

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our  
Lord.**

from The Book of Confessions  
Presbyterian Church (USA)

### **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**

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

### **\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

#### **GO IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT #462** *I Love to tell the Story* (Verses 1 & 3)

### **\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

### **\*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #748**

**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**

**\*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 29**

**October 22, 2023**

**Annual Campaign: Use of Talents (Week 2)**

### **PRELUDE**

#### **GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sheila Markley

### **CHORAL INTROIT**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP (please remain seated)**

Leader: No matter how far from God we seem to be,  
we do not lose heart:

**People: For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

Leader: No matter how many obstacles we face in life,  
in the church, we do not lose heart:

**People: For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

Leader: No matter how hard it is to continually pray and  
work for justice, we do not lose heart:

**People: For the days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when I will forgive and restore my people;  
when I will equip them for every good work;  
and when I will grant justice,  
for I hear their cries day and night.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE #366**

*Love Divine*

(Verses 1, 3 & 4)

### **\*THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on your  
commands and teachings all day long. We do not keep your word**

before us always and in all things. Instead, we turn away from your demanding truth and wander toward easier options. Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours. Forgive us for growing weary in following you; for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice; for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world. Tune our ears to the sound of your justice. Turn our hearts to your commandments and word of grace. Do not remember our sin, but remember your mercy forever. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

**\*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 STEWARDSHIP**

*Use of Talents*  
Worship Committee

**MINUTE FOR MISSION**

Update from the Transitional Pastor Search Committee

**PRAYER FOR THE DAY**

**Eternal God, you remain constant through all of our striving, and**

**patient with our ceaseless prayers. We seek your wisdom, yearn for your justice, and crave your blessing, for our own sakes and for the sake of the world. By the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Christ, who prays with us. Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON**

*Psalm 78:2-4*

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Living Water...by Larson*

**TIME FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Christian Education Committee

**THE SECOND LESSON**

*Matthew 13: 10-17*

**SERMON**

*Learning through Parables*

Elder, Clarke Sanders

**RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*HYMN #458**

*Thy Word is a Lamp*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe that God has not waited to be discovered.**

**The Lord has taken the initiative**

**and addressed his word to human kind in many ways.**

**God's story is still unfolding**

**and in faith we make it our own.**

**It forms our memory and our hope.**

**It tells us who we are and what we are to do.**

**We trust in God, who,**

**like a mother will not forsake her nursing child,**

**like a father runs to welcome the prodigal home.**



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

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](mailto:office.fpcjc@gmail.com)

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

**Pastor:** Position Vacant

**Worship Leader:** Vanessa Osbourn

**Chancel Choir Director:** Joe Markley

**Music Coordinator and Handbell Director:** Sheila Markley

**Organist:** Matthew Pickering

**Video Preparer/Operator/Sound:** Colleen Smith

**Key Deacon for October transportation:** Carolyn Zumbrunn (785-209-1597)

**Elder on call for the week of Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Brenda Edleston (785-410-3959)

**Head Usher for October 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Rick Munson

**Coffee Fellowship** this week is hosted by: Randy & Chris Heldstab

**Acolytes** this week are: McKinleigh Blaisdell & Ally Lankas

**The flower arrangement in the sanctuary this morning** is provided by the Munson Family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Gaylord and Jo Munson.

**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.

**We want to welcome Elder Clarke Sanders as our pulpit supply today.**

Clarke comes to us today from Salina. He is a lifelong Presbyterian and a 38-year member of Sunrise Presbyterian where he has served as an Elder, Deacon and Sunday School teacher. He has been married for 43 years to Lillian and they have three adult children: Gina, Miles and Emily and 11 grandchildren with one on the way. He is retired from KSAL Radio and is currently a State Representative in the Kansas Legislature.

**Can you host Cookie Fellowship?** Dates are open beginning with November 5<sup>th</sup>. 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 785-761-5815.

**The Deacons are happy to let you know that our church is a drop-off location for the Winter Coat Drive for the schools in our community.**

A box was placed at the west door for coats to be dropped off. The Coat Drive is from now until November 17<sup>th</sup>. While your Deacons will be buying 40 or more coats to be donated to this drive in our church's name, you may also want to donate a new coat. If you would rather do a monetary donation on a Sunday, just write in your check memo area that it is for the Deacon's Winter Coat Drive.

