



-First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024

Christmas in August

Welcome to our church! It is a joy to worship with you on this morning. Please join us after worship in Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

**Please stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

We Gather as God's People

OPENING PRAYER – *let us pray.*

Loving and Gracious God, we know that it's not quite Christmas yet. We still have months to go before we can celebrate your birth. As we move into fall, we're looking for a bit of that Christmas joy, the sparkling lights under decorated trees. Rebirth is something that is always happening around us; in the springtime buds, the summer sunsets, the autumn hues, and the

winter snowfall. May we see the joy of your presence surrounding us throughout our year. May this joy move us to bear kindness, creating your Realm here on earth. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** – *Please stand and join me in the call to worship.*

God who dwells in the mystery of life

Fill us with wonder as we traipse around your world.

Christ who offers kindness and mercy

Fill us with understanding as we meet our stranger, enemy, and friend.

Spirit who delivers dreams to us

Draw us into your visions of love for our neighbors.

***HYMN #791 (GtG)** *For You, My God, I Wait (v.1,5,6)*

*For you, my God, I wait
With hope born of the Word.
Like sleepless ones
Who long to dream
I wait and call my Lord.*

*And once my soul is still,
In you I find my rest,
At peace as though
A child upon
A gentle mother's breast.*

*O God, you are my hope;
I know that you forgive.*

*Your love redeems me
From the depths
So I may rise and live.*

CALL TO CONFESSION – *Please be seated.*

Out of the depths we cry to God, in our suffering and in our pain. Out of the depths God cries to us, asking us to repent, to return to God with our whole hearts, to admit our sin, and to accept forgiveness. So let us pray with one another, first in silence.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION - *Please join me in the unison prayer of confession.*

God of all the saints, God of all the sinners, hear our prayer. We would be saintlike – holy, good, patient, loving. But we end up feeling more like sinners – full of failures of morality, selfish, mean. Perhaps You see us simply as human – as beloved, and flawed, and trying, and failing, and succeeding. In all of this, forgive the wrong that we have done, and the bless the good we have accomplished. Keep on loving us, and helping us, and molding us more and more into the image of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

KYRIE #572

“Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy up on us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Our God who gives us rebirth, resurrections, and renewals lavishes us with grace. May God's mercy allow us to see how newness can transform our lives.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

SUNG RESPONSE #582 (GtG)

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – *at this time, all children are invited up to hear a short message! After, kindergarten and younger can be dismissed to Story Circle with Olivia Meyers. Those older than kindergarten may return to their pews. We have activity bags available for their use in the back.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION– *Let us pray.*

God of all, open our hearts and minds to find your Truth in all places. Teach us your unforced rhythms of grace that our lives might reflect your Wisdom. With Christ as our guide, we live and pray. Amen.

FIRST READING*Isaiah 9:6-7*

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onwards and for evermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

SECOND READING*Matthew 1:18-25*

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When

Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

SERMON

Rev. Kori Robbins

We Respond to God's Love

***HYMN #100 (GtG)** *Canticle of the Turning*

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?*

Refrain

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.*

*Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,*

*and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain***

*From the halls of power to the fortress tower,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
every tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, every mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. **Refrain***

*Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. **Refrain***

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

God has not waited to be discovered. The Lord has taken the initiative and addressed his Word to humankind in many ways. Through the Word of God the world was created. The Word became flesh in Jesus Christ. Through the Word of God the New Creation is being formed. We believe God's Word is God's communication to us. Although God is free to speak to us in unexpected ways, we confidently

listen for his Word in Jesus Christ, in holy Scripture, in preaching and the sacraments.

(from “A Declaration of Faith,” 1977)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting indeed that you are always there, we pray to you now as your Son taught us, saying together,

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.

CALL FOR OFFERING

In the kingdom of God, we find that generosity of spirit, generosity of possessions & the radical sharing of skills are practiced openly. All gifts are important to God, so as the offering plate comes around, place your hand over it, committing to God that you will use your time, talent and treasures for furthering the work of God’s kingdom.

OFFERTORY

(If you prefer to give online you may scan this code to be directed to the Giving Page)



***RESPONSE OF PRAISE #694 (GtG)**

Great God of every blessing,
of faithful, loving care
You are the fount of goodness,
the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you?
The praise is but a start.
Sincerely and completely, I offer you my heart.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** – *Please join me in saying
the prayer of dedication.*

The Gift of Christmas is greater than what can be found in any wrapped box. Christmas has presented us with Christ in our midst. As the Magi presented gifts to Jesus at his birth, we present our gifts to you, God. Whether Christmas or Easter, Pentecost or any ordinary day, we share our gifts with the church and community. Help us pass on your love to our neighbors through our talents, treasures, and time. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #29** *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

Chorus:

*Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!*

*While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold through-out the heavens
There shone a holy light. (chorus)*

*The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. (chorus)*

***BENEDICTION**

***CLOSING RESPONSE** *Go On Your Way in Joy*

Go on your way in joy, my friends.

