### THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF EVERETT

Online Worship Bulletin October 29, 2023 – 10am

\*For our liturgy this morning, **BOLD** text invites all to join in the reading.

The First Presbyterian Church of Everett welcomes you to worship. Our Friendship Pads are back in our pews. We hope you take a moment to fill them out. This is a great way for us to get to know who's worshipping with us and to connect you to our community. Again, welcome!

Prelude The Church's One Foundation – Hobby

Gary Norris, Organist

Ringing of the Bell

Steve Torrence, Director of Music Ministries

Welcome Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Call to Worship

Psalm 46

Marne Larson

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.

God makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth." **The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.** 

Opening Hymn

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#260

**Prayer of Confession** 

Marne Larson

Eternal God, infinite in power, wisdom and goodness: Let the desire of our souls be to you; let us draw near you with our hearts, and not only with our lips; and worship you in spirit and truth. Remove any fragment of sin clinging to our lives and refine us with your presence. Give us attentive ears, and believing, understanding hearts, so that we do not continue to disregard your merciful, outstretched hand. Put your laws into our hearts, and write them in our minds, and let us embrace redemption. Let us magnify you with thanksgiving and praise. Let us rejoice in your salvation, and glory in your holy name.

Open our lips and let our mouths speak your praise. And let the words of our mouths, and the meditations of our hearts, be acceptable in your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Take a moment of silent personal confession and reflection.

Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

#### In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

#### Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ, be with you!

And also with you!

Hymn Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow #592

Choir Anthem And Can It Be Directed by Steve Torrence

Scripture Ephesians 2:4-10

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon "5 in 107" Rev. Ray Smith

Celebrating Our Saints Rev. Dr. Alan Dorway

Hymn The Church's One Foundation #442

Benediction Rev. Ray Smith

Postlude A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – Bish Gary Norris, Organist

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Part of our liturgy was adapted from Richard Baxter's Savoy Liturgy of the English Presbyterians, 1661, by Daniel Hayward, South Stormont Pastoral Charge, The United Church of Canada, South Stormont Township ON.

## Simple Joys

Yes, it is time to begin thinking about Advent. I have been praying and kicking around ideas for this year's Advent devotional and have decided upon the theme: Simple Joys. We may automatically think of the opening line 'tis a gift to be simple' from the hymn/tune of the Shaker Hymn "Simple Gifts". In our blue hymnal, we know the tune when we sing "Lord of the Dance". However, our theme is not limited to music. I have been struck by the need for simplicity or awareness in my life. I tend to move quickly whether walking or in my mind. Yet, the psalmist tells us to 'be still and know that I am God' (Psalm 46:10) and part of Advent is 'treasuring all these words and pondering them in our heart' (slight paraphrase as Mary did this in Luke 1:29 and 2:19).

Our world, our lives, and our hearts/minds race or can be filled up quickly to the point we are not excited about Advent or the coming Christ-child. Instead, we can get anxious, overwhelmed, and find the 'season' tedious and frustrating. The good news to break the rush during Advent is to slow down in humble waiting. God invites us to pause, breathe, and take a moment to see miracles of hope, joy, peace, and love around us. I can think of many times when I actually stopped and found joy in watching children get excited about giving gifts to others, experienced joy in the company of another just sharing a coffee together and was startled by the joy of a gift given to me that I did not expect and realized was extremely thoughtful. We are going to say yes to joy this Advent season.

To do this, one of the meaningful parts we've celebrated Advent recently is by creating a devotional that YOU write. Your thoughts are profound and meaningful to me and the rest of the congregation. I invite you to write a story or create a poem about how joy brought you closer to Jesus in Advent.

Think about a favorite memory of Christmas that gave or gives you joy? Is there a tradition you love? Was there a surprise invitation leading to wonder and awe you can think about? What joy touched your heart and showed you the Christ-child again? What brings you joy just thinking about Christmas? Be creative and I'd totally be stoked if you shared those stories with us.

