

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Offering plates will be passed to persons seated in pews. Gifts/pledges may also be sent to First Presbyterian Church by mail or through the "Giving" link on our website: <https://www.fpcjc.com/giving>

OFFERTORY *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian...* by Dan R. Edwards

***DOXOLOGY** (Offertory Response, Hymn #606)

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT #65** *"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"*
(Verses 1-3)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #748** "Go with Us Lord"
**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.**

POSTLUDE *Postlude in G...* by Gerald Peterson

***People stand as they are able.**

Notice of Filming: Worship services are filmed and recorded to be included on our Church website, Facebook, YouTube, etc. While most footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. Children during children's sermons may be seen. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We strive to be a loving family of faith nurturing the spiritual growth of one another as we serve, worship, and reach out in celebration of Christ's Love.

(A) Ordinary 24

September 17, 2023

PRELUDE *Songs of Hope...* by Lani Smith

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS– Chris Heldstab

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #403 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"
**Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (please remain seated)

Leader: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;

People: our God is full of compassion.

Leader: Let us walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #35** *"Praise to the Lord the Almighty"* (Verses 1-3)

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our redeemer.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**People: In the grace and love of God, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS** *Gloria Patri* *Hymn #581*

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

***THE PEACE**

Leader: As those who have been forgiven, let us forgive our brothers
and sisters. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Deacons

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

**Almighty God, you call your church to witness that in Christ we
are reconciled to you. Help us to proclaim the good news of your
love, so that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Romans 14: 1-12

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Christian Educ. Committee

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 18: 21-35

SERMON

Rev. Kelly Pittman

"Forgiving Living"

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN #444** *"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"* (Verses 1-4)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Leader: In quietness and darkness, in peace and confusion,
Jesus Christ wants to make his home and meet his friends.
He is the light of life:

People: He is the hope for the world.

Leader: In him there is neither Jew nor Gentile,
neither Roman Catholic nor Protestant;

People: All are one in Jesus Christ.

Leader: He is the light of life:

People: He is the hope of the world.

Leader: In him there is neither black nor white,
neither north nor south;

People: All are one in Jesus Christ.

Leader: He is the light of life:

People: He is the hope of the world.

Leader: In him there is neither male nor female,
neither master nor servant;

People: All are one in Jesus Christ.

Leader: He is the light of life:

People: He is the hope of the world.

Leader: He is the light of life:

People: He is the hope of the world.

The Iona Community Worship Book
Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 1991

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Congregational Response (sung)

**Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline thine ear to us; And grant us thy peace. Amen.**



- **Our members and friends who are living in nursing home, assisted living or are partially or fully "home-bound"**
- **Roger Lawson**
- **Pete Young**
- **Tim Sullivan (Danette Story's brother) and all those battling cancer**

We encourage you to pray for these friends – send them a note, call or visit them. Addresses and phone numbers can be obtained from the church office. Send your prayer requests, concerns and updates to office.fpcjc@gmail.com

Thanks to those who have assisted in this morning's worship:

Pastor: Position Vacant

Worship Leader: Susan Erichsen

Chancel Choir Director: Joe Markley

Music Coordinator and Handbell Director: Sheila Markley

Organist: Rhoda Frasier

Video Preparer/Operator/Sound: Colleen Smith

Key Deacon for Sept. transportation: Jennifer Lankas (785-320-3035)

Elder on call the week of Sept. 17th: Susan Erichsen (785-223-3100)

Head Usher for September 17th: Bob Haynes

Children are welcome in worship. We welcome all children and youth to stay during the worship service and experience God. If you need your young child to go to the nursery, our caretakers are ready to receive them.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are provided by Barby Craft to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mel & Margaret Cowen and Preston & Irene Craft.

Today we welcome Rev. Kelly Pittman to our pulpit. Kelly has been a Teaching Elder in the PC(USA) since 2013. She currently serves in a validated call as Chaplain and Volunteer Coordinator at Good Shepherd Homecare and Hospice in Manhattan. She is also active in the Presbytery of Northern Kansas and is currently serving on the Commission on Ministry. She and her family moved to Kansas from Michigan in 2020.

