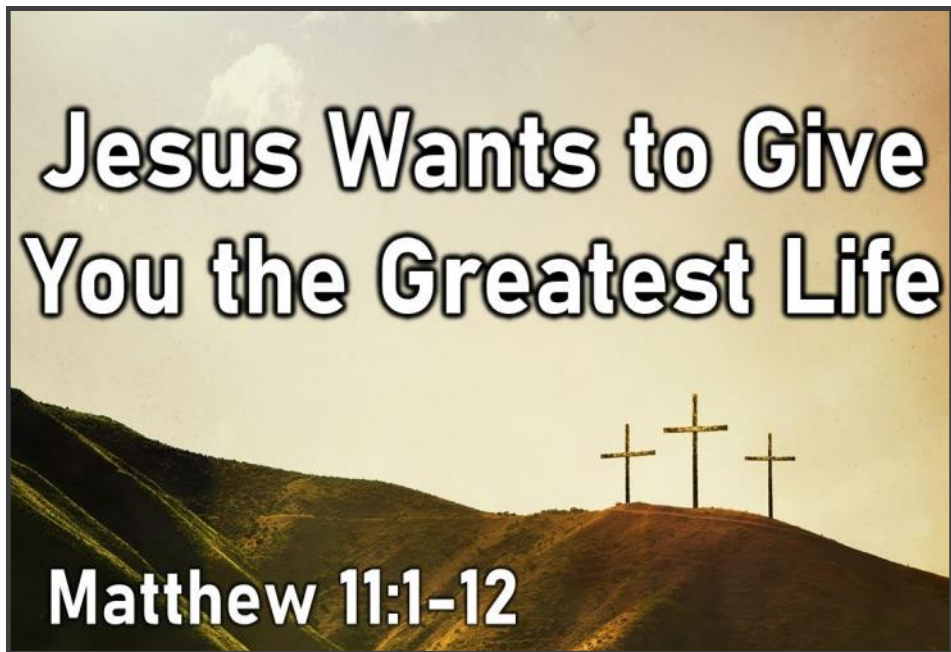


WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF BISMARCK, ND

“REFORMATION SUNDAY”



October 27, 2024

10:00a.m. Service

Our Mission

We are a community called to love God through worship and prayer, receiving and serving our neighbors with the compassion of Christ, open to new beginnings and the spiritual growth of children, youth and adults.

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS THIS MORNING AND
INVITE YOU TO MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US FOR
COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

TODAY is the day Westminster Chimes is selling freshly baked caramel rolls in the parlor. All proceeds go to the Handbell Festival Trip fund. Hurry in before they're gone!



Worship Participants:

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor

Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.

Andrea Nguyen, Keyboards

Shari Orser, Lay Reader

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.

Becky & Dennis Rosenkranz, Ella & Tedd Gutzke,

Don Bigwood and Victor Sonneman ~ Ushers

**PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR "PINK PRAYER REQUEST CARDS"
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE USHERS WILL COLLECT THEM
DURING THE OPENING HYMN. THANK YOU!**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord,
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
And renew a right spirit within me.**

Prayer of Confession

Pastor: Remember, O God, the people of this world, divided into many nations, religions and tongues. Deliver us from every evil that stands in the way of your saving purpose and fulfill the promise of peace on earth among those with whom you are well pleased.

People: Help us find a new way, God, to turn from the curse of war and the human sin that causes war; a way from pride that turns its back on you; from unbelief that will not bow to you, away from self-righteousness that will not compromise, from selfishness that glories in the oppression of others, from the lust for property or power that drives humanity to kill, from trusting in the weapons of war and mistrusting the councils of peace, from hearing, believing and speaking lies about other nations and religions, from ground-less suspicions and fears that stand in the way of reconciliation, from words and deeds that encourage discord, prejudice and hatred; from everything that prevents the human family from fulfilling your promise of peace.

Pastor: And now, O God, hear our private confessions we lift up to you now in silence...(Silent Individual Confession) In the grace of Christ we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Gloria Patri and Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Hymnal #579

Young Disciples Message

***Prayer of Gratitude for the Grace of Giving**

AND PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

Proclamation of the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1-22

Anthem

“Creation Will Be At Peace”

J. Paul Williams/Anna Page

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 11:1-12

Sermon

“The Underside”

***Confession of Our Faith** - from the Belhar Confession

Pastor: We believe:

**that God has revealed himself as the One who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;
...that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;
that God calls the Church to follow him in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;
...that the Church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the Church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.**

Pastor: Therefore, we reject any ideology:

People: which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Responding to God’s Word

***Closing Hymn**

“We Shall Overcome”

see attached

Sending Forth in God’s Name

Benediction and Blessing

Benediction Response

“Go Out With Joy”

Linda and Jo Huerta

Postlude

“Let There Be Peace On Earth”

arr. Lisa D. Lukas

First Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1-22

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God -⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

→

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.



Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 11:1-12

After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee. ² When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³ to ask him, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

⁴ Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵ The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶ Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

⁷ As John's disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸ If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings' palaces. ⁹ Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written:

'I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹ Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been subjected to violence, and violent people have been raiding it.

