

### **Serving Today**

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth E. Broschart	Minister of Word and Sacrament
Kathy & Joe Northen	Interim Choir Director & Organist
C. B. Strange	Sound
Kent Shelton	Time for Young Disciples
Randy Brooks	Liturgist
Brenna Takata	Security, Side Door & Offering
David Parris	Greeter

### **Announcements**

Church Office will be closed for Labor Day Monday Sept. 6th.

Property Committee meets Tuesday Sept. 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Session meets Tuesday Sept. 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Women Day Circle will meet at the church Sept. 13th at 12:30. The Evening Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Bernadine Hayes.

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church.

Our office hours are Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

We can be found on the web at [www.fpcdanville.com](http://www.fpcdanville.com) or on Facebook.

Please call us at 434-792-7822

# First Presbyterian Church

## 937 Main St.

## Danville, VA 24541

## [www.fpcdanville.com](http://www.fpcdanville.com)

## “To Know Christ and Make Him Known”

## 434-792-7822



# First Presbyterian Church

August 29, 2021

As the chimes ring in the worship hour, we invite you to enter a time of personal reflection and congregational worship.

**\*Please stand as you are able.**

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Invocation**

**Prelude** *Improvisation on “Laudes Domin”* by Haan  
*(“When Morning Gilds the Skies”)*

**Call to Worship**

The kingdoms of the world value large structures imposed from above, benefiting the elite.

**The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that grows into a bush where all kinds of birds can build their nests.**

The kingdoms of the world push for fast, obvious growth.

**The kingdom of heaven is like the leaven that a woman mixes into the flour, slowly, subtly causing the whole loaf to rise.**

The kingdoms of this world want to hold on to all of their wealth even as they accumulate more and more and more.

**The kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure, a precious pearl—something of such great value that we would gladly sell all that we have to gain it.**

Holy God, we are so easily caught up in the kingdoms of this world. But we come this morning seeking you.

**Here our earnest prayer:**

***Your kingdom come! Amen.***

**\*Hymn** “Christ’s Parables” Insert/Screen

**Call to Confession**

Leader: We want to serve God, but sometimes our will is weak, and sometimes our hearts are not big enough. Hear now our prayer of confession:

**Unison Prayer of Confession:**

Loving and merciful One, we thank you for the community in which you have placed us, for the brothers and sisters with whom we walk this pilgrim journey. Yet, we confess that we fail to love as you love. We are quick to share our own stories while we ignore the stories of others. We fail to see your Kingdom in parables because we fail to see your Kingdom in each other. We push aside those whom we believe are the least in your Kingdom. Form in us a new vision of community in which there is neither East nor West, neither South nor North. Challenge our assumptions—For the sake of your Kingdom that is and is not yet. Hear now our silent prayer of confession:

**Silent Prayers**

**Assurance of Pardon:**

The Father has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ—**

*Please stand, pass the peace and remain standing for the hymn.*

**\*Praise and Worship** “To God Be the Glory” GTG#634

**A Time for Young Disciples** Kent Shelton  
(Children exit for Sunday School for grades K-5)

**Offering Prayer/Collection**

**Choral Anthem** “Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness” arr. Raney

**\*Doxology**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer** (Debts/Debtors)

**Sermon** “The Parables of Jesus: “Listen Up”

**\*Hymn** “What Is the World Like” GTG#771  
(Children return from Sunday School)

**Postlude** “Praises!” by Eliot

**Benediction**

## 634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!  
 2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,  
 but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

TEXT: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875  
 MUSIC: William Howard Doane, 1875

*Refrain*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the peo - ple re - joice!

O come to the Fa - ther through Je - sus the Son,

and give him the glo - ry: great things he has done!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
 11.11.11.11 with refrain

**What Is the World Like**

What is the world like when God’s will is done? Mustard seeds grow more than we can  
conceive:  
Roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun. This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God’s will is done? Witness the wandering child coming home;  
Watch as the parent breaks into a run. This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God’s will is done? No more is neighbor just ally or friend;  
Peace thrives in places where once there was none. This is how God works when rivalries end.

What is the world like when God’s will is done? Ready for feasting, we watch through the  
night,  
Tending our lamps till the new day’s begun. This is how God readies us for the light.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts, Filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.  
Born through our voices, our hand, and our hearts, This is a new world where God’s will is  
done.