

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church of Gardena

August 1, 2010
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Communion Sunday

Welcome to this Worship Celebration!

Today you are one of us. Please join us for refreshments in the Fellowship Hall after the service. We invite everyone to sign our attendance pad when it is passed. You may request a prayer by completing a Prayer Request Card in the pew. Fill it out and drop it in the offering plate and your prayer will be read aloud by the pastor during the prayers of the people. She reads the reason for the request if you write it down. If you include an address on your request, we will send a card to that person to let him or her know they were prayed for today. We offer the Sacrament of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of every month. All who call Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior are welcome to take communion.

We especially welcome those of you who are new, and would love to hear what your experience has been worshipping here, as well as what you are seeking spiritually in a church home. If you wish to connect with a Christian community, we welcome you exactly as you are, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey.



Silent Meditation:

God who plants the seeds of humility and service in our hearts, may we hear with clarity the calling you offer us. May we seek deeper understanding of our faith and of the world and a deeper love for you, that from our hearts may flow rivers of living water. In the name of Christ who is the water of life. Amen.

***Please rise in body or in spirit.**

PRELUDE

“Chapel Bells at Sunrise”

Gerald Peterson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Liturgist

*SONG OF PRAISE

“As a Chalice Cast of Gold”

Hymnal #336

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Liturgist

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

ONE: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: Our Lord said, “My peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.”

This peace surpasses all comfort and hope the world can give.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

***RESPONSE**

2026 Halle, Halle, Halleluja

Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal-le, Hal-le, Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal - le - lu - ja! Hal - le - lu - ja!

WORDS: Trad. Caribbean
MUSIC: Trad. Caribbean

HALLE, HALLE
Irregular

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

The ushers will distribute our friendship pads. Please print your name to let us know that you are here.

REFLECTIONS ON THE YOUTH TRIENNIUM

Gabi Cuaresma

PSALM (Responsive)

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

Liturgist

ONE: O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; for God's steadfast love endures forever.

ALL: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, Those God redeemed from trouble

ONE: and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

ALL: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;

ONE: hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

**ALL: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and God delivered them from their distress;**

ONE: God led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

**ALL: Let them thank the LORD for God's steadfast love,
for God's wonderful works to humankind.**

ONE: For God satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry God fills with good things.

**ALL: Let those who are wise give heed to these things,
and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.**

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ESPISTLE LESSON

Colossians 3:1-11

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things--anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive

language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

OFFERING

The ushers will pass among us to receive our money and prayer requests.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Meditation from THAIS”

J. Massenet (1842-1912)

*OFFERING RESPONSE

“The Doxology”

Hymnal #592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Liturgist

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

*COMMUNION HYMN

“Come, Share the Lord”

(see insert)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

Holy Holy

Please see insert

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

When the pastor invites us, we come forward in two lines, down the center aisle to a communion station. We take a piece of bread and dip it in the grape juice, eat and return to our seat by the side aisle. If you are unable to come forward, signal an elder and that elder will serve you at your seat.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

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.

*SONG OF PRAISE

“Sacred the Body”

(see insert)

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Donna Lee Merz

CHORAL BENEDICTION

“The Lord Bless and Keep You”

The Lord bless and keep you
The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious, gracious
The Lord bless and keep you
The Lord lift his countenance on you and give peace, give you peace
Shalom, Shalom. Amen, Amen.

POSTLUDE

Toccata On “AMAZING GRACE”

J. Massenet (1842-1912)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING: *Please pray for Princeton Theological Seminary; the presbyteries of Eastern Virginia, the James, and the Peaks in Virginia, National Capital in Metropolitan Washington, DC, New Castle in Delaware and Maryland, and New Hope in North Carolina.*

Church Families: *Margaret Allen, Amanda Ramirez, Joseph Ramirez, Luis & Alicia Alva, Kristine Alva*

Flame of Unity: *St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church*

Flower Dedication: *Irma Reinboth – In honor of Kristine Alva's birthday*

Liturgist: *Pat Nelson*

ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

TODAY, SUNDAY, August 1st, 2010

8:45 am Adult Sunday School (FR)
10:00 am Worship Service (S)
11:00 am Anointed Word Ministry (FR)
2:00 pm Comunidad Cristiana (S)

MONDAY, August 2nd, 2010

Office Assistant – Pat Nelson
Church Office Closed
10:00 am Sewing (FR)
5:00-8:00 pm Art Class (FH)

TUESDAY, August 3rd, 2010

Office Assistant – Pat Nelson

WEDNESDAY, August 4th, 2010

Office Assistant—Position Open
5:00 pm Young Champions Self Defense (FH)
6:30 pm-9:30 pm Comunidad Cristiana (S)

THURSDAY, August 5th, 2010

Office Assistant—Phyllis Linton
6:00-7:00 am Western Presbyterian (FR)
4:00-6:00 pm Choir Practice (MR)

FRIDAY, August 6th, 2010

Office Assistant – Pat Nelson

SATURDAY, August 7th, 2010

Codes:

S ~ Sanctuary
FH ~ Fellowship Hall
FR ~ Fireside Room
MR ~ Lois Taylor Music Room
NAMC ~ Native American Ministry Council

**First Presbyterian Church of Gardena
Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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STAFF

Pastor*The Rev. Donna Lee Merz*

Office Manager.....

Organist / Choir Director*Hae-ja Kim*

Treasurer.....*Doug Rozendal*

Clerk of Session.....*Winona Cuaresma*

Office Assistants..... *Phyllis Linton, Pat Nelson*

Child Care Provider.....*Jessica Maldonado*

Session: *Sallie Cuaresma, Winona Cuaresma, Irene Maldonado, Ray Mohl, and Irma Reinboth.*

Deacons: *Caroline Blancia, Lee Burger, Tae Shozuya, Phyllis Linton, Jessica Maldonado, Zafar Malik, Bonnie Mohl, Alicia Rodriguez.*

**Come and serve Christ through our ministry teams.
To be involved, contact the church office.**

Pastor Emeritus Rev. Arthur French III