

# The First Presbyterian Church of Stirling

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2020

## WELCOME

**PRELUDE**      *Almighty God, Thy Word Is Cast*

by: R. Unkel

## CALL TO WORSHIP

When the shouts of anger and hostility pound upon our ears . . .

***Quiet our hearts, O God, to hear your voice.***

When the arrogance of the world and the carelessness of people threaten to destroy your creation . . .

***Help us be strong in our service of hope and peace.***

O God, hear our voices and our prayers.

***Be with us as we come to you.***

## OPENING PRAYER

Open our hearts and our spirits to hear your healing words of peace and love, O God. Help us be the people of service and justice that you have called us to be. Make us ready to heal rather than harm; to serve rather than sever. Give us hearts of joy and justice, for we offer this prayer in Jesus' name.

***Amen.***

**HYMN**    #460 *Holy God, We Praise Your Name*

I. Franz & J.G. Schicht

***Holy God, we praise your name;***

***Lord of all, we bow before you;***

***All on earth your scepter claim,***

***All in heaven above adore you.***

***Infinite your vast domain,***

***Everlasting is your reign.***

***Hark, the glad celestial hymn***

***Angel choirs above are raising;***

***Cherubim and seraphim***

***In unceasing chorus praising,***

***Fill the heavens with sweet accord:***

***"Holy, holy, holy Lord."***

***All apostles join the strain***

***As your sacred name they hallow;***

***Prophets swell the glad refrain,***

***And the blessed martyrs follow;***

*And from morn to set of sun,  
Through the church the song goes on.*

*Holy Father, Holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name you;  
While in essence only One,  
Undivided God we claim you,  
And adoring bend the knee,  
While we own the mystery.*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Lord, you know we are in the midst of a very confusing political season. The shouts of the partisan communities often deafen us to the needs of those around us. Help us remember that you have called us to service, to ministries of hope and healing. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the chaos that we forget your presence. Give us courage and strength to truly serve you by serving your people. For we ask this in Jesus' name.*

(Silent Personal Confession)

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Beloved of the Lord, you are healed and forgiven. You are called to go forth in compassionate ministry to help others in need.

*God, help us to know that you always go with us on our journeys into ministry. Help us be at peace. Amen.*

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SCRIPTURE READING**      Second Timothy 2:3-15

Hear what the spirit is saying to the Church.

***Thanks be to God!***

**SERMON**                      *Finding God In the World*

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

***We are not alone; we live in God's world.***

***We believe in God: who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.***

**We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **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.**

### **DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

**Offertory            October  
Prayer of Dedication**

by: P. Tchaikovsky

### **HYMN            #386 O For A World**

**O for a world where everyone  
Respects each other's ways.  
Where love is lived and all is done  
With justice and with praise.**

Sr. M.T. Winter & C.G. Gläser

**O for a world where goods are shared  
And misery relieved.  
Where truth is spoken, children spared,  
Equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family  
And struggle with each choice  
That opens us to unity  
And gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong,  
The foolish ones are wise.  
Tell all who mourn, outcasts belong,  
Who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for  
God's glorious reign of peace,  
Where time and tears will be no more,  
And all but love will cease.**

## **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**                      *Lord Keep Us Steadfast In Thy Word*                      by: M. Praetorius

Today's written prayers are by Nancy C. Townley for the *ministrymatters.com* website. The *Affirmation of Faith* is from *The United Church of Canada* from their website: [www.united-church.ca/beliefs/creed](http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/creed).

Tatiana Akhounzianova is the church organist/pianist. Today's Liturgist is Shaylyn Gallagan.

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Bill Richter, Nina (Tatiana's Mother,) Kristin & Karin & Steve (Joyce Koenig), George Armenti III, Ann Ventura (Toni Hopcraft), B.J. Cardinali, Robin Schmidt, Sheryl Greife (Tom Parziale), Art Fletcher, Jennifer Moore (Veronica Moore), Bill Hurlock (Joyce Koenig), Phyllis Clemson, Justin Byrnes (Tom Parziale), Bryan Hague, Al Wermuth (Paul & Sue Wermuth), Maryann (Leslie Beechner), Howard Boice (Bill Hopcraft), Nancy Walsh (Dawn Mackay), Vicky Sama (Joanne Sama), Jean Marie Dowling (Lore & Rich Pateman), Marge McKeever (Brooke Parziale's grandmother), Veronica Moore, Lore Pateman, Danica Lamza Ridgway (Kim Ridgway), Peg Arnold (Jan Somers)

## **BIRTHDAYS**

Phyllis Clemson	Sunday, 10/11
Garrett Blakeslee	Tuesday, 10/13
Pat Elmi	Tuesday, 10/13

## **FLOWERS**

The flowers this morning are given by Carolyn Malfatone in loving memory of her husband, Ralph.