

First Presbyterian Church of Monroe Communion Sunday and 15th Sunday after Pentecost September 5, 2021



GATHERING

WELCOME

Charlotte Frary

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCES

Charlotte Frary

Stop. Take a deep breath. Sigh. Lay down your burdens.

For God is waiting for us here.

OPENING HYMN

“God of Great and God of Small”

GTG 19

GATHERING PRAYER

Elder Debra Davies

God of all glory,

on this first day

you began creation,

bringing light out of darkness.

On this first day

you began your new creation,

raising Jesus the Christ out of the darkness of death.

On this Lord’s Day

grant that we,

the people you create by water and the spirit,

may be joined with all your works

in praising you for your great glory.

Through Jesus the Christ,

in union with the Holy Spirit,

we praise you now and forever.

Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Elder Debra Davies

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Elder Debra Davies

Loving and gracious God,

**we confess our unwillingness to live in an inclusive community,
allowing everyone an equal place.**

We judge others we see as different,

looking for reasons to justify their exclusion.

We allow the troubles of the world

to silence the beauty of the music of your creation,

choosing privileged positions which we think will keep us safe.

**We speak our point of view loudly,
drowning out those voices of others we prefer not to hear.**

**Forgive us for all the ways that we choose safety over community,
power over justice, and fear over love.
Open our hearts to see and follow the example of Jesus the Christ,
our Savior. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

Elder Debra Davies

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Elder Debra Davies

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Charlotte Frary

A STORY FOR ALL AGES *(a time for children young in years or young at heart)*

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Debra Davies

God of Grace, open our hearts and minds so that we may experience your Word read and proclaimed, that we may move ever closer to you.

SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Psalm 125
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Charlotte Frary

Second Reading: Mark 7:24-37
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Elder Debra Davies

SERMON

Elder Debra Davies

MEDITATIVE MUSIC

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—The Apostles' Creed

Unison: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN

“The Lord Hears the Cry of the Poor”

GTG 763

OFFERING

Charlotte Frary

DOXOLOGY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Elder Debra Davies

EUCCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Elder Debra Davies

PRAYER FOR COMMUNION ***

Elder Debra Davies

The table of bread is now to be made ready.

It is the table of company with Jesus,
and all who love him.

It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world,
with whom Jesus identified himself.

It is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate.

So come to this table,
you who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;
come.

It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

**Loving God,
through your goodness
we have this bread and cup to offer,
which has come forth from the earth
and human hands have made.
May we know your presence
in the sharing,
so that we may know your touch
and presence in all things.
We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared
among his community through the centuries,
and shares with us now.
Made one in Christ
and one with each other,
we offer these gifts and with them ourselves,
a simple, living act of praise.**

In that spirit we offer the prayer that Jesus taught us, saying:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD Elder Debra Davies

COMMUNION Elder Debra Davies

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION Elder Debra Davies

SENDING

HYMN “The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound” GTG 766

CHARGE AND BLESSING Elder Debra Davies

POSTLUDE

Front Cover Art by James Coleman on Unsplash.

*** The Prayer for Communion comes from Common Prayer: A Liturgy for Ordinary Radicals by Shane Claiborne, Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, and Enuma Okoro.

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About our Guest Speaker this Sunday!

Debra Davies, M.Div., is a graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary (1998). She is a Ruling Elder of 40 years, having served four different congregations in that role as well as Clerk of Session in two congregations. She has long been involved in ecumenical activities, visited churches on three continents, and values the diversity of people of faith across Christian and non-Christian denominations and traditions.

Worship Time Change

Worship begins at 11:00 a.m. starting September 12th.

Pastoral Study Leave

Pastor Doris will be on study leave beginning on August 28 through September 17. If there is a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact John Chesman, Clerk of Session at (734) 735-3166.

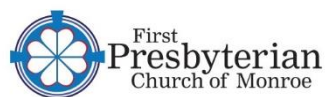
Pastor Doris—Contact Information

Church office: (734) 242-1545 and select option 11

Email: dchandler@monroefirst.org.

FPC Monroe Worship Team

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler, Pastor
Rob Edwards, Director of Music
Charlotte Frary, Liturgist
Isaac Fankhauser, Sound Team
Josh McMann, Sound Team
Randy Stiffler, Sound Team
Liz Cunningham, Usher
Maryanne Hooper, Usher



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