



First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge

**14th Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2024**

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.*

Surprising God of mercy and love, thank you for calling to us this day. We praise you that you challenge us to show our faith in ministries of peace and justice, offering compassion to all in need. We are ready to open our hearts and minds today to hear your words of encouragement and challenge. Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. We come convinced of many things

but trusting very few. Holy God of limitless surprises, meet us here in this place as we touch that which we cannot see that which we have not dared to hope. We offer this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

The Lord comes to us this day. Are you ready?

We are ready!

The Lord challenges us to be in ministries of peace and hope. Are you ready?

We are ready!

Let us praise God who calls us to serve God by helping others.

Praise be to God who has given us hope and peace.

***HYMN #525**

Here I Am Lord

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
My hand will save.*

*I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send? **Refrain***

Refrain:

*Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.*

*I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? **Refrain***

*I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.*

*Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? **Refrain***

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.*

Forgiving God, you know how easy it is for us to celebrate with joy the wonders of your love. We create wonderful art to represent the joy we feel. Our music soars to the heavens in praise of you.

Yet how often we have left our service to you as mere thoughts and intentions without fulfillment. You ask us to be ready to serve you at any time, but we place our commitment on the "to do" list of life; we will do these things when we get to them. Forgive our hesitancy and our self-serving ways, O Lord. Heal us of the disease of seeking first our own comfort before we engage in acts of justice and mercy. Open our eyes and ears to the cries of those in need. Help us to give and also to receive ministries of love and reconciliation as we serve you with our whole hearts. Then our music, our art, our worship will truly reflect your awesome and abundant love for us. Amen.

KYRIE #572

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

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

It is God's good pleasure to give us the kingdom. It is our joy to serve God by helping each other and all those in need. Be assured of God's tender mercy toward you and continue that love in all that you do.

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.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Congregational Prayer— *Please join me in a prayer for those returning from their summer routines.*

We pray for all those who learn—children, youth, young adults and adults. Keep them from being discouraged when facing the trials of the day. Instill in them a desire to grow in wisdom and understanding. Grant them the discipline of study and the ability to concentrate. We pray for all of us as learners, O God. We know that we never stop learning about your love and faithfulness. We thank you, O God our creator, for teaching us through your word and through your son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

Receiving God’s Blessing

At this time, we invite those who wish to receive a blessing to come up to the front for a tag, pencil or pen.

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

Hebrews 11: 32-40

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith

conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

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

SECOND READING

Luke 12:32-40

‘Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

‘Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve

them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

‘But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.’

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

SERMON

Rev. Kori Robbins

We Respond to God’s Love

***HYMN #319**

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain:

Spirit, spirit of gentleness,

Blow through the wilderness, calling and free.

Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness,

Wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters; you called to the deep;

Then you coaxed up the mountains

From the valleys of sleep,

And over the eons you called to each thing,

‘Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings’

Refrain

You swept through the desert; You stung with the sand;

And you gifted your people

with a law and a land.

*When they were blinded with their idols and lies,
Then you spoke through your prophets
To open their eyes. Refrain*

*You sang in a stable; you cried from a hill;
Then you whispered in silence
When the whole world was still.
And down in the city, you called once again
When you blew through your people
On the rush of the wind. Refrain*

*You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes;
From the bondage of sorrow
the captives dream dreams
Our women see visions; our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions
your people arise. Refrain*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Christian fellowship was not a society of perfect people. The struggle between the old way of life and the new was severe. Yet the Spirit produced among followers of Jesus love, joy, peace, and victories in the battle against evil. We believe the Holy Spirit works today whenever believers grow toward maturity in Christ. As long as we live we struggle with sin, but the Spirit's presence assures us God will complete what he has begun in us.

(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,

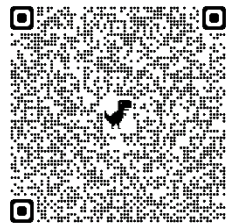
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power 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.*

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. Let us give away generously, in this offering, to bless your church, your people, your creation.

We Go Out to Serve God

***HYMN #301 (GTG)** *Let Us Build a House (v.1,3,5)*

*Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.*

*Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.*

*Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
All are welcome in this place.*

***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)
Dale Lytle and family
Paul Bitner (Terry Goodman's neighbor)

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



Deacons will meet Monday, August 26th and Session will meet Tuesday, August 27th. Both meetings will begin at 6:30pm.

Plan on coming to a special time on 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.

Birthday Wishes



Makayla Warrick 08/25
Derek Brendlinger 08/28
Hailey McMullen 08/30

Responsibilities



Pastor- Rev. Kori Robbins
Liturgist- Jill Fabian
Elder- Lisa Sorg
Deacon- Lori Brendlinger
Music- Anita Miller
Story Circle- Olivia Meyers

Thank you for your generosity!

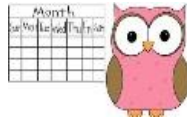


(We need \$3,000 weekly to make our budget!)

August 18th \$630

August 11th \$1,882

August 04th \$875



This Week at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, August 25 10:00am Worship/Fellowship

Monday, August 26 6:30pm Deacon's Meeting
7:00pm Al-Anon & Al-Ateen

Tuesday, August 27 6:30pm Session

Thursday, August 29 4:00pm M.R. Football Team

Sunday, September 01 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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Admin@FPCMR.org

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Website

www.fpcmr.org

Clerk of Session: mrfpcclerk@gmail.com