



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



"This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life."

John 3:16 (*The Message*)

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Twenty-First 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

Reflective Meditation by Rouse

Mary Dailey

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill Frear

*We gather in the presence of the God  
who loved the world so deeply that God gave.*

**We come to receive the gift of God's grace.**

*We gather in the presence of Christ, who came not to condemn, but to save.*

**We come with grateful hearts and open hands.**

*We gather as a community called to share what we have received.*

**May our lives become an expression of God's generosity.**

*Let us worship the God whose love is abundant,  
whose grace is freely given, and whose gifts are for all.*

**We worship God with grateful hearts, open hands, and generous lives.**

◆ **SHARING THE PEACE**

*The Peace of Christ be with you!*

**And also, with you!**

◆ **HYMN 711**

*Lord of All Good*

Congregation

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bill Frear

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15 (NRSVUE)

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Many Gifts, One Spirit by Pote

Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, life – your life – is so freely and abundantly available, it pulses in all creation and in every human being. Yet we have allowed ourselves to be seduced by death, and we have left ourselves thirsty and lethargic.

Where life in all its various expressions is denied and suppressed by hatred, self-interest, war and megalomania, we pray that your life would teach us love and humility.

Teach us, O God, to live – to really live, abundantly, freely, generously and humbly, that life may be nurtured, multiplied and shared – in all its amazing diversity, through us. 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

Bill Frear

...Believe the Good News: In Jesus, who is the Christ, we are forgiven.

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.

◆ GOSPEL READING JOHN 3:14-17 (*THE MESSAGE*)

Pastor Murray

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

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD ~~~

MESSAGE

Generosity

Sermon Series “*Cultivate*”

HYMN 634

To God Be The Glory

Congregation

~~~ RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD ~~~

OFFERING

Dave LeMay

OFFERTORY

Dona Nobis Pacem

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 be 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. Amen

◆ HYMN 174 (vs. 1-3)

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Congregation

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

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

*Great Is the Lord* arr. by Rouse

Mary Dailey

*What is one small act of generosity you've received  
that you still remember?*

## Today's Service

Music

Mary Dailey, Chancel Choir

Liturgist

Bill Frear

Trustee

Don Meersman

Ushers

Denny & Sheri Wyatt

Flowers

Bill & Kathy Frear in honor of their 34 year & 1 day  
wedding anniversary



# WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

- **Car Volunteers**  
(Come in costume, if possible!)
- **Bring Candy**  
(Nothing with nuts or homemade)
- **Halloween Decorations**  
(Suitable for car trunks)
- **Bring Camping Chairs**

# TRUNK = OR = TREAT 2026

**Saturday, October 24**  
**1:00 – 3:00 PM**

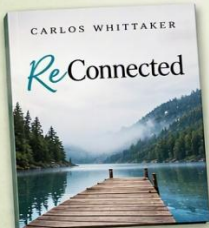
**SIGN UP IN CHANDLER HALL AFTER THE SERVICE!**

# Women's Shabby Sheep Study Groups

Faith  
♥  
Friendship  
♥  
Real  
Conversations

## Tuesday Evening Group

7:00 PM • Through Nov. 17



### ReConnected

by Carlos Whittaker



Exploring ways to reconnect  
with God, relationships,  
and a more intentional life.

## Wednesday Morning Group

10:00 AM • Through Nov. 4

### Don't Try to Pray Like Her

A RightNow Media study



Practical prayer support  
and encouragement for  
learning to linger  
in God's presence.



♥ All women are welcome! ♥

# Peacemakers Country Store

## Christmas Sale

December 6, 2026

8-10am, 11-2pm

Baked Goods, Canned Jellies & Jams,  
Candy, Quilts, Stuffed Animals & more!

Every purchase goes to  
First Presbyterian Church of Littleton  
Community Assistance Program.

Good  
Neighbors  
Stronger  
Communities  
♥

Faith  
Service  
Community  
♥

# 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 judgment*.



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. ♥

# Attention Women!

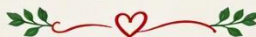
## Save The Date!

Friday, December 4th, 2:00 pm

## FPCL Women's Christmas Tea!

Come One , Come All, for  
Food, Fun, Festivities!

Watch for more information in November!



Merry S and Sue C  
Co-chairs

★  
Faith  
Friendship  
Fellowship  
Make the  
Season  
Brighter!



Good  
Friends  
Warm Hearts  
Brighter  
Holidays



**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**, 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.**



**First Presbyterian  
Church of Littleton**

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