



First Presbyterian
Church of Littleton



"O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth."

Psalm 96:1 (NRSVUE)

Sunday, September 20, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Music Dedication Sunday

All are welcome in this sacred space, including the wiggles and giggles!

◆ **PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

*Please be seated, silence all devices, and **prepare yourself for worship.***

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Murray

PRELUDE *Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King* Arr. Sorenson

Mary Dailey

~~~ **GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE** ~~~

◆ **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Karen A. Meersman

*Come, all who are busy and all who are weary.*

**We come, bringing the many rhythms of our lives.**

*Come, those who have much to do and those who wonder what comes next.*

**We come, seeking a rhythm that gives life.**

*There is a time to work*

**and a time to rest,**

*a time to listen*

**and a time to speak,**

*a time to move*

**and a time to be still.**

*And in every season, God is with us.*

**We come to sit at the feet of Christ.**

**We come to listen for the voice of God.**

◆ **SHARING THE PEACE**

*The Peace of Christ be with you!*

**And also, with you!**

◆ **HYMN**

*For the Music of Creation*

Congregation

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

# For the Music of Creation

D A D G D A7 D

1 For the mu - sic of cre - a - tion, for the song your Spir - it sings,  
 2 Psalms and sym - pho - nies ex - alt you, drum and trum - pet, string and reed.  
 3 All the voic - es of the a - ges in tran - scen - dent cho - rus meet,

A7 D A D G D A7 D

for your sound's di - vine ex - pres - sion, burst of joy in liv - ing things:  
 Sim - ple mel - o - dies ac - claim you, tunes that rise from deep - est need,  
 wor - ship lift - ing up the sens - es, hands that praise, and danc - ing feet;

G D D G D

God, our God, the world's com - pos - er, hear us, ech - oes of your voice.  
 hymns of long - ing and be - long - ing, car - ols from a cheer - ful throat,  
 o - ver dis - cord and di - vi - sion mu - sic speaks your joy and peace,

A7 D A D G D A7 D

Mu - sic is your art, your glo - ry; let the hu - man heart re - joice!  
 lilt of lul - la - by and love song catch - ing heav - en in a note.  
 har - mo - ny of earth and heav - en, song of God that can - not cease!

◆ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Written by the Reverend Jonathan Murray for “Cultivate”*

**We believe in God, who creates us, loves us, and calls us to grow in faith. We believe in Jesus Christ, God’s Son, our Lord, who lived among us, showed us God’s love, welcomed the stranger, served the hurting, and calls us to follow his way. We believe that Christ died and was raised, and that through him we are invited into new life. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who lives among us and within us, teaching, guiding, challenging, and transforming us as we grow in the way of Christ. We believe in the church, where faith is learned and lived — where we worship, pray, study, serve, forgive, and encourage one another to grow. We believe in forgiveness when we fall and in the promise of new life when we begin again. Therefore, we commit ourselves to cultivate a life with Christ: to abide in his love, to learn his way, to embody his teachings, and to share his love with the world. This is our faith. This is the life we cultivate together. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SPECIAL ANTHEM

*Now Praise the Lord*

Combined Choirs

DEDICATION OF MUSIC MINISTRY

Pastor Murray

~~~ **LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD** ~~~

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

He Put a New Song in My Heart

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (The Message)

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of every season, we confess that we often struggle to find balance. We fill our calendars, our homes, our minds, and our lives until there is little room left for you or for one another. We confess the times we have been so busy doing good that we have forgotten simply to be present. We confess the times we have

measured our worth by our accomplishments. We confess the times we have judged others for resting or judged ourselves for needing rest. We confess the times we have been distracted by what is urgent and overlooked what is important.

Forgive us. Teach us the rhythm of your grace. Help us know when to work and when to rest, when to speak and when to listen, when to act and when to wait. Cultivate within us lives rooted deeply in Christ, so that our doing flows from being with you. Amen.

HYMN 578

O Lord Have Mercy

Congregation

**O Lord, have mercy (x3) have mercy on us.
O Christ, have mercy (x3) have mercy on us.**

SHARING GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Karen A. Meersman

...Friends, believe the Good News:

God's grace is already cultivating new life within us.

Thanks be to God!

◆ HYMN 582 *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* Congregation
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.

