



First Presbyterian Church

at the heart of Anaheim

September 17, 2023





*You are invited to stand as you are able.

PRELUDE

Praise be to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ Johann Buttstedt

CHORAL INTROIT

Come to the Table of Grace

WELCOME & RESPONSE

Come to the Table of Grace (Peace Verse)

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace.

This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather today to listen, to learn, and to love.

We are ready to share and to hear what others have to say.

Though we are all different, we yearn to find a mutual understanding.

We are standing on common ground.

We take our seat at the Table of Peace.

We know that God is already here!

***HYMN**

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Prayer of St. Francis

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.

Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and merciful God, you know our hearts and you know our lives. We confess to you that which causes separation, that which causes pain, that which causes distress, and that which breaks down. We confess to you our part in those things. And in humility and hope, we ask for your help to do better, to reconcile, to heal, to soothe, to build up. So may we love you and neighbor, and follow our Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

As the Deer Pants

G.P. Palestrina

PASSING THE PEACE

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 14: 1-12 and Matthew 18: 21-35

(The Message)

SERMON

You've got your hands full!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Iona Community Worship Book

We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that awaits to enslave us all and whose love, defeating deathless, holds a promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; and in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the Earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful, wherever found. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

***HYMN NO 432** *Canto de Esperanza/Song of Hope* Argentina

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.

May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;

Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

Dios de la esperanza, danos gozo y paz. al mundo en crisis, habla tu verdad.

Dios de la justicia, mándanos to luz, luz y esperanza en la oscuridad.

Oremos por la paz, cantemos de tu amor.

Luchemos por la paz, fieles a ti, Señor.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Praise be to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ*

Samuel Scheidt

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Gail Stearns, Preacher

Dr. David Hughes - Music Director

Carol Hughes - Organist/Pianist

Dale Ramont - Liturgist

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.

THIS WEEK

Zoom Bible Study on September 20, 2023

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 7, 2023

Blessing of the Animals

In partnership with Citi Paws

122 W Broadway

12:00pm-2:00pm

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 spiritual director. Donations for the class will be donated to the church for Sanctuary improvements.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please continue to prayer for Dave Lopez (Alan Lopez' brother) as his body adjusts to his heart transplant.

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**