

First Presbyterian Church of Ada, Oklahoma

September 20th, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

10:45 am

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel,

Philippians 1: 27

Welcome and Announcements

Cathy Blackburn

The Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Passing of the Peace

Prelude

Sunnie Baker
Pianist/Organist

***Call to Worship, Responsive**

The wilderness is still.

The hungry are left empty.

The cracked earth crumbles.

The thirsty cry out.

The Promise Keeper pulls them close.

God, hear us now.

Water flows.

The Holy One listens.

A feast from heaven.

The Holy One provides.

***Prayer of the Day**

God of every blessing, we remember the works of your hands: the days you save us, the people who embrace us, the moments we feel free, and the dreams you give us. All of it is from you, Faithful One. Sustain us with your strength, that we may be surprised by the miraculous gift of life itself.

Amen.

***Hymn 31 – Let Us with a Gladsome Mind**

***Call to confession**

We try to live our lives in a manner worthy of Christ. We try to stand firm in God's spirit, but our human self-interest gets the better of us. In humility and faith, let us confess.

***Prayer of Confession, Unison**

God of generosity, we find ourselves bitter when faced with your abundant grace. We believe ourselves more deserving than others. We nurse our anger and resentment at those you forgive, instead of rejoicing in the abundance of Love you show. Forgive us when we wish your Grace was scarce. Forgive the double standards we hold. Help us to know that we are all in need of your grace and help us rejoice as we all gratefully receive your mercy. *(continue in silent personal confession)*

And all God's people said,

Amen!

***Assurance of Pardon, Responsive**

The grace of God is boundless, poured out freely for all of us. **We will**

receive this gift of forgiveness, and trust God to transform our lives!

***Affirmation of Faith, Unison**

The Apostles' Creed

(pg. 35; front of hymnal)

We Hear the Word

Anthem

Guide Me, Oh Thou Great Jehovah

Chancel Choir

Children's Time

Karen Walters

Prayer for Illumination⁺

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Readings

Psalms 145:1-8

- ¹ I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.
- ² Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.
- ³ Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
his greatness is unsearchable.
- ⁴ One generation shall laud your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.
- ⁵ On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.
- ⁶ The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.
- ⁷ They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.
- ⁸ The LORD is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Matthew 20:1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, ^[a] he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ^[b] ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ^[c] ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?’ ^[d] ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ^[e] ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.

Sermon “Give the hireling his wage and let him go” John Lay

We Respond

The Lord’s Prayer, (saying “debts”, and “debtors”)

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 630 – Fairest Lord Jesus**

Offerings, and Offertory

Prayer of Dedication:

Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love. **Amen.**

Hymn 606 – *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

We Bless Each Other on the Way

Hymn 326 – For All the Saints

Charge and Benediction, Spoken

***Benediction, Sung, - Unison**

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.

Lift up your eyes and see God's face, full of grace forever.

May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.

Postlude

*Please stand in body and/or in spirit

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WELCOME to First Presbyterian Church. We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today.

SERVING TODAY

Liturgist: Cathy Blackburn

Children's Time: Karen Walters

Greeters/Offering: Rick Shaw and Vestel Cole

Audio: Johnna Isaacs

Video: Justin Isaacs

Worship Committee Member of the Month: Tami Thompson

Elder of the Month: Tami Thompson

THE FLOWERS ON THE CHANCEL are displayed to the glory of God. **IN OUR PRAYERS** Pastor Nominating Committee members; Adam Hampton and Family, Joan Butler, Tiesha Mitchell, Tom Hampton, Donald Neman (DR. Neman's Brother), Audrey Bjorntvedt (BJ & Karah Thompson's Aunt); Larry Matlock (Haley Hoyts father), Jane Baltimore; Tim and Holly Koster; Carol Peshehonoff; Mrs. G. Clayton; Mindy Choate; Bob Neman; Kurt Jackson; Linda Wells; Pamela Jackson; Dian Maloy; all people impacted by cultural violence, and natural disaster.

NOTES AND NEWS

TODAY OUR SERVICE WILL BE LED BY JOHN LAY. John is a Preaching Elder Minister who has served in Pastoral Care as well as being a Hospice Chaplain and Nursing Home Pastor. Elder Lay has a deep calling in compassionate ministry and believes in building up the body of Christ through encouragement. John currently serves as a Greeter and as a Pulpit Supply while serving as a Deacon at Santa Fe Presbyterian Church. John is married to Sarah and together they have five grown children and four grandchildren.

We are so thankful for the abundance of little ones God has blessed our church family with! With so many precious babies joining us, we are adjusting our nursery age group to **birth through 4 years old**. Thank you for helping us make room for all our littlest blessings as we nurture, love, and care for them each Sunday. We are grateful for each child God has entrusted to our church family.

Session meeting is on September 27th. As always, all are welcome to attend.

We are stepping into World Communion Offering, a season of preparation. We will be taking up special funds on October 4th.

BIRTHDAYS

Ed Perkins – September 23

Scottie Walther – September 24

Amy Mayhue – September 25

Cara Waters – September 25