



First Presbyterian Church of Littleton



²¹ At that point Peter got up the nerve to ask, “Master, how many times do I forgive a brother or sister who hurts me? Seven?”

²² Jesus replied, “Seven! Hardly. Try seventy times seven.

Matthew 18:21-22 (The Message)

Sunday, April 12, 2026
Second Sunday in Season of Easter

*Please be seated, silence all devices, and prepare yourself for worship.
All are welcome in this sacred space, including the wiggles and giggles!*

◆ **PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

PRELUDE *Evening Prayer* by Humperdinck

PRELUDE HYMN 275 (vs. 1&4) *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Congregation

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Murray

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

◆ CALL TO WORSHIP Teagan W

*The world teaches us to keep score—  
to remember every wrong and hold every grudge.*

**But Christ invites us into a new way of living.**

*In the kingdom of God, mercy interrupts revenge.*

**Forgiveness opens the door to new life.**

*Let us release bitterness and walk in forgiveness and new life.*

**We gather to practice the grace that creates new community.**

*Let us worship God.*

◆ HYMN 233 *The Day of Resurrection* Congregation  
*Children are invited forward during the last verse*

CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor Winslow

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Teagan W

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 4:31-5:2 (NRSVUE)

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you call us to forgive as we have been forgiven, yet we
keep careful records of one another's wrongs. We hold onto anger.**

We rehearse old hurts. We divide the world into those who deserve mercy and those who do not. In doing so, we forget the vast grace you have poured out upon us.

Release us from the chains of bitterness. Transform our hearts and our community. Teach us to embody the compassion of Christ — to seek reconciliation, to practice mercy, and to live as people who walk in love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

HYMN 575 *LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US* Congregation
*Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS Teagan W
...Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

◆ HYMN 582 *GLORY TO GOD, WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME* Congregation

◆ GOSPEL READING Matthew 18:21-35 (NRSVUE) Pastor Murray
*This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.***

~~~ PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD ~~~

MESSAGE *New Community*
Sermon Series New Life

HYMN 445 *God, How Can we Forgive* Congregation

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

OFFERING Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY *Prelude #1* by J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND THANKSGIVING

Merry and Jeanie have professed their faith and their commitment to the covenant God made with them in their baptism. Let us welcome them as they join with us in the worship and mission of God at FPCL.

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to share with us
in the ministry of Christ, for together, we are all one in Christ.**

◆ SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (pg 35)

Pastor Winslow

◆ HYMN (Insert)

That's All I Ask of You

Congregation

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

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

*Onward Christian Soldiers*

Bob C

**Where in our lives — or in our community —  
might forgiveness open the door  
to new relationships or new possibilities for healing?**

**Today's Service**

Music

Bob C

Liturgist

Teagan W

Trustee

Jeff C

Ushers

Kathy F, Cathy and Dick G

Cover Image

Etsy



**Open Door Circle** will be meeting every 3rd Thursday, at 10:30. All women are welcome. Please call Hedy L with any questions.



The mission committee will be holding its annual food drive for the Life Center during April. The Director said they could use any food, but they are always in need of foods with protein such as Spam, beans, tuna, salmon, peanut butter or any nut butter. We will be collecting food through April. There will be a container at the Windermere entrance and at the Littleton Boulevard entrance to place your donations. Thank you in advance.

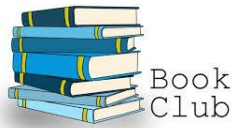


Tuesday Evening Shabby Sheep Women's Bible Study

On a break for now

Wednesday Morning Shabby Sheep Women's Bible Study

Six-week study on *Acts*, started April 8<sup>th</sup>



FPCL Book Club meets in Ayers' Parlor or Zoom on the Second Thursday of each month at 12:30. All are welcome.

# LITTLETON HANDBELL FESTIVAL!!



**Come one, come all, to the  
Littleton Handbell Festival!**

Who: First Pres. Memorial & TNT Handbell Choirs  
and several other local church bell choirs

What: A FREE concert (and an opportunity for community fellowship!)

Where: Littleton United Methodist Church  
5894 S. Datura St. Littleton 80120 (corner of Datura & Shepperd St.)

When: Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 3:00 p.m.

The Memorial Handbell Choir & Tintinnabulation Ringers will be joining several other Littleton churches for an all-day rehearsal and fellowship experience and perform our pieces in a massed concert with Guest Conductor Jeffrey Harms in the afternoon.

If you haven't had the opportunity to hear an ensemble of bells ringing together, it is truly an event you will never forget, and it is **SO CLOSE TO HOME** - *only 4 blocks from church!!*

Please join us and support the ringers  
(and bring friends and family along)!

SEE  
YOU  
THERE

Contact Karen with any questions at  
[Karen@fpcl.org](mailto:Karen@fpcl.org)

**WE HOPE TO SEE LOTS OF  
FAMILIAR FACES THERE !**



**Office Hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-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

**Pastor Blakeley Winslow**, Pastor of Christian Discipleship

**Lydia Cooper**, Office Manager

**Mary Dailey**, Director of Worship Arts

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

**Joan Lund**, Financial Secretary

**Tracy Eidson**, Child Care

*Worship Plans*

**Sermon Series for the Season of Easter: *New Life***

**April 19: *New Priorities***

**Matthew 6:25-34** Bells

**April 26: *New Eyes***

**Matthew 5:1-12** Women's Ensemble

**May 3: *New Identity***

**Matthew 5:13-16** Bells

**May 10: *New Courage***

**Matthew 16:21-28** Men's Ensemble

**May 17: *New Calling***

**Matthew 28:16-20** Chancel Choir

**Following Worship**

**Town Hall Meeting on April 26th**

**Next Bible Study- May 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Our Mission:**

***We welcome all to love, share, serve, and grow in Christ.***



**First Presbyterian** 1609 W Littleton Blvd., Littleton, CO 80120  
**Church of Littleton** [www.littletonpresbyterian.org](http://www.littletonpresbyterian.org) » [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)