

*First Presbyterian Church of Monroe
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
October 31, 2021*



Who is our neighbor?

Jesus answered, "The first is this, 'Hear O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31, NRSV

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Yoshie Pomerville

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
Therefore, we will love the Lord our God
with all our heart,
and with all our soul
and with all our might.
Let us worship the God
who renews us and reforms us.

GATHERING PRAYER

Yoshie Pomerville

Holy One, by your Word and Spirit,
come and transform your church
to be a living sign of your love for the world—
where the poor are filled with good things,
the dividing walls are broken down,
and the dead are raised to new life;
through Christ, who is in all things. **Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

“The Lord Is God”

GTG 63

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and mercy, we often say that we love you with all our heart, soul, mind
and strength; but when we look closely at our lives,
we confess that our hearts are full of concerns that are not your concerns.
Our souls are neglected. You are barely on our minds,
and our strength is depleted by things that do not have anything to do with you.
Forgive us our sin. Cleanse us. Renew us. Reform us. Make us ever new.
We ask this in the name of the One who died to set us free, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Time of silence for personal confession

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

SUNG RESPONSE

“Spirit of the Living God”

GTG 288

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Yoshie Pomerville

A STORY FOR ALL AGES

Yoshie Pomerville

(A time for children young in years or young at heart)

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Yoshie Pomerville

SCRIPTURE

First Reading

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Yoshie Pomerville

Gospel Reading

Mark 12:28-34

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

SERMON

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from a Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

HYMN

“Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love”

GTG 203

OFFERING

Yoshie Pomerville

***HYMN**

“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”

GTG 609

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Yoshie Pomerville

Gracious and generous God, please accept these gifts that we have brought. May these offerings serve to draw others to love, honor, and serve you. Multiply these tithes and offerings, Holy One, and use them for the good and encouragement of your people all around the world. All for love’s sake. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler

LORD'S PRAYER

Text: Dr. Antonio Maurice McNeill

Tune: NETTLETON (87 87D)

This paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer is dedicated to the historic Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA.

Used with permission from Dr. Antonio Maurice McNeill.

The tune Nettleton appeared in *John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music (1813)*.

*Our God who art in heaven, Hallow' d be thy matchless name.
Let your Kingdom reign in heaven, Dwell on earth in us the same.
Give us Lord, this day for worship, Give us manna from on high.
Give us bread to serve your Kingdom, Lord your name we glorify.*

*Lord, forgive us, free us, love us, Grant us wisdom to forgive.
Lead us not into temptation, Grant us grace so we can live.
Evil cannot stand against us, Your deliverance we need.
Bind us Lord, to one another, We, your church, your love receive.*

*Thine the kingdom, thine the power, Thine the glory evermore.
Thine all majesty and honor, God, to you we praise, adore.
You are God, you reign forever, "Sovereign, Holy Lord!" we sing.
Our God who art in heaven, Lord, eternal king of kings.*

SENDING

***HYMN**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

GTG 275

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Front Cover: Cha, Yuliana. Immigrants Mural, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56766> . Original source: https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Immigrantes_2.JPG - Yuliana Cha.

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Gathering Prayer used/adapted. *Worship in a Matthew 25 Church, Resources for Congregations and Presbyteries*. Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Presbyterian Mission.

Evening prayer used/adapted from *Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion, Yr. B., Volume 2*. Westminster John Knox Press. Louisville. 2015. p. 232.

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Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love, GTG 203. TEXT: Tom Colvin, rev. 1997, alt. MUSIC: Ghanaian folk melody, adapt. Tom Colvin, 1963, arr. Jane Marshall, 1982. Text and Music Hope Publishing ©1969, Hope Publishing Company. Music Arr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. Used with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-737704. All rights reserved. Permission to podcast/stream obtained from ONE LICENSE, #A-737704. All rights reserved.

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Evening Prayer
October 31-November 6

*Gracious giver of all good things,
for all that has happened in your world today,
I pray for peace and quiet to come where it is most needed.
I ask your presence for rest and renewal, in safety and in calm,
that tomorrow I may again see your face in those I meet. Amen.*

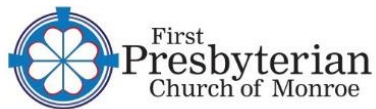


MATTHEW 25



FPC Monroe Worship Team

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler, Pastor
Rob Edwards, Director of Music
Yoshie Pomerville, Liturgist
Isaac Fankhauser, Sound Team
Randy Stiffler, Sound Team
Liz Cunningham, Usher
MaryAnne Hooper, Usher



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First Presbyterian Church of Monroe

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Dale DeSloover

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