◆ GOSPEL READING: LUKE 10:38-42 (NCV)

Pastor Murray

This is the Word of the Lord. **God is still speaking.**

~~~ **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD** ~~~

MESSAGE

*Rhythm and Balance*  
Sermon Series "Cultivate"

~~~ **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD** ~~~

OFFERING

Pastor Murray

OFFERTORY

Bound for God's Great Glory

FPCL Handbell Choirs

◆ HYMN 606

Doxology

Congregation

**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

Pastor Murray

HYMN 726 (vs. 1,2,4 & 5) *Will You Come and Follow Me*
(SEE NEXT PAGE)

Congregation

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 and ever. Amen

◆ HYMN

All Praise to God for Song God Gives
(SEE BACK OF NEXT PAGE)

Congregation

~~~ CARRYING GOD'S GOOD NEWS INTO GOD'S WORLD ~~~

◆ BENEDICTION

Pastor Murray

POSTLUDE

*Sunday Joy!* by Hayes

Mary Dailey

**"WHAT IS ONE RHYTHM OR PRACTICE IN YOUR LIFE THAT HELPS YOU FEEL  
GROUNDED, CONNECTED, OR CLOSE TO GOD?"**

**Today's Service**

Music

Chancel Choir & FPCL Handbell Choirs

Liturgist

Karen A. Meersman

Trustee

Kathy McDaniel

Ushers

Diane Caby

Flowers

Rick & Tina Wilson in honor of the servants in our church

# 726 Will You Come and Follow Me

## The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

- 1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?
- 2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?
- 3 "Will you let the blind-ed see if I but call your name?
- 4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?
- 5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Bb F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus) (A)  
 Gm7 Bb Am7 Bb Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at - tract or scare?  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
 F C7 Dm Gm7 Bb F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
 Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
 and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
 through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
 Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

# 328 All Praise to God for Song God Gives

SACRED SONG 8.8.8.8 with refrain

Carlton C. Buck, 1986

Dale Wood, 1986



1. All praise to God for song God gives, For mu - sic  
 2. The word gives both the life and light, And guides us  
 3. In song let God be glo - ri - fied, For God is  
 4. All praise to God, whose sa - cred word Has brought good

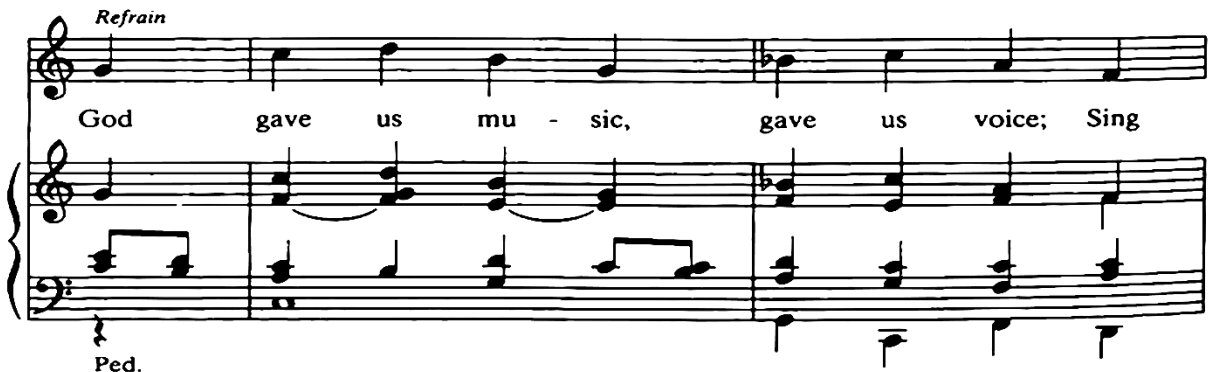


and a hope that lives; God's sa - cred word is  
 through the shades of night, So let the mu - sic  
 a - ble to pro - vide The mu - sic for the  
 news to all who heard. We wor - ship God and



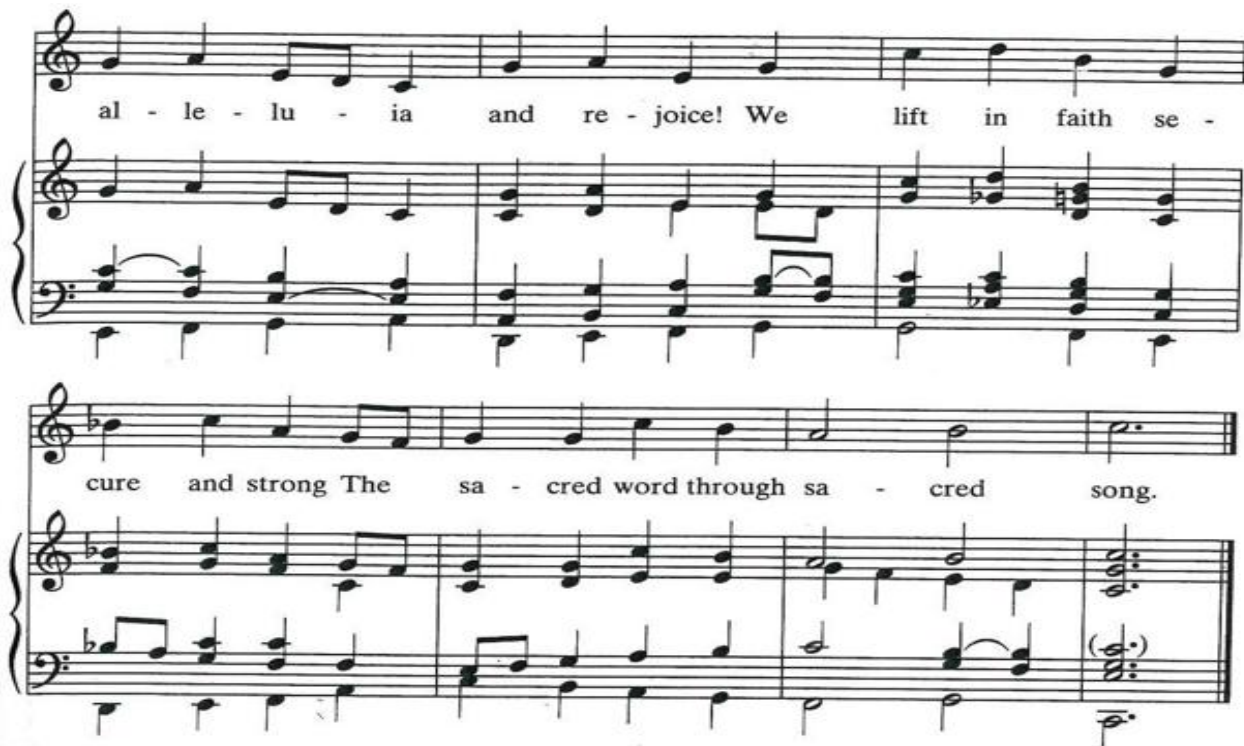
so pro - found, We sing and let the truth re - sound.  
 sound God's praise As hymns bring glad - ness to our days.  
 sing - ers' art As song God plac - es in the heart.  
 sing with joy, And in - stru - ments of praise em - ploy.

*Refrain*



God gave us mu - sic, gave us voice; Sing

Ped.



Bring your family and friends to:

# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

COMMUNITY DAY

Saturday, October 17, 2026

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Cookie Decorating | Crafts | Sing-a-Long | Self-Guided Audio Tour

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ♥ ALL ARE WELCOME!**

 **First Presbyterian Church of Littleton**

1609 W Littleton Blvd, Littleton, CO 80120  
www.littletonpresbyterian.org ♦ fpcl@fpcl.org ♦ 303-798-1389 ♦ 303-798-9920 fax

# FPCL Book Club

— ♥ All are Welcome ♥ —

We are a small, friendly group and we welcome anyone who likes to read for casual discussions about books. We share thoughts about the books and about our lives with *no judgement*.



Group will meet the Second Thursday of each month, (except August), at 12:30pm in Ayers' Parlor (Zoom is available as well).



Reach out to Janice Fagan with any questions: [jlfagan69@gmail.com](mailto:jlfagan69@gmail.com)

## OUR UPCOMING BOOKS



### SEPTEMBER

Team of Rivals –  
by Doris Kearns Goodwin  
(non-fiction)



### OCTOBER

Theo of Golden –  
by Allen Levi  
(fiction)



### NOVEMBER

The Edge of the Grace Period –  
by our very own Dorothy Hagan ♥  
(fiction)

Good books.  
Great friends.  
Meaningful.  
conversations.



♥ Read. Share. Connect. ♥



# SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we grow together in God's Word.



1st & 3rd SUNDAYS



IMMEDIATELY  
Following Worship



CHURCH BASEMENT  
(Accessible location for all participants)

GROW  
IN FAITH.  
TOGETHER  
IN CHRIST.

All Are Welcome!

Whether you're new to Bible study or have been studying Scripture for years, come for discussion, fellowship, and spiritual growth.





# ESSENTIALS OF FAITH

## *A Discipleship Journey*

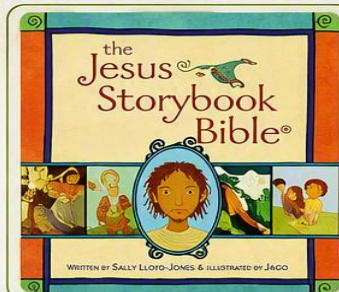
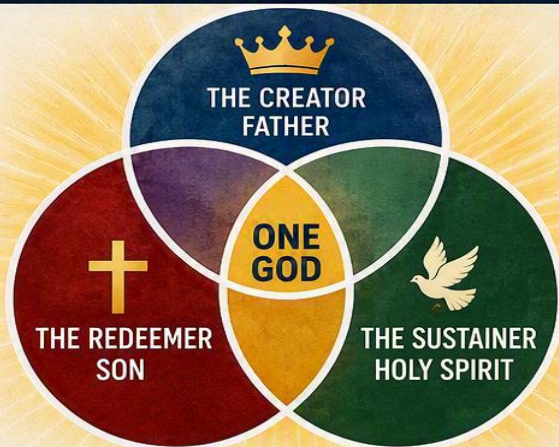
to develop, empower, and equip disciples of Jesus.

#9

IN THE SERIES

### DEEPER STUDY: WHAT IS THE TRINITY?

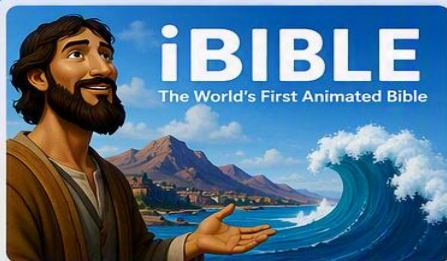
*Perichoresis* is a Greek theological term meaning mutual indwelling, co-inherence, or the divine dance. It describes how the three persons of the Christian Trinity — the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer — live inside, overlap, and permeate one another completely while keeping their unique identities.



CHILDREN (AGES 1–3):

### The Jesus Storybook Bible

The Jesus Storybook Bible tells the Story beneath all the stories in the Bible. At the center of the Story is a baby, the child upon whom everything will depend. Every story whispers his name. From Noah to Moses to the great King David—every story points to him. The Jesus Storybook Bible invites children to join in the greatest of all adventures, to discover for themselves that Jesus is at the center of God's great story of salvation—and at the center of their Story too.



CHILDREN (AGES 14 AND UNDER):

### iBIBLE

iBIBLE is the world's first animated version of the entire Biblical narrative from Genesis to the final Revelation. These animated pages bring the one story of Scripture to life in chronological order for a sight-and-sound generation. With over 3,000 animated pages and over 150 chapters, once completed, this animated presentation of God's redemptive plan will present the story of Scripture like never before.



