

Order of Worship
July 19, 2026
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude *Sweet Songs*, Smith

Call to Worship (Responsive) from *Psalm 86*
One: I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart,
All: and I will glorify your name forever.
One: You are God merciful and gracious,
All: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Let us worship God!

Hymn No. 24 *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Confession (Unison)
God of all goodness, You call us to excellence that serves the common good, yet we confess that we too often settle for what serves ourselves. We have failed to love our neighbors with courage, ignored the needs of our communities, and withdrawn from the hard work of seeking justice, compassion, and peace. We have been quick to criticize those who serve and slow to recognize the good you are doing through others. Forgive us for the ways we contribute to distrust, division, and corruption. By your Spirit, renew our hearts with the excellence of Christ. Give us wisdom to discern what is right, courage to do the next faithful thing, and grace to work alongside others for the flourishing of all your children. May our lives point beyond ourselves to your redeeming love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Moment for Silent Confession

Kyrie No. 551
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Gloria No. 581
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Passing of the Peace

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading *Philippians 4:4-9*

Word to Grow By

Special Music *Day by Day*, Tyra Crowe and Karen Herring, soloists (11:00)

Second Reading *2 Peter 1:2-8*

Sermon *Whatever Is Excellent*, Rev. Dr. Kathy Wolf Reed

Hymn No. 314 *Christ, Be Our Light*

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) adapted from *The Confession of 1967*

In each time and place, there are particular problems and crises through which God calls the church to act… The church is called to bring all people to receive and uphold one another in all relationships of life: in employment, housing, education, leisure, marriage, family, church, and the exercise of political rights. God's reconciliation in Jesus Christ is the ground of the peace, justice, and freedom among nations which all powers of government are called to serve and defend… A church that is indifferent to poverty, denies responsibility in economic affairs, is open to one social class only, or expects gratitude for its generosity makes a mockery of reconciliation and offers no acceptable worship to God.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer Hymnal p. 35

Offertory *A Song of Peace*, Hutson (11:00)

Doxology No. 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Communion (9:00)

Hymn No. 321 *The Church's One Foundation*

Benediction

Postlude *The Solid Rock*, Broughton

Liturgist: Susan Fillippeli.

Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church, Auburn

New to the Presbyterian Church USA? We would love to share with you more about our Reformed tradition of theology and worship.

New to Auburn, or simply new to this congregation? We'd love to share with you more about the rich history of this church and its valuable contributions to the Auburn community.

Searching for a church home? We would love to join you in that search and help discern whether First Presbyterian may be where God is calling you to be nurtured, inspired, and empowered.

Please take a moment to fill out our online Friendship Register or you may contact either of us directly.

Revs. Nick and Kathy Reed, Co-Pastors