Go on your way in joy, my friends.

Go on your way in joy, my friends.

Let your left foot say, "Glory"

And your right say, "Amen."

Prayer List

MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Marlyne Young Shirley Dull Helen Redmond

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH, SUPPORT AND CONCERN

Names will be taken off after 6 weeks, unless otherwise noted.

James Tincher (Marlene's son)

Cody Tittle (Marlene's friend)

Marlene Tincher

Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)

Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)

Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)

Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)

Chuck & Bonnie Jorza (Linda Frayer's Sister-in-Law)

Cheryl Beanblossom (Valerie Copanic's sister)

Joan Williams

Rusty Garland

Kathy Garland

Vince Fazio (Marty O'Neill's friend)

Mary Jane Hileman

Mason Blackburn (Mary J. Shaffer's friend)

Jim Meyers (Darryl's brother)

Joe Scafuri (Terry Goodman's father-in-law)

Dawn Wilson

Cameron Watkins

Irene Spainhower (Darlene Smith Aunt)

Jeff Pitzer (friend of Jane Meyers)

Jim Harper (Jessica Painter's grandpa)

John (uncle of Mary Nolasco)

Penny Delleiso (Patty Postlethwait's mother)

Pam Kuzawa (Patty Postlethwait's aunt)

Jack (Tom Redmond's brother)

Dennis Eggert (January Rendes father)
Shayne Gleason (January Rendes friend)
Samara Fabian
Ginny Gilmore
Marge & Ernie Ankeny (Marty O'Neill's in-laws)
Gwen Martin (Melissa Keeley's friend)

Prayers for the World

Peace and healing for our country and the world
Eastminster Presbytery and staff
Our Mineral Ridge Church Family
Mineral Ridge Community Food Pantry
World Leaders
Refugees
Niles Community Services
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Mission
Our PC(USA) coworkers
Ukraine
Citizens of Israel and Palestine

Announcements



The Community Pantry Summer Food Distribution will take place on Tuesday, August 20th from 10am-12pm.

The outing for the Scrapper's Game will take place on Friday, August 23rd. First pitch will be at 7:05pm. Fireworks will take place after the game.

Next Sunday, August 25th we will be blessing our back packs, diaper bags, brief cases, etc. Plan on coming next week and bringing your articles that you want a Blessing Tag for. Having one of these on your article will remind you that God blesses you especially when you are out and about.

Plan on coming to a special time on the September 8, the Sunday after Labor Day at 9:15 to celebrate all of our birthdays with a fun birthday party. This is for all ages from the tiny baby to the oldest of our folks. We will have balloons, games, food and fellowship. We may be able to teach the young ones some of the games the older folks played when they were young. **If you do not usually come at 9:15 make this the one time in the year that you do.** If you have questions you can ask Debbie Rendes, Lori Brendlinger, Carole Rummell or Pastor Kori. Regular classes for all ages will start the next Sunday 9/15.



Anniversary Wishes

Sherry & Tim Gleason 08/20



Birthday Wishes

Carole Rummell 08/19

Ameera Crozier 08/20

Ken McCabe 08/21

Nicole Pugh 08/21

Kylee Palomo 08/22

Responsibilities



Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins

Liturgist- Matt Glidewell

Elder- Lisa Sorg

Deacon- Patty Postlethwait

Music- Anita Miller

Story Circle- Olivia Meyers

Thank you for your generosity!



(We need \$3,000 weekly to make our budget!)

August 11th \$1,882

August 04th \$875

(July Online \$932)

July 28th \$497



This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 18 10:00am Worship/Fellowship

Monday, August 19 7:00pm Al-Anon & Al-Ateen

Tuesday, August 20 10am-12pm Community Pantry
Distribution
6:30pm Committee Night

Thursday, August 22 4:00pm M.R. Football Team

Sunday, August 25 10:00am Worship/Fellowship

Staff

Pastor

Reverend Kori Robbins
(406)-560-5548
Pastor@FPCMR.org

Christian Education

Carole Rummell

Administrative Assistant

April Dahl
330-652-5712

Custodian

Patty Postlethwait

Story Circle Attendant

Olivia Meyers

Media

Samara Fabian
Mason Meyers

Hours

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday-Thursday
9am-3pm

General Office Hours

Tuesday/Thursday
9am-1pm

Church Info

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