GENERAL:

### A Steady Faith in Shaky Times

Life can feel uncertain and overwhelming, especially when we're faced with confusing messages and difficult circumstances. In this six-session series, pastor Ben Stuart will help us stand firm under pressure, trust in God's sovereignty, and keep working faithfully. As we hold on to hope and live with purpose, we will learn to endure with confidence no matter what comes our way.



*Know God. Grow in Faith. Make Disciples.*  
JESUS AT THE CENTER OF GOD'S STORY — AND OURS.



**Office Hours** 9am-2pm Monday-Thursday \*APPOINTMENTS ENCOURAGED

**Office Email** [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)

**Pastoral Care Emergency Line** 720-662-7277

**Staff Members**

**Pastor Jonathan Murray**, Minister of Word and Sacrament

**Mary Dailey**, Director of Worship Arts

**Karen A. Meersman**, Director of Handbells & Children/Youth Music

**Joan Lund**, Financial Secretary

**Matthew Dailey**, Office Administrator

**Jessica Lund**, Bookkeeper



SERMON SERIES:

# CULTIVATE

*a Life In Christ*

Cultivating a Life Rooted in Christ

Discipleship is more than a single decision — it is a lifelong process of being shaped by the love, grace, and wisdom of Jesus Christ.

Like a well-tended garden, faith grows through intentional care, faithful practices, and the quiet work of the Holy Spirit.

In this ten-week series, we will explore how Scripture invites us to cultivate habits that nurture spiritual growth, deepen relationships, strengthen communities, bear fruit for God's kingdom, and more fully become who God created us to be.

Together we will reflect on practices such as prayer, generosity, simplicity, wisdom, gratitude, compassion, forgiveness, hospitality, and faithful stewardship.

This series offers an invitation to tend the soil of your heart, trust the Spirit's transforming work, and grow into the life God is cultivating within you.

|                                                                                     |                                                                                       |                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|    | <b>SEPTEMBER 20*:</b><br><b>RHYTHM &amp; BALANCE</b><br><i>Luke 10:38-42</i>          | <i>*Music<br/>Dedication<br/>Sunday!</i> |
|   | <b>SEPTEMBER 27:</b><br><b>PRIORITIES &amp; BOUNDARIES</b><br><i>1 Timothy 4:4-16</i> |                                          |
|  | <b>OCTOBER 4**:</b><br><b>SIMPLICITY</b><br><i>Matthew 4:1-11</i>                     | <i>**World<br/>Communion<br/>Sunday</i>  |

**Mission Statement:**

***We Welcome All to Love, Share, Serve and Grow in Christ.***



**First Presbyterian** 1609 W Littleton Blvd., Littleton, CO 80120  
**Church of Littleton** [www.littletonpresbyterian.org](http://www.littletonpresbyterian.org) » [fpcl@fpcl.org](mailto:fpcl@fpcl.org)