So... begin. I know Advent seems so far away, but it will be here sooner than we realize. The deadline for submitting a story (it can be long or short, don't worry, it will be great!) is Tuesday October 31<sup>st</sup>. Please submit a story via email (dorway@firstpreschurch.com) or bring a completed copy to me (Pastor Alan) before the deadline. Thank you!

# Today's Choir Anthem And Can It Be

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood? Died He for me, and caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued?

Amazing love! How can it be that Thou my God should'st die for me? Amazing love! How can, how can it, can it be that Thou my God should'st die for me?

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus and all in Him is mine! Alive in Him my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine. Bold I approach the eternal throne and claim the crown, thru Christ my own.

Amazing love! How can, how can it, can it be that Thou my God should'st die for me? Amen.

#### **Announcements**

# Flowers this morning are given by Amy & Doug Farnham who feel blessed by their family and friends.

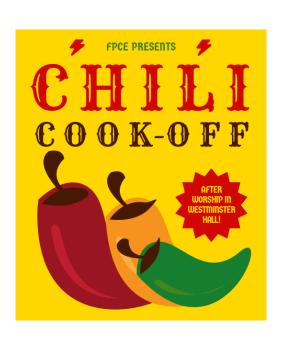
#### **Retiring Library Books**

Please check the Chapel to see retiring books. **Give one** *or more* a **forever home**. Leave a donation for library in marked container or regular offering as you are led.

#### Chili Cook-Off

Our Chili Cook-Off is today right after worship. Our famous and award-winning chili cooks have brought their amazing creations for tasting. Our trophy has been polished and bragging rights are on the line.

If chili is not your expertise, come to satisfy your sweet tooth. We are also having a bake sale to benefit Parkinson's and Alzheimer's research during the cook-off.





# S.P.A.M.



Airport: First Presbyterian Church of Everett

Seating: Westminster Hall

Flight time: November 10, 2023, 11:30 am Lunch (\$7.50) served on board at noon

Special attraction: "A Lot is Going on at Paine Field"

featuring the Deputy Director

Make your reservation by November 5th.

Sign up at the Welcome Booth

### **Daylight Savings Time Reminder**

Clocks go back one hour on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 am. This is also a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

#### Men's Breakfast – November 11<sup>th</sup>

Men's Breakfast is Saturday, November 11th from 8:30 am to 10:00 am. All men are invited to attend this time of fellowship and Bible study, not to mention breaking of bread. We hope to see you!

#### Fall Thursday Bible Study - "Canon" Ball

Join Pastor Alan for our Fall Thursday Bible Study. We will be reading scripture, studying issues on how the Bible came to be, and the struggle over who, what, and when well-meaning Christian's claim 'authority'. We will not solve everything, but we will endeavor to listen, share, and learn together. We gather via the Zoom platform on Thursdays at 4pm. Below is the schedule.

- Nov 2 Conflict of Story *Deuteronomy 4:1-8; Luke 8:26-39*
- Nov 9 National Canon Romans 13:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22
- Nov 16 The Violence of Canon Galatians 5:13-26; 1 Corinthians 6:9-20

#### **VOA Food Donations**

We donated 409 pounds of food to the Volunteers of America Food Bank this month. Great job! Our next drive-through collection is Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm. Pastor Alan and Ken Newman will be accepting non-perishable food in the alley. You can also bring non-perishable food any Sunday and add it to the collection boxes at each door. Your donations support those in need here in Everett. Thank you for your donations.

#### **Hymn Requests**

The Worship Committee invites you to suggest a favorite song or hymn for inclusion in worship. There are request forms next to the offering box. Just fill one out and drop it in the offering box and we will try our best to include your hymn in worship in the following weeks.

#### This Week...

- Sunday School There is no Sunday School today. Steve Hammond will conclude our class on November 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Lunch with Alan is on Mondays at noon in the church library. The north door will be open at 11:45am. Bring your lunch or just come to talk and catch up. Coffee is provided.
- **Thursday Bible Study** Join Pastor Alan on November 2<sup>nd</sup> using the Zoom platform. We will be studying Deuteronomy 4:1-8; Luke 8:26-39.
  - o Join Zoom using this link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4319124902">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4319124902</a>
  - o Meeting ID: 431 912 4902
- **Next Sunday** we will have hybrid worship at 10am.
  - o All videos are linked to our Facebook page, website, app, and YouTube channel.

