerial career as a professional musician, serving as volunteer coordinator for the Staunton Music Festival and playing with the Flutes of the Shenandoah.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (cont.)**

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** tomorrow, Monday, September 5, for Labor Day.

**HEIDI IS ON VACATION** until Tuesday, September 13. Fay Knicley will fill in during this time.

**THERE WILL BE A SESSION MEETING** Tuesday, September 13 at 7:00pm at the church.

**CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES** will be held at 11:00am beginning Sunday, September 18, Evangelism Sunday, and thereafter. Lunch will be served immediately after church in the Fellowship Hall. Please come for fellowship and an update on what's happening at First Presbyterian Church!

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**Elders**

Sam Clem, Amanda Avery, Mary Meade, Ron Lowman

**Staff**

Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music  
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager  
Mona Tate, Nursery Attendant  
Charlie Trumbo, Buildings and Grounds

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