



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

September 4, 2022 9:00 am

*“Rest is not the reward... nor something we lay hold of once we are free.  
It is the path that delivers us there.”  
—Cole Arthur Riley*

Chimes and Prelude

Prière à Notre Dame  
Léon Boëllmann

\*Call to Worship

God’s love for us is boundless.

**God is a loving parent watching over us.**

God’s mercy for us is abundant.

**The Lord created us for peace.**

Praise be to the One who has called us here.

**Praise be to God whose love and mercy surrounds us always.**

Let us worship the Lord!

\*Hymn # 4

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

\*Prayer of Confession

**Lord, so often we work as those seeking to prove our worth.**

**We forget that labor is intended for the flourishing of your creation,  
and treat it instead as our salvation.**

**We allow work to rob us of rest.**

**We allow it to steal your holy Sabbath.**

**We tolerate a world where people work without ceasing  
and yet cannot afford food or shelter.**

**We use work to measure our worth  
and the worth of others.  
When we cannot work, we think less of ourselves.  
Help us to work in ways that you intend:  
work that feeds our bodies and souls.  
Work that builds up, work that heals.  
Help us to learn to rest. Train us to trust your Sabbath.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Forgive us our sins and help us to amend our lives. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Forgiveness

The Almighty One who forgives all who truly repent, has mercy upon us, pardons and delivers us from all our sins.

**Our God confirms and strengthens us in all goodness, and invites us to holy rest, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Response

Meineke

**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. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

Welcome & Ministry Updates

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 23

P.501

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 #649

Amazing Grace

Second Scripture Reading

Mark 4:35-40

P.39

Prayer for Illumination

**God of wisdom, by your Spirit speak this day your word of life, and plant in us the power of your righteous love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sermon

“Rest for the Weary”

Rev. Caroline Cupp

\*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed (Baptismal Format)

What do you believe  
when you confess your faith in “God the Father Almighty?”  
**That God is a God of love,  
and that God’s love is powerful beyond measure.**

What do you affirm  
when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as “our Lord?”  
**That having been raised from the dead  
he reigns with compassion and justice  
over all things in heaven and on earth,  
especially over those who confess him by faith;  
and that by loving and serving him above all else,  
we give glory and honor to God.**

What do you believe  
when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?  
**That apart from the Holy Spirit,  
our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served.  
The Holy Spirit is the personal bond  
by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself,  
the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ,  
and the comforter who leads us to repentance,  
empowering us to live in Christ’s service.**

Song

The Kingdom is Yours

\*Blessing

*\*You are invited to stand as you desire.*

**Leading us in worship today** are Rev. Caroline Cupp, Executive Pastor; Tracy Burke, Liturgist; Peyton Cole, Assistant Organist, The Contemporary Worship Band.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES WEEK OF 9.4.22

**In Memoriam** – George W. Nagorny, member of First Presbyterian Church from February 28, 2000 to August 30, 2022. **Our sympathy and prayers** are with the family of George Nagorny.

**Kickoff Sunday** - Join us next Sunday, September 11 for kick off Sunday. We'll be celebrating the start of the church's program year with a full 9 am service of brass, choir, Sunday School for children, and Pastor Emeritus Bill Hess in the pulpit. Stay afterward for pastries and coffee, followed by a celebratory 10:42 worship service. We look forward to seeing you!

**Sunday Night Bible Study Begins Soon** - This fall Pastor Caroline will lead an 8-week study on the book of Genesis. This first book of the Old Testament weaves together history and theology with the stories of the Scriptures' most intriguing characters. The study will begin on Sunday, September 11 at 7 pm on Zoom. The same study will be offered on Thursdays at 10 am starting Thursday, September 15, in person at the Denney Reyburn building (30 W. Barnard St, WC). Please sign up through the Sign-up tab on the church's website if you are planning to participate at either time.

**Middle School Bible Study** – Sunday Mornings: This year, our middle school Bible study will take place on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. We'll meet in Room 217 to have fun, build relationships, and discuss topics centered around how our faith connects to our everyday life. If you know a middle schooler who would benefit from this time, we'd love to have them. Please reach out to Eric Hankins (ehankins@firstpreswc.com) if you have any questions or would like more info!

**Wednesday Lunches:** Join us each Wednesday any time between 11:30-1:00 for delicious food and conversation. The main course is provided by a local caterer; if you are interested in providing salad, fruit, or dessert for an upcoming week, please contact Pastor Caroline (ccupp@firstpreswc.com).

**Second Chance at the West Chester Walking Tour:** A previously scheduled walking tour of West Chester that examines the town's historic African American communities was canceled earlier this summer due to weather. It has been rescheduled and is now being offered on Saturday, September 10 at 10:00 am. The tour will last approximately 1.5 hours. If you would like to attend, contact Sara Pantazes at spantazes@firstpreswc.com.

**Children's Programming Registration** – The beginning of the school year means it's time for many of our programs for children to resume, and we need to know who is interested in what! Programs for preschool and elementary aged children include Sunday School, Kids Connect, Children's Choir, the new Kids Handbell Choir (Miner Street Bell Connections), and Young Justice Builder's Club. Please go to the Sign-up tab on the church's website to register your children, which will give us up-to-date emergency contact information and helps us know who is planning to participate.

**Greeters 9:00:** Suzy DeGeorge and Barbara Lade

**Coffee Deacon:** Lori McDermott

**Soundboard:** Ann Dickey and Nolan Prochnau