#### To all worshipping with us...

The First Presbyterian Church is a sanctuary open to all people. Please:

- Honor those who wish to wear masks in our facility. Ask people to be kind and welcoming to those who may need some extra space.
- Respect boundaries if one asks for alternative ways of greeting.
- Use the many hand sanitizer stations throughout our building.

If there is any confusion, concerns, or questions, please contact Pastor Alan or a greeter. Our goal is to worship together and love our neighbor. We value everyone being able to worship in safety, inclusion, and openness. All are welcome.

#### Prayer Requests October 29, 2023

- We pray for peace and the cessation of war in Israel/Palestine. While there are historical and political complexities and layers to this conflict, we boldly pray for Israeli and Palestinian families who have been caught in the middle and torn apart. We pray for those grieving, for those suffering, for those confused, and for those whose only reaction is to seek revenge. We pray for comfort, relief, healing, and release. We seek your peace that defies understanding to settle on families, individuals, and leaders on all sides. We pray, fully knowing we do not have the answers, knowing we are weak and sometimes prejudiced, but trusting our Lord Jesus knows the answer, is working, and is present there.
- We pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine.
- We pray for those affected by the shooting in Lewiston, Maine.
- Please pray for a speedy recovery for Pastor Alan after his recent appendectomy.
- Please pray for Amber McGuire, daughter of Phil & Sonya Beardsley. Amber has bleeding in her brain and is in ICU at Swedish/Seattle. The family appreciates your prayers.
- We pray for Arlene Mawudeku with on-going health issues.
- Update: Mike Clemans is feeling much better and thanks everyone for their prayers.
- Please pray for the Hermansen family, Art, Sue, and their children Lori & John. Sue has had a stroke and is in Harborview. Art is in memory care at Harbour Pointe. From Lois Tysseling.
- Our friend Karen Jensen asks for our prayers. Her husband recently passed away and she is now living in an adult home struggling with a long history of lupus. From Alan and Dottie Villesvik.
- Our friend Meredith's mother, Beverly, is hospitalized in critical condition. We appreciate your prayers for her and her family. From Ari and Robin Kohler.
- We pray for Gary Norris' health.
- We pray for healing for Elly Koffler and good test results from a heart test. From Jodi Donley.
- **Update:** Marsha Lueth We are grateful to learn she does not have brain cancer. Marsha had a stroke but is thankful for your prayers and support. Please continue to pray for Marsha for strength with her on-going health concerns.
- **New Update:** Son-in-law, Doug Schultz, is now committed to his "chemo for life" regimen (Revlimid). He's driving short distances, and we praise God daily for his improvements in his balance and strength. Thank you for your continuous prayers. From Annette King.
- **Update:** Karen, daughter of Marilee Richards, is making progress with her health challenges and the family is grateful for the prayers. Please continue to pray for ongoing improvement.

- **Update:** on prayer request for our granddaughter, Melissa Mobeck. Chris and Melissa both appreciate our prayers and ask for continued prayers for Melissa's healing. From Alan and Dottie Villesvik.
- **Update:** On our friends Mike and Jeannine Schone: Mike continues to feel great and appreciates our prayers. Recent tests showed no cancer but is continuing his treatment as recommended by his doctors. From Alan and Dottie Villesvik
- Please pray for Kari, good friend of Judy Hutchison, who is going through chemotherapy.
- Jimmy Sharp appreciates prayers for his on-going back injury.

