



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



“Do you see this woman? I came to your home; you provided no water for my feet, but she rained tears on my feet and dried them with her hair. You gave me no greeting, but from the time I arrived she hasn’t quit kissing my feet. You provided nothing for freshening up, but she has soothed my feet with perfume. Impressive, isn’t it? She was forgiven many, many sins, and so she is very, very grateful. If the forgiveness is minimal, the gratitude is minimal.”

Luke 7:44-47 (NRSVUE)

Sunday, August 23, 2026
Thirteenth 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 305 (v 1 & 4) *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy*

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

Kevin Hagan

*Come, all who are weary from carrying burdens too heavy to bear.*

*Come, all who long for mercy, healing, and hope.*

**We come to the God who knows us fully and loves us completely.**

*Come, all who have been judged by others.*

*Come, all who have judged others.*

**We come seeking the grace that restores, renews, and reconciles.**

*At the table of Jesus, there is room for the broken and the searching,  
the forgiven and the forgiving.*

**We come to meet the One who**

**creates clean hearts and makes all things new.**

*We will worship God,*

**whose mercy is greater than our mistakes**

**and whose love welcomes us home.**

◆ HYMN 69

*Here I Am, Lord*

Congregation

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Nolan Baker, vocalist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kevin Hagan

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 51:1-10 (NCV)

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, we confess that we often struggle to receive the grace you freely give. We hide behind our accomplishments. We measure ourselves against others. We are quick to notice the faults of our neighbors while overlooking the ways we need your healing.

Forgive us when we allow shame to separate us from you. Forgive us when judgment prevents us from extending compassion. Forgive us when we forget that every person who gathers at your table is a beloved child of God.

Create in us clean hearts. Renew our spirits.

Teach us to love with the humility of those who know they have been forgiven. May our lives reflect the mercy we have received through Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN 579

Kyrie Eleison (Lord, Have Mercy)

Congregation

Kyrie eleison (3x) Christe eleison (3x) Kyrie eleison (3x)

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Kevin Hagan

...Believe the Good News:

Through Christ, we are forgiven. Through Christ, we are made new.

Through Christ, we are welcomed again to the table of God's love.

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 7:36-50 (NRSVUE) Pastor Murray
This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.**

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

MESSAGE    *Self-Righteousness vs Repentance*  
Sermon Series "Tables Shared"

HYMN 649 (V 1-4)    *Amazing Grace*    Congregation

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

OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY Nolan Baker

◆ 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 shared meals with saints and sinners,
strangers and friends, rich and poor. At his table, barriers were**

broken, welcome was extended, and God's kingdom was revealed. In giving himself, Christ became the Bread of Life for the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who gathers us as one family, opens our hearts to hospitality, and sends us to live with justice, compassion, and peace.

We believe God's table is wide enough for all. So 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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Whiz Kids

Loretta Davis

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 372 (v 1-3)

O for a World

Congregation

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

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

Mary Dailey

At Jesus' table, the woman experienced forgiveness and responded with extravagant love.

Where have you experienced grace that changed the way you see yourself — and how will you allow that grace to shape the way you welcome others?

Today's Service

Music

Liturgist

Trustee

Ushers

Flowers

Mary Dailey & Nolan Baker

Kevin Hagan

Roy Gibson

Mary Doner

Karen Ervin in honor of Special Birthdays
for Karen, Lindsey & Grace



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

OPEN DOOR CIRCLE

All Women of FPCL Are Welcome
Faith • Fellowship • Service

**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

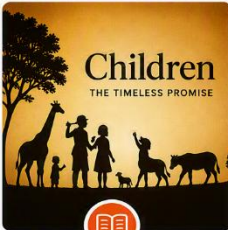
OPENING HEARTS ♥ OPENING FAITH ♥ OPENING DOORS

rightnow MEDIA

BIBLICAL TEACHING FOR EVERY PERSON IN EVERY SEASON.



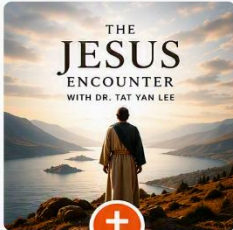
Influencing
Christians can have influence while holding fast to faith.



Children
Timeless stories revealing God's promises from creation to eternity.



Table Fellowship
Jesus used the table to teach truth and build connection.



General
Discover who Jesus is and grow closer in faith.

Links available in *The Gathering* - formerly Weekly eBlast.

**THE GATHERING**
Your Weekly Connection to Life at FPCL

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



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

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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 23: *Self-Righteous vs. Repentance* **Luke 7:36-50**

August 30: *Wilderness Banquet* **Luke 9:10-17**

September 6: *God's Guest List* **Luke 14:15-24**

UPCOMING MUSIC

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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