



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



“Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house, and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others reclining at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

Luke 5:29-30 (NRSVUE)

Sunday, August 16, 2026
Twelfth 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.***

PRELUDE

Mary Dailey

OPENING HYMN 408

There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

Congregation

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Murray

◆ SHARING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also, with you!

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

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP

Jeff Colwell

*Come, all who hunger for grace.*

*Come, all who thirst for mercy.*

**We come seeking the One who welcomes strangers and friends alike.**

*Jesus gathers unlikely people around ordinary tables  
and reveals the extraordinary love of God.*

**At Christ's table there is room for the forgotten,  
the questioning, the joyful, and the weary.**

*God desires steadfast love more than empty ritual,  
mercy more than sacrifice,  
hearts open to one another more than perfect appearances.*

**We come to worship the God who welcomes us,  
transforms us, and sends us to make room for others.**

◆ HYMN 418

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

Congregation

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* Megan Van De Hey

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Jeff Colwell

SCRIPTURE READING: Hosea 6:1-6 (NRSVUE)

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, you continually invite us to your table, yet we confess that we often decide who belongs and who does not. We cling to comfort instead of extending welcome. We choose judgment instead of curiosity. We prefer being right to being reconciled. Too often our faith becomes habit without compassion, worship without justice, words without love.

Forgive us when we overlook those whom Christ notices. Forgive us when fear keeps us from uplifting people who are different. Forgive us when we forget that each of us has been welcomed by God's grace. Renew in us hearts that delight in mercy. Teach us to love as Christ loves, to welcome as Christ welcomes, and to share our lives as generously as Christ shared his table. Amen.

HYMN 579 *Kyrie Eleison (Lord, Have Mercy)* Congregation
Kyrie eleison (3x) Christe eleison (3x) Kyrie eleison (3x)

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS Jeff Colwell

...Believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, our lives are renewed, and our place at God's table is secure.

Thanks be to God!

◆ 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.**

◆ GOSPEL READING: LUKE 5:27-32 (NRSVUE) Pastor Murray
This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.**

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

MESSAGE

*Mercy & Mission*

Sermon Series *"Tables Shared"*

HYMN 203    *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*    Congregation

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

OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY Megan Van De Hey

◆ 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 for "Tables Shared" Sermon Series*
**We believe in God, who prepares a table of grace for all people,
whose abundance is greater than our fear, and whose mercy reaches
farther than our imagination.**

We believe in Jesus Christ, who was born among ordinary people, who taught from boats and hillsides, and who so often revealed God's kingdom around a shared table. He ate with saints and sinners, with neighbors and strangers, with the grateful and the skeptical, the wealthy and the poor. In breaking bread, he broke down barriers. In sharing meals, he revealed God's welcome. In giving himself, he became the Bread of Life for the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who still gathers diverse people into one family, opens hearts to hospitality, turns strangers into neighbors, and nourishes the Church for lives of justice, compassion, and peace.

We believe every meal shared in Christ's name can become a sign of God's coming reign, where all are welcomed, all are fed, and all discover that they belong. Until that day we will follow Jesus, share what we have, welcome whom Christ welcomes, and proclaim with joy: The table is ready. Come, for all is prepared by God's grace. Amen.

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 66**

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

Congregation

~~~ **CARRYING GOD'S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD'S WORLD** ~~~

◆ **BENEDICTION**

Pastor Murray

*Before Levi changed, Jesus called Levi, and they shared a meal with him and his community. Where have you experienced unexpected welcome in your life – and how might God be inviting you to extend that same welcome to someone else this week?*

## Today's Service

Music

Liturgist

Trustee

Ushers

Flowers

Mary Dailey & Megan Van De Hey

Jeff Colwell

Paul Parish

Jeanie Ayers & Kathy Frear

Scott & Janie Cantine

# rightnow MEDIA

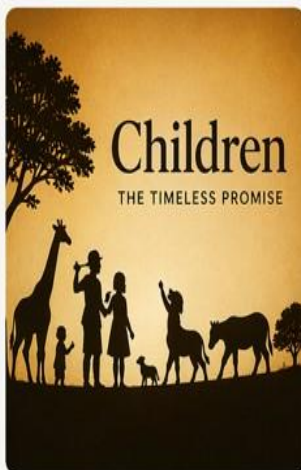
Biblical teaching for every person in every season.



## Influencing

Megan Alexander shares how Christians can have influence in mainstream media while holding fast to integrity and faith.

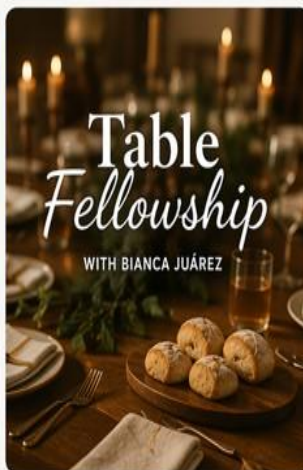
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## Children

Timeless shadow puppet stories reveal God's promises from creation to eternity, pointing to Jesus and His plan for redemption.

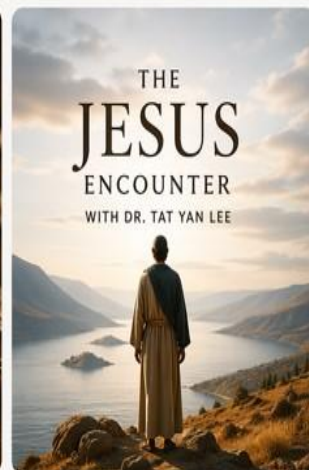
<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/881483>



## Table Fellowship

Bianca Juárez explores Jesus's interactions around the table and inspires us to invite others, open God's Word, and break bread together.

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/720472>



## General

Dr. Tat Yan Lee helps us discover who Jesus is and grow in faith for a closer walk with Him.

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/916535?session=921277>

# SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

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



**1st & 3rd SUNDAYS**



**IMMEDIATELY**  
*Following Worship*



**CHURCH BASEMENT**  
*(Accessible location for all participants)*

GROW  
IN FAITH.  
TOGETHER  
IN CHRIST.

*All Are Welcome!*

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



## FPCL Book Club

— ♥ *All are Welcome* ♥ —

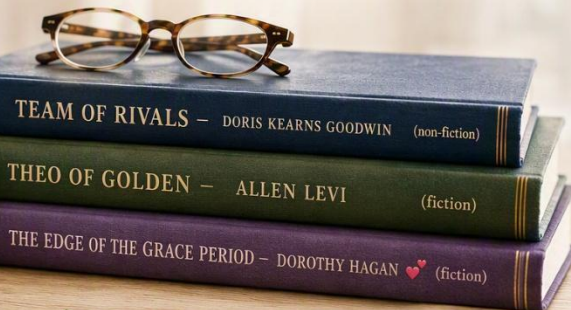
We are a small, friendly group and we welcome anyone who likes to read for casual discussions about books. We share thoughts about the books and about our lives with *no judgement*.



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](mailto: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.* ♥

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

**Office Phone Number** 303-798-1389

**Office Email** [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto: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

## WORSHIP PLANS

### **NEW SERIES: *Tables Shared***

**August 16: *Mission & Mercy***

**Luke 5:27-32**

**August 23: *Self-Righteous vs. Repentance***

**Luke 7:36-50**

**August 30: *Wilderness Banquet***

**Luke 9:10-17**

## UPCOMING MUSIC

**August 23: Nolan Baker, tenor**

**August 30: Sharon Piccin & Merry Snyder**

### **Mission Statement:**

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



**First Presbyterian  
Church of Littleton**

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