Third Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME
Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church of Virginia Beach. All are welcome, and we are so pleased to have you with us this morning as we gather to praise God.

GUESTS
We extend a special welcome to you! Whether this is your first visit with us or your 100th visit, it is a gift to have you among us. Please take a moment to sign in using the Welcome Pads in the pews and leave contact information for Pastor Dee Dee to reach out to you. We are excited you are here and look forward to welcoming you into the life of the church through our ministries. You can find more information on our church website: www.firstpresvb.org.

If you ever struggle to hear while in our Sanctuary, we have a few options that might help you. First, you can see one of our ushers for a hearing device that fits over your ear and might assist you. Second, our Sanctuary has a hearing loop installed on the main floor. If you use hearing aids that are equipped with a T-coil, you are able to connect your hearing aids directly into our sound system. Please see an usher for instructions on how to connect your hearing aids into our system.

WORSHIP GUIDE
Items in bold indicate congregational participation. * invites you to stand in body or in spirit. Please silence all mobile devices prior to the start of the service.
GREETING

Sharing the Peace of Christ
   Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
   People: And also with you.
   Leader: Let us welcome one another with the peace of Christ.

VOLUNTARY
   "Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"
   setting by Jeffrey Blersch

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP
   Leader: Worship the Lord with gladness!
   People: We come into God’s presence with singing.
   Leader: For the Lord our God is good.
   People: God’s steadfast love endures forever.
   Leader: With grateful hearts, let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 610
   "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION
   Triune God, we confess that we do not know how to look for you. We do not sense your nearness, and if angels are among us, we are unaware. We do not trust that our hardships can be transformed by your Spirit. Living God, forgive us. Let us laugh with joy because your grace has made peace among us. Send us out with your good news so that others may receive your blessing. Amen. (Silent prayers and confession)

* KYRIE
   Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have mercy upon us.

* DECLARATION OF PARDON
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE HYMN 581  
*Glória Patri*

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.

THE WORD

**WORD FOR CHILDREN: SPIRIT BOX**

Following this time, children ages 5 years - 2nd grade may return to their seats or join our Wonders of Worship team in the Chapel. Children will rejoin their families in the Sanctuary near the end of the service in time for the offering.

Children 2-4 years old will join caregivers in Room 214 and may be picked up after the service.

*Our Nursery, located on the first floor, is available for our youngest children and infants during the entire worship service.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**FIRST LESSON OF SCRIPTURE**  
Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the LORD is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures for ever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

**ANTHEM**  
*The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune*  
Vaughan Williams

Robyn Card, trumpet

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; Him serve with fear, his praise forth tell, Come ye before him, and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed, Without our aid he did us make; We are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise, Approach with joy his courts unto; Praise, laud, and bless his name always, For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure; His truth at all times firmly stood, And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, And Holy Ghost, The God whom heaven and earth adore From men and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.
About that time King Herod laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the church. He had James, the brother of John, killed with the sword. After he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (This was during the festival of Unleavened Bread.) When he had seized him, he put him in prison and handed him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending to bring him out to the people after the Passover. While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him. The very night before Herod was going to bring him out, Peter, bound with two chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while guards in front of the door were keeping watch over the prison. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him, saying, ‘Get up quickly.’ And the chains fell off his wrists. The angel said to him, ‘Fasten your belt and put on your sandals.’ He did so. Then he said to him, ‘Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.’ Peter went out and followed him; he did not realize that what was happening with the angel’s help was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. After they had passed the first and the second guard, they came before the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went outside and walked along a lane, when suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, ‘Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hands of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.’ As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. On recognizing Peter’s voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, ‘You are out of your mind!’ But she insisted that it was so. They said, ‘It is his angel.’ Meanwhile, Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
The Story of Rhoda
Rev. Dee Dee Carson

* HYMN 370
This Is My Father’s World
TERRA BEATA

THE RESPONSE

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
selected verses from Romans 8
We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Offering

Offertory

_Arioso from 100th Psalm_  
_Brent Hartigan, soloist_

For know ye that the Lord is God. God, 'tis God that made us all; not we ourselves, we are his holy people. And the flock of his own pasture; God that made us all, his holy people, his holy flock, his children all.

*Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

THE SENDING

* RECESSONAL HYMN 35

_Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty_  
_LOBE DEN HERREN_

* BENEDICTION

* VOLUNTARY

_O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee_  
setting by Jacob Weber

THE FLOWERS in the Chancel are provided to the glory of God and in celebration of the wedding of Allison Kidd and Joshua Caldwell.
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by the grace and truth of Christ, we nurture one another’s faith to do God’s work in the world.

The Session of First Presbyterian Church approved the above statement in and affirmed the following ten values to guide the leaders of our church as they prayerfully plan for our congregation’s future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Values that Reach UP</th>
<th>Values that Reach OUT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Ministries that serve the community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preaching</td>
<td>Congregational Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>Financial Stewardship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prayer</td>
<td>Early Childhood Christian Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bible Teaching</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PASTORS AND STAFF

The Reverend Dee Dee Carson, Pastor
Jacqui Horton, Director of Senior Adult Ministries
Randy DuVall, Commissioned Pastor and Director of Missions
Elise Ramos-Krepcho, Music Director
Bonnie Lambert-Baxter, Director of Children’s Music and Handbells
Dr. Antoinette Anglin, Organist

SESSION

Sallie Bryant, Becky Davison (Clerk), Hunter Frischkorn, Justin Fulton, Liz Harris, Paul Hirschbiel, Sophia Kamerek (Youth Elder), Shannan Potran, Marvin Rhoades, Martha Simkins, Jim Sykes, Jon Thornton, Kristen Whalen, Ashley Wykle

TRUSTEES

Tom Cantwell, Gael Daugherty, Laurie Dawson, Dudley Fulton, Pam Pyle, Hunter Sims.

First Presbyterian offers you the opportunity to give electronically. Scan the QR Code to the left and make a donation.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
300 36th Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23451
www.firstprespvb.org
phone: 757.428.6332 | e-mail: office@firstprespvb.org
A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)