#### **Continued Prayers for FPCE**

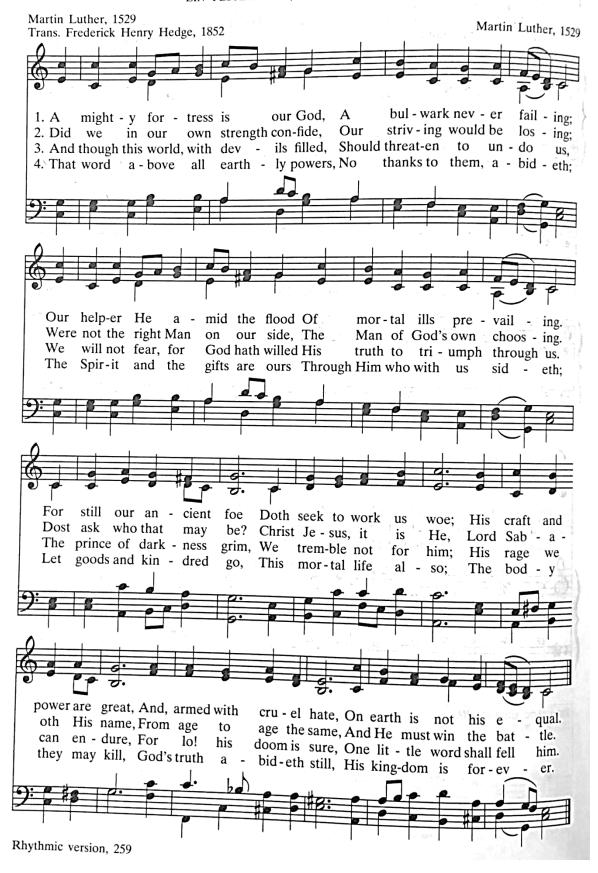
- Family of Cindy Rowlands
- Family of George Newland
- Family of Wes King
- Family of Peter Boonstra
- Family of Maggie Lamus
- Family of Lin Davis
- Jan Geibel, daughter of Judy & Clyde Pitcher
- Arlene Mawudeku for kidney transplant
- Susan Klingler
- Tom & Pat Dotson friends of Bob & Barbara Barren
- Cody, grandson of Marilee Richards
- Florence Day
- Karen Summers
- Quinn Carpenter
- Genny Heuer and extended family
- Larry O'Donnell
- Robert Henry
- Paul & Joyce Richardson
- LaMara Halstrom and Jane McMahon Steve and Nancy Torrence
- Pat Weakley Hein sister-in-law of Jan Weakley
- Matt McCoy, grandson of Annette King
- Clyde Pitcher
- Robby as he continues to heal and for Monica helping every step of the way from Martha and Mike Clemans
- Cy Paydar nephew of Steve and Nancy Torrence

We pray for families affected by dementia and/or Alzheimer's. As with other individuals and families, we pray for successful research, perseverance, a sense of humor, and the Spirit's peace.

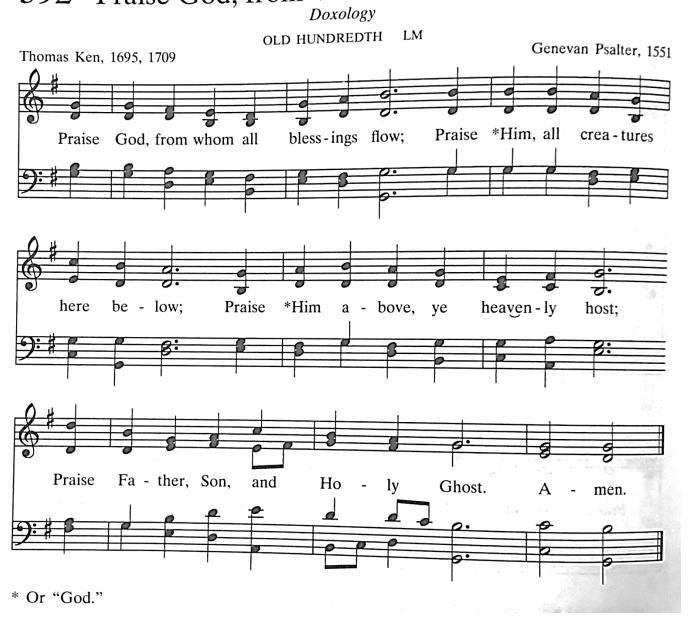
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## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7



# 592 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



# The Church's One Foundation

