

GATHERING

God of all beginnings. You bring a new day and you promise to journey with me through the hours. I thank you for the breath and strength I have. I beg your help that I may use my powers wisely, with compassion toward all your creation. Let my questions today be a form of pruning, to bring forth in me new understandings, healing, and good fruit; in Jesus' name. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

O Sing Joyfully

A. Batten

O sing joyfully unto God our strength: make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob. Take the song, bring hither the tabret, the merry harp with the lute. Blow up the trumpet in the new moon: ev'n in the time appointed, and upon our solemn feast day. For this was made a statute for Israel: and a law of the God of Jacob.

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying.

For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and our Father knows that we need them.

Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

We will make for ourselves an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

*** HYMN 612**

We Praise You, O God

Kremser

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you have loved us. We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** Act of Praise**

Gloria Patri

Hymn 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalms 33:12-22 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 507

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Psalm of Hope

A. Ramsey

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid? You are my hope, O God, my rock, my refuge. In You I put my trust. Let me never be ashamed.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Vicki Sumner

(Children will remain seated with their families for the Time for Young Disciples.)

We Praise You, O God 612

1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and moth - ers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
 With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.

we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
 To you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

The author wrote this text when only nineteen years old in response to a request from the organist of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City, who wanted another Thanksgiving text to sing to this Dutch tune. He regarded the usual text (see no. 336) as too full of conflict.

¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage. ¹³ The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind. ¹⁴ From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—¹⁵ he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds. ¹⁶ A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength. ¹⁷ The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save. ¹⁸ Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, ¹⁹ to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine. ²⁰ Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield. ²¹ Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. ²² Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

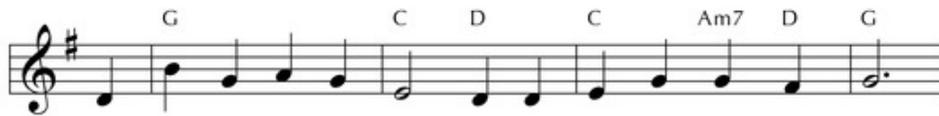
Thanks be to God.

GATHERING

402 How Lovely, Lord
(Psalm 84)



1 How love - ly, Lord, how love - ly is your a - bid - ing place;
2 In your blest courts to wor - ship, O God, a sin - gle day
3 A sun and shield for - ev - er are you, O Lord Most High;



my soul is long - ing, faint - ing, to feast up - on your grace.
is bet - ter than a thou - sand if I from you should stray.
you show - er us with bless - ings; no good will you de - ny.



The spar - row finds a shel - ter, a place to build her nest;
I'd rath - er keep the en - trance and claim you as my Lord
The saints, your grace re - ceiv - ing, from strength to strength shall go,



and so your tem - ple calls us with - in its walls to rest.
than rev - el in the rich - es the ways of sin af - ford.
and from their life shall riv - ers of bless - ing o - ver - flow.

The author of this text, a Presbyterian minister and educator, was humming this tune as he began to create a paraphrase of Psalm 84 that would emphasize the beauty and peace of God's house. The tune is named for the composer's oldest sister, who was his first piano teacher.

TEXT: Arlo D. Duba, 1984
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company
Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
7.6.7.6.D

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GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:22-34 (NRSV)

²² He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you – you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

840 When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives: O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought. My
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul;
 It is well with my soul;

This text is a remarkable expression of faith born of grief. The author, an active Presbyterian layman who had just lost four daughters in a tragic shipwreck, wrote it while sailing to Paris to meet his wife, who had survived. The tune was named for the ship that sank.

OUR STEWARDSHIP GOAL FOR 2021-2022 is to raise \$700,000 in pledges, and it is our hope that every active member of our church will pledge this year. As of April 27, we have received 47 pledges totaling \$160,932, which is 23% of our overall goal. Thank you for your continued generosity to our church!

If you have not yet pledged, there are two ways to do so: via mail or online. In April, you should have received a stewardship packet in the mail that can be completed and returned to the church office via post. Alternatively, you may use this link: <https://forms.gle/qOQGEf1BQkT7PQoC8> to fill out a confidential, digital version of the stewardship pledge form. The First Presbyterian Church Business Manager, Trudy Bonerba, is the only person who will receive your response. We sincerely appreciate your faithfulness to our church in the midst of this pandemic. Please do not hesitate to reach out to church staff if there's anything you need at this challenging time.

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Good morning. My name is Tammy Bleeker. My family has been here at First Pres for more than 15 years.

Recently Troy and I went through Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace University* with Mitch. Dave encourages starting the budgeting process with tithing.

What Is a Tithe?

A tithe is 10% of your income given specifically to your church. The word *tithe* means *tenth* in Hebrew. And while it's important to give your time and your talents by doing things like supporting Gainesville Community Ministry or serving through Family Promise, the word tithing refers to giving money.

According to Leviticus 27:30, "A tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain or fruit, is the Lord's, and is holy." And Proverbs 3:9 says, "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops." Don't let the gardening metaphors throw you off. These verses essentially guide us to give a portion, specifically a tenth, of whatever you make - your income - back to God. Biblically firstfruits means you should give first - before you do anything else with your money.

Your tithe should be money you set aside first. When you tithe before making a plan with the rest of your money, you are making it a priority rather than an afterthought.

Tithing is a way to show that we trust God with our lives and our finances. Tithing isn't for God's benefit -

He already owns everything. He doesn't need our money. Instead, tithing is meant for our benefit. Sacrificing a portion of our income helps us take the focus off ourselves and more clearly see the needs of others. In fact, one of the main purposes of tithing is to support the work of our church. Tithes help keep the church's lights on, provide for staff leadership, and meet the needs of the community.

