



SUNDAY WORSHIP

August 14, 2022 9:00 am

"We would rather be ruined than changed.

We would rather die in our dread than climb the cross of the present and let our illusions die."

- W. H. Auden

Chimes and Prelude

Were You There
Arr. Stephen DeCesare

*Call to Worship

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ: "Follow me! Be my disciple!"

We come to this place, to this time, at the invitation of Christ.

In the midst of indifference and apathy, we proclaim the God of Love.

In the midst of despair, we proclaim the God of Hope.

In the name of Christ, we accept the invitation to discipleship.

Let us worship God together and share our witness of God's presence in the world!

*Hymn #826

Lift High the Cross

*Prayer of Confession

Far too often, O God, we desire to look wise in the eyes of the world.

We have not spoken truth with our hearts.

We have not loved as you love.

We have lost the path of worship, focusing on form and words rather than deeds.

We have forgotten what true discipleship is.

And because of this, we have put ourselves at a distance from you.

Forgive us and help us live into becoming the people you have called us to be:

People of justice, truth and humility: people of the Cross. Amen.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

**God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. Believe the good news we have in Christ Jesus: our sins are forgiven, and we are made new creatures.
Thanks be to God! 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 22:1-5, 14-19

P.500

Special music

6th Solo Concert for Saxophone
Jean-Baptiste Singelee

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.**

*Prayer of Dedication and Doxology

Old 100th

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Hymn #216

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Prayer for Illumination

**Gracious God, as we turn to your Word, may the Spirit of God rest upon us.
Help us to be steadfast in our hearing, in our speaking,
In our believing and in our living. Amen.**

Sermon

“A Cross: The Universe”

Rev. Dr. David Dickey

*Affirmation of Faith “A Brief Statement of Faith, Part Two”

We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed

and blessing the children, healing the sick

and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,

vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal.

With believers in every time and place,

we rejoice that nothing in life or in death

can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn # 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

*Blessing and Response

Postlude

Allegro from Concerto in A minor
Giuseppe Torelli

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

Leading us in worship today are Rev. Dr. David Dickey, Guest Preacher; Rev. Ann Dickey, Parish Associate; Sandor Kadar, Director of Music; Braden Mulcahy, tenor saxophone; Levente Kuzma, guest organist; Sofia Bobrysheva, cantor.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FIRST PRES
WEEK OF 8.14.22

Wednesday Lunches: Our community lunches are such fun that we've decided to keep them going all summer long. 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).

Backpack Blessing - Students will be returning to school soon which means it's time for First Pres' annual Blessing of the Backpack! This sweet and simple tradition of sending our students and educators back to school with God's blessing and our prayers will take place during both services on Sunday, August 28. Students are welcome to bring their backpacks to service with them and we'll have brand new tags for those who want one.

New Sunday School Teachers Needed - We are looking for two new individuals to join the children's Sunday School teaching team this fall. These individuals do not need to be expert teachers but do need a willingness to explore God's stories and spend time in fellowship with children. Sunday School teachers serve approximately two Sundays a month during the 9:00 service and are resourced and supported by the Director of Faith Formation. Please contact Sara Pantazes at spantazes@firstpreswc.com for more information on this fun, Spirit-filled opportunity.

Summer Office Hours: This summer, the front office will be covered by volunteers from 9am – 1pm, Monday through Thursday. Church staff will be on-site in addition to these hours, so if you need to access the building outside of the 9-1 window, please contact Pastor Caroline or the staff member with whom you will be working.

Greeters: Bill Benson and Barbara Lade at 9:00, John Abernethy at 10:42

Coffee Deacons: Nancy Ferdik, Richard and Susan Smith