Opening Hymn

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom 378



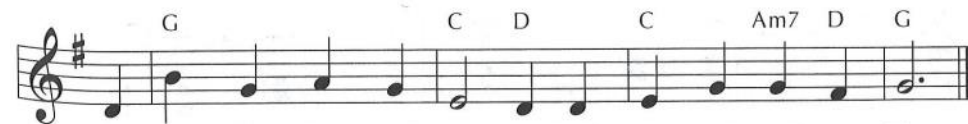
1 We wait the peace-ful king-dom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
2 Where is the peace-ful king-dom? When will this new day start?
3 When wars of des-o-la-tion and hate come to an end,
4 That lit-tle child shall lead us to walk the cho-sen way,



in gen-tle-ness and friend-ship with-out a fear or sigh,
We long for peace and com-fort to reign with-in each heart.
when na-tion meets with na-tion and calls the oth-er "friend,"
to share the peace-ful king-dom, to greet God's new-born day.



when li-on shall be graz-ing, when snake shall nev-er strike;
Yet not in our lives on-ly, nor sim-ply in our home:
still peace in all its full-ness will on-ly have be-gun:
The child born in a sta-ble is sent to break our chains,



a lit-tle child shall lead us both strong and weak a-like.
we pray that all cre-a-tion will one day find sha-lom.
sha-lom for all cre-a-tion be-gins with jus-tice done.
to bring through word and ta-ble the day when jus-tice reigns.

This text paraphrases Isaiah 11:6-9 in the first stanza, then reflects on that passage in widening frames of reference from self to all creation and identifies its "little child" with one born at Bethlehem. The tune is named for the composer's sister, his first piano teacher.

TEXT: Kathleen R. Moore, 2010
MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1983
Text © 2010 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)
Music © 1983 Hope Publishing Company

MERLE'S TUNE
7.6.7.6.D

CCL #2845157

Closing Hymn

We Shall Overcome

1 We shall o - ver - come; we shall o - ver - come;
2 We'll walk hand in hand; we'll walk hand in hand;
3 We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace;
4 We are not a - fraid; we are not a - fraid;
5 God will see us through; God will see us through;

we shall o - ver - come some - day.
we'll walk hand in hand some - day.
we shall live in peace some - day.
we are not a - fraid to - day.
God will see us through to - day.

Refrain

O, deep in my heart I do be -

lieve we shall o - ver - come some - day!

Though now associated primarily with the Civil Rights Movement of the mid-20th century, this spiritual most likely dates from the days of the slave trade; and similarities with the tune SICILIAN MARINERS (see no. 546) suggest that it might have been a work-song aboard slave ships.

FPC Childcare Center Halloween Parade

Who doesn't love handing out candy to the little ones!?? If you would like to join us **on Wednesday, October 30th at 10AM**, the kids will make the rounds through the church offices, Narthex and Parlor.

Here's a suggested list of treats: suckers/ring pops, fruit snacks, Reese's peanut butter cups, raisins, fruit roll-ups, juice boxes, tootsie rolls, or holiday pencils!

Let us know if you can come, we will set up a table for you!

"The Banquet" Dinner, Thursday, November 7, 2024

Our church again is hosting "The Banquet" at the Dream Center (1805 Park Avenue) on Thursday, November 7. Volunteers are needed to prepare, set up and serve more than 200 meals and clean up afterwards. The sign-up sheet is posted on the Volunteer Board in the Narthex. First Presbyterian has been involved in this ministry for many years and it cannot be done without the help of volunteers. If you would like to donate money to help with the purchase of food, you may drop off your donation at the church office and note "The Banquet" in the memo line if writing a check.



SAVE THE DATE:

In addition, our church will host and help prepare the Thanksgiving meal at the Dream Center on Thanksgiving evening, November 28. Look for the signup sheet in the Narthex in November.

CHRISTIAN ED COMMITTEE



Christian Ed Committee is asking for a variety of candy, individually wrapped for the **PAC Halloween Party on Wednesday, October 30th!**

Please drop off in the Church Office by Monday 10/28

Calendar

- Mon., Oct. 28 - **5:30pm** Joint CE/W&M meeting
6:30pm Scouts
- Tues., Oct. 29 - **11:00AM** Balance & Strength Class
- Wed., Oct. 30 - **10 AM CCC Halloween Parade**
5:45pm PAC/Teens-Halloween Party!
6:30pm Westminster Chimes
7:30pm Chancel Choir
- Thu., Oct. 31 - **11:00AM** Balance & Strength Class
NO Yoga
- Fri., Nov. 1 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sat., Nov. 2 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sun., Nov. 3 - 10:00am Worship “**All Saints’ Day**”
communion—time change

PLEASE STAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP FOR A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO ELECT ELLA G. TO THE DEACON BOARD!

October Donation Opportunity:

First Presbyterian Church will be collecting canned food items for the Bismarck Emergency Food Pantry during October. As the price of food continues to rise, donations are needed more than ever to support the work of the Food Pantry. Please bring your donations of canned fruit and vegetables to the church and place them in the donation box.



We are so grateful for all the blessings God has given us!

We no longer pass the offering plates, our offering baskets are next to the exits of the Sanctuary. If you would like to give a donation to the ministry of this church you can also go to our website: fpcbismarck.com and click on the DONATE button. Thank you!



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:

- Nov. 3 - All Saints' Sunday– communion
Nov. 24 - St. Andrew's Day with FPC Mandan & Glencoe Sloan Memorial Presbyterian
Nov. 27 - 7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service
Nov. 28 & 29 - **FPC & CCC OFFICES CLOSED**
Happy Thanksgiving!
Dec. 7 - Breakfast with Santa!

Considering the upcoming winter season:

We are putting plans in place to keep all members informed of any cancelations or changes in our church services or activities!

We will post updates on our Facebook page -
and send out church wide emails.

Please let us know if you are not getting the mass emails...
If you don't have email or Facebook and you would like a phone call

Please call the church office to update our records:

223-6091



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www.fpcbismarck.com

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8-4:30