



SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 AT 8:30 A.M.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WORSHIP IN THE PARK | 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gathering & Greeting

(moment for silent reflection)

Call to Worship

Hymn #643 | “Now Thank We All Our God”

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

O God, we confess that we are weighed down by our failings: envy distances us from others; greed alerts us only to our own desires. Where you call us to give, we take; where you call us to forgive, we hold grudges. Deal with us not as we deserve, O God, but forgive us, cleanse us, and teach your way, that we might be reconcilers through the One who reconciled us to you, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all!
And also with you!

Scripture Readings | **Jeremiah 11:18-20** | **Mark 9:30-37**

Message

Offering #727 | “The Servant Song”

Prayers of the People & 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 the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn #757 | “Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

Blessing

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,
 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,

who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:

who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

The Servant Song

1, 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to -
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you shall
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall

be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
 2 geth - er on the road. We are here to help each
 3 night - time of your fear. I will hold my hand out
 4 laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and
 5 find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to -

grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
 2 oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 3 to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
 4 sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
 5 geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.
 (repeat stanza 1)

The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).

757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.