



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



"You will be made strong by the words of the faith and the good teaching which you have been following. But do not follow foolish stories that disagree with God's truth, but train yourself to serve God. Training your body helps you in some ways, but serving God helps you in every way by bringing you blessings in this life and in the future life, too."

1 Timothy 4:6b-8 (NCV)

Sunday, September 27, 2026
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

All are welcome in this sacred space, including the wiggles and giggles!

◆ **PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

*Please be seated, silence all devices, and **prepare yourself for worship.***

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Murray

PRELUDE

Wayfarin' Stranger arr. McDonald

Mary Dailey

~~~ **GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE** ~~~

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

Dorothy Hagan

*Come, you who are busy and you who are tired.*

**We come seeking a different rhythm.**

*Come, you who have too much to do*

*and those who wonder if you are doing enough.*

**We come remembering that our worth  
is not measured by our productivity.**

*Come, you who carry responsibilities,  
relationships, expectations, and worries.*

**We come to lay them before God.**

*Hear, O people of God: the Lord is one.*

**We will love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength.**

*Let us worship the One who calls us to a life rooted in love.*

**Let us cultivate a life with Christ.**

◆ SHARING THE PEACE

*The Peace of Christ be with you! **And also, with you!***

◆ HYMN 702

*Christ Be Beside Me*

Congregation

~~~ **LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD** ~~~

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dorothy Hagan

SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NRSVUE)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *We Are Called* arr. by Hayes

Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we confess that we often confuse being busy with being faithful. We fill our calendars but neglect our souls. We answer every notification but ignore the people beside us. We pursue success while forgetting what gives our lives meaning.

Forgive us when we have treated rest as laziness, boundaries as selfishness, and saying “no” as failure. Teach us again the holy wisdom of limits. Help us recognize that we are creatures, not machines; people, not products; beloved children, not projects that must constantly be improved.

Give us courage to release what does not belong to us and faithfulness to embrace what does. Cultivate within us lives shaped by love — love of you, love of neighbor, love of creation, and healthy love of ourselves. Amen.

HYMN 578

O Lord, Have Mercy

Congregation

O Lord, have mercy (x3); have mercy on us.

O Christ, have mercy (x3); have mercy on us.

SHARING GOD’S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Dorothy Hagan

...In Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and invited to begin again.

So release the guilt. Receive the grace. And trust that God's Spirit is still cultivating something beautiful within you.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

◆ HYMN 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* Congregation
**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace
has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in
the beginning, is now and ever shall be.**

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Timothy 4:4-16 (NCV) Pastor Murray
This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.**

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

MESSAGE                      *Priorities & Boundaries*  
Sermon Series "Cultivate"

HYMN 697 (vs. 1-4)                      *Take My Life*                      Congregation

~~~ RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD ~~~

OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY *Faithfulness* arr. by Hayes Chancel Choir

◆ HYMN 606 *Doxology* Congregation
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**



◆ PRAYER OF DEDICATION Pastor Murray

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Written by the Reverend Jonathan Murray for "Cultivate"*
**We believe in God, who creates us, loves us, and calls us to grow in
faith. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Lord, who lived
among us, showed us God's love, welcomed the stranger, served the
hurting, and calls us to follow his way. We believe that Christ died
and was raised, and that through him we are invited into new life.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who lives among us and within us, teaching, guiding, challenging, and transforming us as we grow in the way of Christ. We believe in the church, where faith is learned and lived — where we worship, pray, study, serve, forgive, and encourage one another to grow. We believe in forgiveness when we fall and in the promise of new life when we begin again. Therefore, we commit ourselves to cultivate a life with Christ: to abide in his love, to learn his way, to embody his teachings, and to share his love with the world. This is our faith. This is the life we cultivate together. Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 and ever. Amen

◆ **HYMN 688 (vs. 1, 4 & 5)** *Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* Congregation

~~~ CARRYING GOD’S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD’S WORLD ~~~

◆ **BENEDICTION**

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE *They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

Mary Dailey

What invitation is God prompting us to extend?

