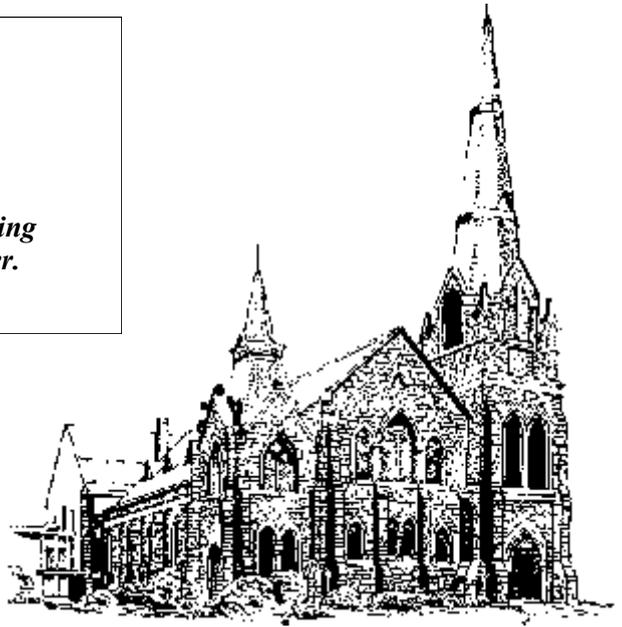


THE  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
AT CALDWELL

***Our Purpose:  
To help all people build life-transforming  
relationships with God and each other.***



***The members and friends of FPC welcome people from all backgrounds - -  
people of faith from throughout the world, people who profess no faith,  
Christians of all denominations and those who are searching  
for religious and spiritual meaning.  
Welcome!***

**September 18, 2016  
Ten o'clock  
18th Sunday after Pentecost**

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**GATHERING**

**NEW BEGINNINGS REFLECTION**

*People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within.*

*Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross (1926-2004)*

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.*

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)*

**PRELUDE**

*“Morning Has Broken”*

*Hank Badings (1907-1987)*

Introduction, Choral and Finale on the Gaelic Melody

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

If you are tired, come and worship!

If you are hungry, come and worship!

If you are filled with joy, come and worship!

If your spirit feels renewed, come and worship!

Our God desires our worship, whether we have much or little to give.  
There is healing when we come before our God.  
All who are gathered here, come and worship!

## OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN NO. 462

*“I Love to Tell the Story”*  
*Lighting the candles today is Acolyte Daniel Barnes.*

Hankey

## CONFESSION

### CORPORATE CONFESSION

**O God, in Christ Jesus you proclaimed your love for all creation. Have mercy on us as we confess our sin. You have given us your light and truth to guide us through confusion, yet we rely instead on our own human wisdom and have lost our way. You offer to share our burdens and give us your strength, yet we trust in our own efforts and find ourselves exhausted. Bring us back into your presence, O God. Give us the vision and courage to live in the light of your love, that we may receive your blessing.**

### PERSONAL CONFESSION

In Christ’s name we pray.

**Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

...Friends, believe the good news.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 626

*“As the Deer”*

**As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart’s desire, and I long to worship you.  
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart’s desire, and I long to worship you.**

## PROCLAIMING AND RESPONDING

ANTHEM

*“Let the Church say Amen”*  
Chancel Choir

Andrae Crouch

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*We welcome into the family of God through baptism Anna Catherine Froelich, daughter of Christina and Andrew, born on March 5, 2016. Assisting with the Baptism is Elder James Heinegg.*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*“The Apostles’ Creed”*

Do you believe in God the Creator?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in God the Redeemer?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF DEDICATION

*“God Claims You”* (projected on screen)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

**Please note:** *Children through 7th grade may leave the sanctuary for Sunday School following the Time with the Children. Please exit through the doors on either side of the Choir loft.*

COMMISSIONING OF 2016-2017 CONFIRMATION CLASS

PARISH LIFE

**Members, friends and visitors**, please sign the Friendship Pad in each pew and pass it to the person next to you. The last person will pass the pad back to the first person, who will then please place the sheet in the offering plate. **Worshippers are invited to use the cards in the pew racks for prayer requests so we may share one another’s joys and concerns.** *The ushers will collect the cards during the hymn following the sermon and they will be offered during the Prayers of the People.*

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

*“New Beginnings”*

Kaitlyn Heun

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 21:4-9

pg. 134 in pew Bible (OT)

John 3:14-21

pg. 88 in pew Bible (NT)

SERMON

*“Lovers of the Light”*

Dr. Sommers

\*HYMN NO. 543 (stanzas 1-4) *“God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”*

Green Tyler

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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*“How Great Thou Art”*

Arr. Lloyd Larson

Cynthia Welborn and Melissa Welborn, Duet

\*RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING NO. 710 *“We Lift Our Voices”*

Offering

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands;  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands;  
Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.  
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,  
we give to you, we give to you.**

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands;  
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering;  
we are an offering.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**GOING FORTH**

\*BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 543 “*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*” Green Tyler

**Christ in the eyes of all who see me  
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ surround me.**

\*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please exchange greetings of welcome and peace with your neighbor.*

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*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

†If you are new to the church...**Welcome!** We're glad to have you here. Please ask an usher to direct you to *Visitor packets* at the rear of the church. They can be found on the table near the usher's closet under the balcony stairs. After the 10:00am service today, we hope you will join us for Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall located through the door to the left of the choir loft and left to the end of the hall.

†The white rose on the communion table celebrates the life of First Presbyterian Church Member, Nancy Saulter, and remembers the promise of the resurrection in her death on Sunday, September 11, 2016. Our sympathy is extended to Nancy's family and friends.

†The flowers this morning, are given to the glory of God in memory of...  
... my parents Kenneth E. and Louise M. Ritscher By Louise Ritscher.

† Your prayers of intercession are requested for those members and friends known to be *currently or recently hospitalized or who continue to need our prayers and support:*

... Harry Coppens, The Dennison Family, Bill Hayden, Don Hults, Edith Jipp, Diana Linfante, The Marr Family, Barbara Piggery, Louise Ritscher, Christina Turkington, The Collin Williams Family, Laura Winter and Clarence and Helena Wispelwey. The church office will be happy to verify their home addresses for you should you wish to send them words of encouragement or get well wishes

†It is easy to join our mailing list! Just text FPC to 42828 and follow the prompt to send your e-mail address by text message.



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