

**FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, August 24, 2025**

**THE 11TH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**

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***"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"***

# Order of Worship

## Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 16)

*\*Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

### **GATHERING MUSIC**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*INTROIT #106 (AA) ..... "In The Beauty of Holiness"**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**LEADER:** In you, O God, we seek refuge;

**PEOPLE:** In Your justice, deliver us.

**LEADER:** Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress, because You are our rock and fortress.

**PEOPLE:** For you, O Lord, are our hope and trust.

**ALL:** Our praise is continually of You.

**\*OPENING HYMN #596 (AA) ..... "Come And Go With Me"**

### **\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (*Unison*)**

**God, our rock and fortress, on this the Lord's Day, we turn to you. Even when it's hard to strive for justice, feed the hungry, and care for the hurting. Still we say: You are our rock and fortress! You crown us with love and mercy, and call us to restore and renew. Guide us, strengthen us, and send us out to do your will. Amen.**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

God in Christ has called us to be witnesses to the promised and coming kingdom we know through Him. Yet we often fall short of this calling, because we struggle to trust in God's presence among us. Let us come before God now and confess our sins.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

God, our Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer, we admit that we sometimes feel lost and far from you. We wonder where you are and fear that you've left us even though you are often closest when we feel alone. Remind us of your love and care. Give us new strength so we can live faithfully as followers of Jesus. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The God who placed the stars and moon in the sky is also near to each of us with love and mercy. Hear the good news of the gospel: We are forgiven and strengthened by God's Spirit able to run without growing tired, to walk without losing heart. Thanks be to God!

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**SPECIAL SELECTION** ..... **"Take Me To The King"** by *Tamela Mann*

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

O God, open our hearts by the power of your Holy Spirit so that the words of Scripture that we hear this day may become your Word that empowers our lives in this time and place. Amen

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** ..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

OLD TESTAMENT: Jeremiah 1:4-10  
NEW TESTAMENT: Luke 13: 10-17

**SERMON** ..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

"Before Your Were Formed, God Was At Work "

**INVITATIONAL HYMN #160 (AA)** ..... **"The Lord Is My Light "**

**INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Brief Statement of Faith)**

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen

**CALL FOR THE OFFERING** *(Collectors asked to come forward)*

The God of all creation, who has stretched out the heavens and called the stars by name, also gives us strength for our journey. Let us now respond with gratitude to God’s empowering presence by giving of our resources in return. *You may give online @ fupcc.org, mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202, or give to the officers as they pass the collection plate. Remember, all we have, and all we are, belong to God. Let us give with a cheerful heart. Amen*

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**..... **"The Lord Will Make A Way Somehow"**  
*by Rev. Phillip E. Knight, Sr.*

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

O God, we give you thanks for the gifts of creation, and for the gift of life itself. We dedicate our resources to you, trusting and hoping that they will build up your work in our world. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN #129 (AA)** ..... **"Lord, Keep Me Day By Day"**

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**

Let your light shine in the darkness, and your gloom be like the noonday. May the Lord guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong. And you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. Amen

**RESPONSE** ..... **"Three-Fold Amen"**

**POSTLUDE**