Today’s Service

Music

Mary Dailey, Chancel Choir

Liturgist

Dorothy Hagan

Trustee

Roy Gibson

Ushers

Kathleen Christen, Mary Doner, Jim & Lynda Kizer

Flowers

Jim & Lynda Kizer “In honor of our 64th wedding anniversary”

OPEN DOOR CIRCLE

All Women of FPCL Are Welcome

— Faith • Fellowship • Service —

I was glad
when they said to me,
"Let us go
to the house
of the Lord."
Psalm 122:1



**3rd Thursday
of Each Month**



10:30 a.m.



**Shabby Sheep Room
(4th Floor)**

GROWING TOGETHER IN FAITH

Open Door Circle is a community of women who gather for prayer, Bible study, friendship, and service.

Join Us!

Build friendships, deepen your faith, and support ministries that make a difference in our community.

MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT



MEALS
ON WHEELS



SCHOOL
BACKPACK PROJECT



CHURCH
MISSION INITIATIVES

For more information:

Kathy McDaniel

or

Linda Diekvoss

OPENING HEARTS • OPENING FAITH • OPENING DOORS

Bring your family and friends to:

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

COMMUNITY DAY

Saturday, October 17, 2026

♥ 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM ♥



Cookie
Decorating



Crafts



Sing
a-Long



Self-Guided
Audio Tour

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ♥ ALL ARE WELCOME!



**First Presbyterian
Church of Littleton**

1609 W Littleton Blvd, Littleton, CO 80120

www.littletonpresbyterian.org ♦ fpcl@fpcl.org ♦ 303-798-1389 ♦ 303-798-9920 fax

FPCL Book Club

— ♥ All are Welcome ♥ —

We are a small, friendly group and we welcome anyone who likes to read for casual discussions about books. We share thoughts about the books and about our lives with *no judgement*.



Group will meet the Second Thursday of each month, (except August), at 12:30pm in Ayers' Parlor (Zoom is available as well).



Reach out to Janice Fagan with any questions: jlfagan69@gmail.com

OUR UPCOMING BOOKS



SEPTEMBER

Team of Rivals –
by Doris Kearns Goodwin
(non-fiction)



OCTOBER

Theo of Golden –
by Allen Levi
(fiction)



NOVEMBER

The Edge of the Grace Period –
by our very own Dorothy Hagan ♥
(fiction)

Good books.
Great friends.
Meaningful
conversations.



♥ Read. Share. Connect. ♥

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we grow together in God's Word.

GROW
IN FAITH.
TOGETHER
IN CHRIST.



1st & 3rd SUNDAYS



IMMEDIATELY
Following Worship



CHURCH BASEMENT
(Accessible location for all participants)

All Are Welcome!

Whether you're new to Bible study or have been studying Scripture for years, come for discussion, fellowship, and spiritual growth.



Office Hours 9am-2pm Monday-Thursday *Appointments Encouraged

Office Phone Number 303-798-1389

Office Email fpcl@fpcl.org

Pastoral Care Emergency Line 720-662-7277

Staff Members

Pastor Jonathan Murray, Minister of Word and Sacrament

Mary Dailey, Director of Worship Arts

Karen A. Meersman, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

Joan Lund, Financial Secretary

Matthew Dailey, Interim Office Administrator

Jessica Lund, Bookkeeper



SERMON SERIES:

CULTIVATE

a Life In Christ

Cultivating a Life Rooted in Christ



OCTOBER 4:
SIMPLICITY
Luke 12:13-21



OCTOBER 11:
FINANCIAL WISDOM
Matthew 6:19-21, 24-33



OCTOBER 18:
GENEROSITY
John 3:14-17



OCTOBER 25:
COMMITMENT
1 Peter 1:3-11

Discipleship is more than a single decision — it is a lifelong process of being shaped by the love, grace, and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

Like a well-tended garden, faith grows through intentional care, faithful practices, and the quiet work of the Holy Spirit.

In this ten-week series, we will explore how Scripture invites us to cultivate habits that nurture spiritual growth, deepen relationships, strengthen communities, bear fruit for God's kingdom, and more fully become who God created us to be.

Together we will reflect on practices such as prayer, generosity, simplicity, wisdom, gratitude, compassion, forgiveness, hospitality, and faithful stewardship.

This series offers an invitation to tend the soil of your heart, trust the Spirit's transforming work, and grow into the life God is cultivating within you.

Mission Statement:

We Welcome All to Love, Share, Serve and Grow in Christ.



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