Tithing is an act of faith that helps us keep our priorities straight. It reminds us that we don't own anything in this life. God is in total control, and we're only stewards of what He's given us.

It doesn't mean you're a bad Christian if you don't tithe.

God loves us just as much when we give as when we don't give. Tithing isn't a way to earn God's love - we already have it.

Tithing is more of a spiritual consideration than a financial one. Tithing isn't really about the money - it's about our heart. It's living with the attitude that we are blessed to be a blessing.

2 Corinthians 9:7 says, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Whatever you decide in how you financially support our church and ministries, it is between you and God.

Thank you.

FPC Weekly Figures

Weekly Budget Requirement	\$34,418
Received Week of 4/25/2021	\$12,183
Weekly Offering	\$8,015
Designated Offerings	\$4,140
Other Revenue	\$28
Preschool	-
YTD Budget Requirements	\$1,479,974
YTD Received	\$1,125,232
YTD Expenses	\$1,160,888

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 **now from 9-10 a.m.** for our televised broadcast  or MyTV 28.2 for the over the air broadcast.



Current Worship video and audio as well as archives at 1stpc.org



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Is there something you would like to announce in the Bugle or Bulletin? Contact communications@1stpc.org

GLORIFY GOD

Thank you to everyone who participated in last Sunday's reverse drive-thru to support local ministries. Together we covered the floor of the church van with food. We will see you again next month.

Paved Parking Lot Expansion and Security: One of the improvements to the paved parking lot is automated gates at each entrance and exit, both from the East (SW 3rd Street) and West (SW 5th Street). While the plan is for these gates to remain open during normal business hours (including Sundays and Mondays through Fridays), they will be closed during hours the lot is not in use for security reasons – generally from 9:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. Please know the gates are designed to allow folks to exit the lot even if they are down. Please also be aware that roam towing of all church parking continues to be in effect in accordance with city ordinances. If you have any questions, please reach out to Fred Lundy at youngadult@1stpc.org or by calling the church office.

MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

Children's Worship Guides: Print and Digital versions of our children's worship guides are available for your use as you participate in worship. Links to the digital version can be found in the Weekly Invite emails from the church. We encourage your family to discuss worship together - even if you don't use the guide.

Weekly Dose of Digital Discipleship: Stay informed and connected to the ministries of our church through this Sunday morning email which provides weekly devotionals, reflective readings, mission opportunities, and other helpful information for ways to stay connected during this time of social distancing as an act of loving our neighbors. Want to join the email list? Please contact Vicki Sumner at children@1stpc.org.

Connections: Our children and youth are celebrating the end of the church academic year with a party during Connections this week! Join Mr. Mitch, Dr. Coffey, Mr. Scott, Mr. Simon, and Ms. Vicki on Wednesday for the celebration on Zoom. Information about the party and links to join in the fun will go out to all involved in Connections by Wednesday. Contact Vicki Sumner, children@1stpc.org, with questions.

Confirmation: Our Confirmation class of 2021 is spending the next two weeks working independently on their Statements of Faith. Please keep them in prayer as they prepare to publicly profess what they believe before our Session at the end of the month. *Mark Your Calendars for Confirmation Sunday* when we celebrate with these newest church members on Sunday, June 6 during the 11 a.m. worship service.

Better Together Backyard Bible Club: The church has left the building and moved into the neighborhood! LOVE IN ACTION! Better Together Backyard Bible Club includes games, water play, science, and snacks that teach our kids how God made ALL people in His image, His heart for ALL people, and His teachings

and vision for justice and equality out of the scriptures and the book *God's Very Good Idea* by Tillia Newbell. Check out the May Bugle or contact Vicki Sumner, children@1stpc.org, for more information.

Summer Camp Opportunity: Our children and youth are resilient! During this time of uncertainty that our world is facing, we are looking for a ray of hope. It is through times of trial that we can find the most growth. Together we can overcome feelings of hopelessness and doubt. We can accept challenge and move forward without fear. Our presbytery owned camp and conference center invites you to experience days full of sunshine and laughter at Montgomery! Why not sign up with a friend or two from FPC and plan to attend together? Head over to Camp Montgomery's webpage, <https://www.montgomerycenter.net/camp>, for more information and to register or pick up a camp brochure in the Narthex today. Contact Vicki Sumner, children@1stpc.org, with additional questions.

College Trajectory Bible Study is on a short break. For more information, please email Scott Stuart at college@1stpc.org.

Young Adult Ministry: We are meeting regularly via Zoom - currently on Tuesday nights from 8:30-9:30 p.m. For more information on Young Adult Ministry or specifically on these meetings, please email Fred Lundy at youngadult@1stpc.org.

The Gordon Hoover Class is Zooming on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Connect by phone or computer. Everyone is welcome! This Sunday is Luke 17. If you are interested in joining, please contact Perry Foote at palbertfoote@gmail.com.

MEET HUMAN NEEDS

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Melda Bassett, Jayne Fox, Emily Hoyer, Elizabeth Miller, and Theral Moore. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Trinity Gilkey, Brian Hill, Matt Roland, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez, Joe Mueller, and Paul Samala. Essential worker: Bill Clark.

Online contributions can be made through your computer or smart phone. Go to 1stpc.org and click the red Pushpay icon. Give to the General Budget or specify the designated ministry in the memo section. Text contributions, bill pay through your bank, and electronic funds transfers are also options. Contact Trudy Bonerba at business@1stpc.org if you have any questions.

Church Email Communication: If you are interested in changing which emails you receive from the church, the best option is to contact the church office at 352-378-1527. Clicking on "unsubscribe" in an email not only takes you off that specific email list, but also removes you from receiving all church emails. Let us know if you have questions. Thank you.