



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



"The servant went back and told the master what had happened. He was outraged and told the servant, 'Quickly, get out into the city streets and alleys. Collect all who look like they need a square meal, all the misfits and homeless and down-and-out you can lay your hands on, and bring them here.'

Luke 14:21 (The Message)

Sunday, September 6, 2026
Fifteenth 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 406

Holy Ground

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

Jim Grow

*Come, for everything is ready.*

***We come hungry for God's grace.***

*Come, for God's table is larger than we imagine.*

***We come ready to make room.***

*Come, you who are familiar with this table,*

*and you who are wondering whether there is a place for you.*

***We come, trusting that God's welcome is wider than our own.***

*Come, for Christ gathers strangers and friends,*

*neighbors and newcomers, the comfortable and the forgotten.*

***We come to meet the God who welcomes us all.***

*Let us worship the God whose table has room for everyone.*

***Let us worship God!***

◆ HYMN 41 (V 1-3)

*O Worship the King*

Congregation

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

The Journey

Bruce Benson & Matthew Dailey

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jim Grow

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 25:6-9 (NRSVUE)

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Welcoming God, you prepare a table of abundance, yet we are tempted to make our tables small. We choose our guests carefully. We protect what is familiar. We excuse ourselves from relationships that might challenge us. We overlook people whose stories are unfamiliar. We sometimes confuse comfort with community and belonging with sameness.

Forgive us. Forgive the ways we have decided who is worthy of an invitation. Forgive the ways we have allowed fear, prejudice, pride, or indifference to become barriers between us and our neighbors. Teach us again the expansive hospitality of Jesus. Give us courage to notice those at the edges, humility to receive from those we might overlook, and generosity to make room at our tables and in our lives. Make us a people who do not merely talk about your welcome, but embody it. 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

Jim Grow

... Believe the Good News: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, reconciled, and invited again into the life of God.

***Being forgiven by God through Jesus, we will offer
forgiveness as freely as we received it. 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 14:15B-24A (The Message)

Pastor Murray

*This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.***

~~~ **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD** ~~~

MESSAGE

*God's Guest List*

Sermon Series *"Tables Shared"*

HYMN 506

*Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table!*

Congregation

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

OFFERING

Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY

How Great Thou Art

Bruce Benson & Matthew Dailey

◆ 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

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God!

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

INVITATION TO RECEIVE GOD'S GIFTS

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS (**ALL BREAD IS GLUTEN FREE**)

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 817 (V 1-3)

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

Congregation

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

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

Mary Dailey

**What invitation is God prompting us to extend?**

### Today's Service

Music

Mary Dailey, Bruce Benson & Matthew Dailey

Liturgist

Jim Grow

Trustee

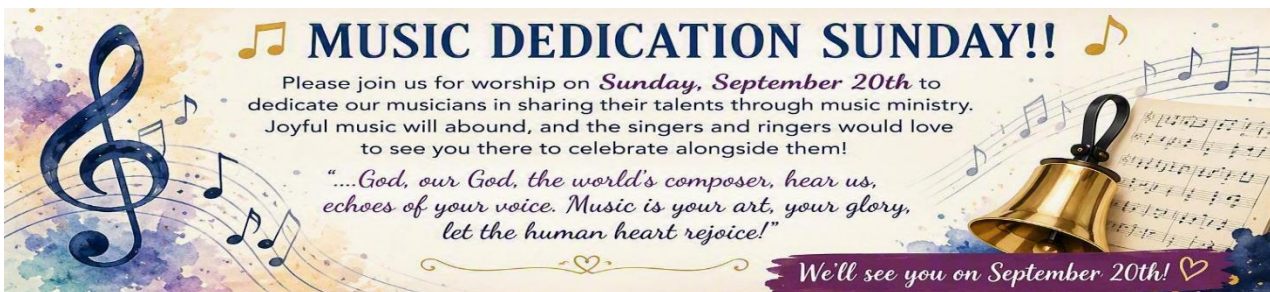
Paul Parish

Ushers

Cheryl Baughman, Kathy Frear, Doug & Hedy Lemieux

Flowers

Linda Diekvoss & Paul Parish



**MUSIC DEDICATION SUNDAY!!**

Please join us for worship on *Sunday, September 20th* to dedicate our musicians in sharing their talents through music ministry. Joyful music will abound, and the singers and ringers would love to see you there to celebrate alongside them!

*"...God, our God, the world's composer, hear us, echoes of your voice. Music is your art, your glory, let the human heart rejoice!"*

**We'll see you on September 20th! ♥**



# 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

# CHANCEL CHOIR RETURNS!

**Let Your Voice Be Heard**

**ALL VOICES ARE WELCOME!**



## JOIN US!



**First Rehearsal:**

**Sunday, September 13, 2026**



**Time:**

**8:30 a.m.**



**Location:**

**Choir Room (4th Floor)**

The Chancel Choir is beginning a new season, and we'd love for you to join us. Whether you've sung in choirs for years or simply enjoy making music, there is a place for you.

## WHO CAN JOIN?



High school age  
and older



No need to  
read music



New members  
always welcome

The choir sings regularly during worship  
from **September through May.**



**Questions?**

Contact **Mary Dailey**,  
Director of Worship Arts



*“Make a joyful noise to the Lord!”*

— PSALM 100:1





# 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. ♥

# 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](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



SERMON SERIES:

# CULTIVATE

*a Life In Christ*

Cultivating a Life Rooted in Christ

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.

SEPTEMBER 20\*:  
**RHYTHM & BALANCE**  
*Luke 10:38-42*

SEPTEMBER 27:  
**PRIORITIES & BOUNDARIES**  
*1 Timothy 4:4-16*

OCTOBER 4\*\*:  
**SIMPLICITY**  
*Matthew 4:1-11*

*\*Music Dedication Sunday!*

*\*\*World Communion Sunday*

### Mission Statement:

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



**First Presbyterian  
Church of Littleton**

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