Can you host Cookie Fellowship? Dates are open beginning with November 5th. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from the kitchenette. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Annette Ray at 785-210-4490 or Jenna Langvardt at 785-61-5815.

The noon bible study will begin on September 20th, with Elaine Dill leading a study called "Importance of the Holy Spirit." This class meets from 12:30 to 1:30 pm in room 206.

Acolyte training will take place Wednesday, September 20th during JAM for 1st through 5th grade.

Junction City Blood Drive

Wednesday, September 20th – 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 21st – 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

@ The Junction City Municipal Building. Please sign up at www.redcrossblood.org, call 1-800-733-2767 or download the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

Pathfinder Sunday School Class to begin Fall Classes on September 10th

The class will meet each Sunday morning in Room 206 at 9:30 am. The first six weeks of the class will feature material from "Jesus...The God Who Knows Your Name" by Max Lucado.

This six session Bible Study combines video and a Study Guide with class discussion. In Max Lucado's words "the purpose of this study is simple--to get to know Jesus; you will study who Jesus was while he walked on this earth and what that means for your life today". If this material is of interest to you, please join us for some or all of the classes!

If you have information you would like in the **bulletin**, please let the church office know by **noon on Wednesday** for that week. You may call 238-1191 or email your info to office.fpcjc@gmail.com

If you have anything you would like to put into the **October** newsletter, please email the information to the church office no later than **September 23rd, 2023**. Our email address is office.fpcjc@gmail.com.

Church services are streamed at: <https://www.fpcjc.com>. You will also find links to our Facebook page and YouTube on this webpage. The worship bulletin can be found at <https://www.fpcjc.com/publications>.

When inclement weather is forecast there are three ways you can find out if the church worship service has been cancelled: WIBW (website or T.V.), our First Presbyterian Church-Junction City Facebook page, and-if we have your email address-email from the church.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Monday

7:00 pm Cub Scouts

Tuesday

7:00 pm Session

Wednesday

12:30 pm Noon Bible Study
6:30 pm MS/HS Youth Group
6:30 pm JAM (Acolyte Training 1st-5th grade only)
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Sunday

9:30 am Sunday School (all ages)
10:45 am Worship, childcare available
Coffee Fellowship



Sunday School begins 9:30 a.m. — 10:30 a.m.

Our Sunday School Lessons are themed with the Growing in God Bible. Our Youth Education Coordinator, Dawn Avery, has created Units that pertain to the Life of Jesus and His followers. It's going to be one incredible season!

- September 17th-October 15th -- **Jesus: Beginnings**
- October 22-November 12th -- **Who Is Jesus**
- November 19th -- **More Parables Jesus Told/Advent Lesson**
- **Every Sunday -- Chat with the Children** will be hosted by your Christian Education Committee Members

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS to Place on YOUR Calendars!

Jesus and Me (JAM) is held every Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. *(unless otherwise noted due to other scheduling) * Scripture Lessons, Crafts, Games and of course SNACKS! Meet in room 109 to join all the JAM kids for this fun Wednesday youth activity.

MS/HS Youth Group is held every Wednesday evening 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

October 8 - Socktober! Socktober is a nationwide movement to collect socks for people who are currently experiencing homelessness, poverty and to show that we care for our elders in local Nursing Facilities. STAY TUNED for the 3rd - 5th **Grade Sunday School Youth** to share their exciting Service Project! Donating a pair of socks makes a bigger difference than some may think and socks are the **most needed & least donated** item to shelters.

Sunday, October 15 — Middle School/High School Youth will lead the Worship Service.

Wednesday, October 25 — Trunk or Treat! Reserve your Manse Parking Lot SPOT now! Contact Dawn: edcoordinator.fpcjcgmail.com or 785-238-1191. What will your theme be this year?

Wednesday, December 13 — JAM Caroling Party

Sunday, December 17 — Our Sunday School and JAM Youth will present a Christmas Pageant during our worship hour, "**A Very Mixed-Up Christmas**"

Cleanliness is next to Godliness! It's no *Secret* the Deacons are **REACH**ing out for your help! We **Aim** to collect 300 toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, travel size deodorants, and various feminine hygiene products to donate to the schools in USD 475.

Look for the red tub in the Narthex and drop off your items any time until Sunday October 1.

We **SURE** will appreciate it!