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](mailto:office.fpcjc@gmail.com)

If you have anything you would like to put into the **December** newsletter, please email the information to the church office no later than **November 23, 2023**. Our email address is [office.fpcjc@gmail.com](mailto: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

1:00 pm Communications Committee

##### Wednesday

12:30 pm Noon Bible Study

6:00 pm Trunk or Treat

6:30 pm Chancel Choir

6:30 pm MS/HS Youth Group

8:00 pm AA Meeting

##### Sunday

8:30 A.M. Glory Ringers Practice

9:30 A.M. Sunday School (all ages)

10:45 A.M. Worship (Hymn Sing Sunday), childcare available

After Service Coffee Fellowship

## Thanksgiving Help

The community-wide free Thanksgiving Dinner will be held this year with some changes. We will be serving dinner by **delivery\***, **inside pickup\***, or **in-person dining**. If you would like to/can donate a 20–25-pound turkey let me know. Or you can donate \$25.00 and I will purchase the turkey. Please make checks out to First Presbyterian Church and put “Thanksgiving Dinner” in the memo.

Questions: [skilpatrick@cox.net](mailto:skilpatrick@cox.net) or 785-762-2780

If you are willing to work in any way, please sign the slip below, indicating the hours you are available and give it to Margaret Kilpatrick or drop it off in the church office. Thank you.

I will work 9:00 am-11:00 am, Monday, November 20, 2023

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I will work 8:00 am-1:00 pm, Tuesday, November 21, 2023

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I will work 9:00 am-12:00 pm, Wednesday, November 22, 2023

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I will work 8:00 am-2:30 pm, Thursday, November 23, 2023

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### Our Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2023

Pickup time: 10:30am – 11:30am (inside the church-enter rear door)

Dine-in time: 12:00pm – 1:30pm

**\*(pickup/delivery only for those who have reserved a meal)**

## Bearing Fruit for Jesus!

“Fruitful Use of Talents” is our Stewardship Campaign theme for this week.

*God has blessed us with talents and abilities which we are to use to carry out his purposes.*

Our talents can be used to extend his Kingdom and in service to others. We pray that the Bible studies and sermon messages during the program **Bearing Fruit for Jesus!** will help you to grow first in your relationship with our Lord and then in your serving and giving. Next week we focus on ways we can bear fruit with our money. Please bring your commitment cards to church by November 5. See you in church!



## Hymn Sing October 29 - “My Favorite Hymn (and why)”

Our hymn sing on October 29 will be based on your favorite hymn, but different than other hymn sings, we are asking you to do two things: 1) write out the hymn number and title in the form below and 2) write a brief explanation as to why this is your favorite hymn. Please turn your selections in to the office. You may also turn this information in by email:

[office.fpcjc@gmail.com](mailto:office.fpcjc@gmail.com).

All submissions are due by Sunday, October 22. We can't guarantee we will use all submissions, but we will do our best to.

Name (optional)

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Hymn # \_\_\_\_\_

Hymn Title \_\_\_\_\_

Why this hymn is so meaningful to you:

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**You are invited to our CHURCH WIDE JAM event  
TRUNK or TREAT!**

**When:** Wednesday, October 25th

**Where:** Manse Parking lot (west of the church)

**Time:** Vehicle Setup @ 6:00 pm

JAM kids will come out together at 6:20 pm

**Decorate your vehicle and share some fun with  
our JAM kids! They love this EVENT!**



Please provide **PACKAGED** candy/treats for our Trick or Treaters and **DROP CANDY** in bags.



**Please notify Dawn Avery or Sign-Up on the "Youth Ministry" Board, located in the Narthex, so we know we have plenty of FUN lined up for our kids! You can reach Dawn at [edcoordinator.fpcjc@gmail.com](mailto:edcoordinator.fpcjc@gmail.com) or 785-238-1191**

## Operation Christmas Child is coming!

Operation Christmas Child is a global mission that is organized by Samaritan's Purse. We will be collecting shoeboxes with various items for a child to receive. There is more information on what can be included in the narthex and online at [operationchristmaschild.org](http://operationchristmaschild.org).

Boxes are available to use in the narthex, as well as a flyer to better explain the process.

We hope you'll join us this year in spreading the love of Christ around the world. It is needed now more than ever! Team up with a friend, have the kids help with ideas!

Our goal for this year is at least 10 boxes! Boxes can be brought to church on Sundays or left in the church office through Nov. 12th!

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### OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS to Place on YOUR Calendars!

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

**Wednesday, December 20** — JAM Caroling Party

