

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 28, 2025

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

INTROIT

“Forest Green”

Setting: Edward Broughton

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Laura Hall, Liturgist

Leader: If it had not been for God, who was on our side, we would have fallen prey to those who want to harm us; we would have been swept away by sadness and fear.

People: Blessed be the Lord, our protector!

Leader: God has broken the snare that took away our freedom. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

People: Blessed be God’s holy name!

*HYMN #55 *(see bulletin)*

“Immortal, Invisible”

W.C. Smith/WELSH MELODY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Unison)

God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity. We often move toward the latter, trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us. Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different. Give us the eyes of our Teacher, who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one, for it is in His name that we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Jesus Christ, who is at the right hand of God, forgives us and reconciles us and all things in heaven and on earth,

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another.

*HYMN #313 *(see bulletin)*

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

C. Wesley/J. Parry

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Save Me, O God”

Roger C. Wilson

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CHILDREN'S CHURCH *(5th grade or younger)*

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING:

Luke 7:36-50

ANTHEM

“I Will Rise”

Mary McDonald

SECOND READING:

Psalm 32:1-5

SERMON

“Walking with Nouwen: Beloved and Broken”

Austin Pounds

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN #449 *(see bulletin)*

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Havergal/Malan

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

“Jubilate Deo”

Edward H. Wetherhill

(*) *We stand as we are able*

We end our story with Hope...because once we choose Hope...Anything is possible!

The flowers serve to remind us of the Hope we have for our Church

based on the blessings we have received from our risen Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELDERS OF THE MONTH: Laura Hall and Dan Jeter

(Next Month: Joan White and Paul Herndon)

Sunday, September 28 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. CONFIRMATION CLASS

Tuesday, September 30 from 5 p.m.—7 p.m. training for October Congregational Meetings -for elders only

Wednesday, October 1 NEED SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS *(contact Rexanne at 229-891-1617)*

Wednesday, October 1 at 4 p.m. PRAYER SHAWL

Wednesday, October 1 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPER

Thursday, October 2 at 1 p.m. Card Playing

Saturday, October 4 at 10 a.m. Jack Chastain Memorial

Sunday, October 5 at 8:30 a.m. MEN'S BREAKFAST at FMC, speaker is Travis Kern

Sunday, October 5 at 2 p.m. RISE AGAINST HUNGER food-packing event in Valdosta

WRAPPING UP DONATIONS FOR BACKPACKS MINISTRY THIS WEEK

During the last school year, our backpacks ministry served 52 kids in 14 different families with bags of food to help them get through the weekend. The BEST thing you can do to help is give money: write a check to FPC and put “backpacks” in the memo line. If you prefer to donate food items, please only bring select items from this list: Peanut butter, Vienna sausages, Individual packaged fruit (raisins, fruit cups), breakfast bars, granola bars, spaghetti sauce (ONLY can or plastic containers - no glass) and Spaghetti noodles. ***Please bring donations by the end of September!***

NEXT SUNDAY: RISE AGAINST HUNGER PACKING EVENT IN VALDOSTA

Sunday, October 5th, 2 p.m. food-packing at Trinity Presbyterian

Our youth will be leaving during Sunday School to travel to Valdosta for lunch and Rise Against Hunger. Other church members who would like to travel together following our church service, please contact Susan Pearson at 229-921-2487.

WATCH RESERVATIONS

MENU: Wednesday, October 1

Regular/Children: Baked Parmesan Chicken & Alfredo Noodles, Garlic Bread, Buttery Niblet Corn, Sweet Peas, Salad Bar

Diet: Baked Chicken, Steamed Vegetables, Salad Bar

Dessert: Banana Pudding, Cookies & Ice Cream

Contact Penny to make your reservation: 229-985-3158 or firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com



Congregational Meetings

SIGN UP FOR A MEETING TO DISCUSS THE CHURCH

We have scheduled eight (8) congregational meetings during the month of October to discuss current issues at our church.

The schedule is as follows:

1.	Thursday	October 2	1:00 – 2:30 PM
2.	Sunday	October 5	2:00 – 4:30 PM
3.	Tuesday	October 7	12:00 – 1:30 PM
4.	Tuesday	October 7	6:00 – 7:30 PM
5.	Tuesday	October 21	3:00 – 4:30 PM
6.	Wednesday	October 22	2:00 – 3:30 PM
7.	Thursday	October 23	9:30 – 11:00 AM
8.	Saturday	October 25	9:00 – 10:30 AM
Alt 1	Wednesday	October 22	10:00 – 11:30 AM
Alt 2	Thursday	October 23	1:00 – 2:30 PM

There will be a maximum of 20 slots for each meeting and the sign-up sheets will be in a notebook in the Fellowship Hall or you can call or email the church office to ask them to sign you up at your preferred time. Each meeting will last a maximum of 1 ½ hours.

Following these meetings, the information gathered will be summarized and circulated back out to the congregation. At that point, we will call a congregational meeting to have a formal vote from the membership on whether or not to enter into discernment.

***Please sign up to attend a meeting most convenient for your schedule.
The information from all meetings will be shared.***