



First Presbyterian Church

at the heart of Anaheim

September 10, 2023





*You are invited to stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

Pastorale

Lefebure-Wely

CHORAL INTROIT

Come to the Table of Grace (Love Verse)

WELCOME & RESPONSE

Come to the Table of Grace

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.

Come to the table of love.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to this table not only for food, but for friendship and family.

We are here not only to eat, but to serve.

We invite everyone to join in the feast.

We are all part of one human family. We are united in love.

***HYMN NO 372** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Lord, I want to be Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, in-a my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving in-a my heart...

Lord, I want to be more holy in-a my heart...

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in-a my heart...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

[Open both palms upward in the sign language for "give"]

We thank you, Creator God, that you formed every one of us—giving us your image—the desire for relationship. Forgive us for the ways we have marred that image. Restore us by your grace.

[Place your hands together in the sign for "to be with."]

We thank you, Sustainer God, that you are here with us

and call us to be with one and for one another. Forgive us our love of individualism and our tendency to allow our needs to blind us to the needs of others. Break our hearts open by your grace.

[Bring your hands close to your face, in the sign for “prayer.”]

We thank you, God, for breathing into us the breath of life. Even when we have turned away, you have remained with us, close as breath. Help us to remain close with one another, offering the breath of life wherever we can.

ANTHEM

A Jubilant Song

Allen Pote

PASSING THE PEACE

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *As We Gather At Your Table*

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,

Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story

'til we claim it as our own; Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 13:8-14 and Matthew 18:15-20

(The Message)

SERMON

The Litmus Test of Love

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from 1 John 4:7-12

**Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;
everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.**

Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way:

God sent Jesus into the world so that we might live through him.

**In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent Jesus to be
the atoning sacrifice for our sins.**

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God;

if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

RESPONSE *At This Table*

At this table we lift our voices in prayer. At this table we seek your peace. At this table we know you have drawn near.

At this table we find release.

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.

***HYMN** *We Are One in the Spirit*

We are one in the

Spirit, we are one in the Lord (repeat)

And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Refrain:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,

Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand...

And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land [R]

We will work with each other, we will work side by side...

And we'll guard human dignity and save human pride. [R]

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,

And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,

And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one. [R]

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Allegro*

Samuel Long

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Kim Skilling - Pastor

Dr. David Hughes - Music Director

Carol Hughes - Organist/Pianist

Chris Coleman, Director - Anaheim Readers Theater

Abbott Hatch & Richard Ramich – Sound and Video

Announcements

Worship Notes

Hearing assistance devices are available at the tech table (or ask a greeter).

For our Children: Worship activity bags are available from the greeters and we have a "Prayground", located at the front right of the Sanctuary. Nursery care is available for children up to age 6.



Coffee Fellowship

Every Sunday in the courtyard, following the Worship Service.

Today is Rally Day

Today we welcome back the Chancel Choir and offer for our students, teachers, and school staff at the beginning of a new school year.

In addition, we invite everyone to remain after worship to continue the celebration at a free hot dog lunch (veggie dogs will be available).

THIS WEEK

Zoom Bible Study

Wednesdays at 10am

All are invited to join to join us online: Zoom.us

Meeting ID: 608 966 196 Passcode: 5352176

Chancel Choir Practice, Thursdays at 7pm and Sundays at 9:30 am

Speak with Dr. Hughes for more details.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 24, 2023

Lunch Bunch

Anyone who wishes is invited to join in going out to lunch following worship. This month we plan to return to California Baja Mexican Restaurant that is located in the Vons Shopping center on Lincoln.

September 26, 2023

Gathering of Spirits

Join us at 5:45 pm at Windsor Browns for a time when our spirits encounter God's Spirit in spirited discussion on wide ranging topics.

October 8, 2023

Flu Shot Clinic

Please note the new time: 11am to 3 pm.

Free vaccinations will be available through Hoag' for anyone age 10 or older.

October 14, 2023 Visio Divina Prayer Workshop

10:30am- 11:30am in the Church Library

This class will be led by Christine Lee Smith, a professional photographer and jspiritual director. Donations for the class will be donated to the church for Sanctuary improvements.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those in treatment for cancer: John Harb (Kendall Schubert's father), Matthew Williams (Jack and Geri Baird's grandson), Catherine Morris, Bill Anderson (Bruce Anderson's Brother)

Please pray for those on hospice: Patricia Carl

Please continue to pray for the health of: Dave Lopez (Alan Lopez' brother), Harvey Taylor, Dave Lopez, , Mellody Anderson, Norma Leichtweis, Daline Goode & Family (Mellody Anderson's cousin), Esther Fieldhouse, Luca (son of Christina Cuddy's friend), Carol Talbot, Wanda Reynolds.

WAYS TO GIVE

**Donations can be mailed to: First Presbyterian Church 310 W Broadway, Anaheim, CA 92805.
or Give online at www.anaheimfirstpres.org**