

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FirstUNITED
www.fupcc.org

United In Faith

United In Love

United In Life

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“Helping Others See Jesus’ Grace In Me”

Order of Service

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 2022

**Congregation Stands*

***PRELUDE**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP HYMN# 609 (AA)**

“God of Our Fathers”

BACK TO SCHOOL LITANY

Leader: Today we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and those involved in their education, as well as their classmates and friends.

All: Lord, hear our prayer

Leader: Today we give thanks to God for teachers, school administrators, counselors, school volunteers, support staff, cafeteria workers, school bus drivers and all others in our congregation who work in our schools.

All: Lord, hear our prayer

Leader: We acknowledge that education involves a partnership between school, home and community. The support of parents and guardians is essential to a child's success. We pledge our support and pray that our ministries will encourage and strengthen those in our church families who provide care for children.

All: Lord, hear our prayer

Leader: We believe that our children are gifts from God filled with potential and possibility. We pray that as you learn and grow you will develop caring hearts and minds that think clearly.

All: Lord, hear our prayer

Leader: We pledge to be with you on your educational journey. We affirm that each of you is a precious gift from God. We pledge to do all that we are able to do to ensure that your schools are positive places filled with hope and the resources necessary for learning.

All: Lord, help us keep our pledge.

Leader: Let us pray – Gracious God, we lift to you all those involved in education in this community and in the communities in our nation and world.

All: O God, we pray

Leader: For your blessing and protection on this new school year

All: O God, we pray

Leader: For the severe teacher shortage and qualified persons to fill these shortages

All: O God, we pray

Leader: For those charged with protecting our children during the school day, that they may be alert and courageous

All: O God, we pray

Leader: For campus ministries and spiritual communities for young adults, that they may faithfully continue to nurture our young people in their faith amid great distraction and temptation

All: O God, we pray

Leader: For college faculty and staff members, as well as those who supervise or mentor young adults during formative years

All: O God, we pray

Leader: Guide us, great God, that we will know the best way to show our interest and support for our students, teachers and all those involved in education. We pray for wisdom and strength to make a positive difference in the lives of those in school. We pray for courage to explore new ways of supporting the people and institutions that teach our children and youth.

All: O God, we pray in the name of the great teacher, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SELECTION

“You Deserve It ”

by JJ Hairston & Youthful Praise

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

“Generosity” 2 Corinthians 9

COMMISSIONING SERVICE - Young Adult Volunteer (YAV)

Minister: We are called by God to be the church of Jesus Christ, a sign in the world today of what God intends for all humankind.

All: The great ends of the church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

Minister: The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship. Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism. Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering, and a responsibility.

Clerk of Session: Christina Solis has accepted the call to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer in Colombia, South America. We give God thanks for her willing to go and serve.

Minister: Christina, the grace bestowed on you in baptism is sufficient for your calling because it is God's grace. By God's grace we are saved and enabled to grow in the faith and to commit our lives in ways that serve Christ. God has called you to particular service. Show your purpose by answering these questions.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Christina: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister: Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

Christina: I will, with God's help.

Minister: Do you welcome the responsibility of this service because you are determined to follow the Lord Jesus, to love neighbors, and to work for the reconciling of the world?

Christina: I do.

Minister: Will you serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love, relying on God's mercy and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit?

Christina: I will, with God's help.

Minister: Do you, members of First United Presbyterian Church, confirm the call of God to our sister, Christina, as a Young Adult Volunteer to Colombia, South America in the service of Jesus Christ?

All: We do.

Minister: Will you support and encourage them in this ministry?

All: We will

COMMISSIONING PRAYER

Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us; and by your Holy Spirit you are working in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for leading Christina to this time and place. Establish her in your truth, and guide her by your Holy Spirit, that in your service she may grow in faith, hope, and love, and be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever.

CHARGE

Deacon: Christina, you are commissioned to service as a Young Adult Volunteer. Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him.

Minister: May the God of peace make you holy in every way, and keep your whole being, spirit, soul, and body free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

OFFERING

SELECTION

"In The Garden" *Karen Solis, Flutist*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE