

# September 17, 2023

Our PCAS Vision: "To be a Light by Living, Loving, Learning,  
and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

## Order of Worship

*(\*Please rise in body and/or spirit)*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** Eternal Father, Strong to Save

John Bacchus Dykes

### **Candle Lighting**

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather here, where God would teach us:

**People: so we may learn to be more compassionate, so we may be taught how to be more loving.**

Leader: We gather here, where Jesus would teach us

**People: the wisdom to choose forgiveness over holding a grudge, the language of hope so we may speak to all.**

Leader: We gather here, where the Spirit imparts wisdom,

**People: so we might know how to share grace, so we would learn to welcome all.**

### **\*Hymn #726**

Will You Come and Follow Me

### **Call to Confession**

Leader: All we are called to do is to love - everyone. Yet, as simple as it sounds, by our actions and our words, we show how difficult a task it is. Let us confess our failings as we pray together, saying,

### **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**You do not ask much of us, Guardian of hope - to love, to serve, to welcome. Yet too often, it is words of bitterness we speak to friends and family. It is our stiff-with-judgment backs we offer to those looking for help. It is our hardened hearts people find, when**

**they reach out, hoping to touch grace.**

**Love lived as Compassion, forgive us. We are broken, so make us whole through the life of Christ. We are empty of peace, so fill us with the reconciling Spirit of Christ. We are alone, so take us by the hand and lead us into your kingdom of joy and grace, brought to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

### **Moment for Silent Reflection**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Gathered as God's people, we hear the good news: God has forgiven us, God has made us whole, God sends us to serve.

**People: We will not wear jealousy or resentment, but put on the garments of peace and hope. We are forgiven by our God. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

#### **First Scripture Lesson: Ephesians 4:29-32**

This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

#### **Children's Message**

#### **Noisy Offering**

#### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

#### **Prayers of the Church and The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Passing the Peace**

**\*Hymn #444**      Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

#### **Second Scripture Lesson**      Matthew 18:23-35

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

**Sermon**                      **"Chain Reaction"**

**Offering**

**Offertory** The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Ancient Irish Melody

**\*Doxology**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn #724**

O Jesus, I Have Promised

**Benediction**

**Postlude** Lord, Teach me to Love and Forgive

Welsh Melody

**Worship Leaders**

<b>Pastor:</b>	<b>Rev. Katja Gruening</b>
<b>Director of Music Ministries:</b>	<b>Marcello Velame</b>
<b>Liturgist:</b>	<b>Judy Murphy</b>
<b>Ushers:</b>	<b>Peter Brugiere</b>
	<b>Rich Vodhanel</b>
<b>Zoom Hosts:</b>	<b>John Palframan</b>
	<b>Jim Wright</b>
	<b>Rich Vodhanel</b>
<b>Social Hour:</b>	<b>Dorcas</b>

# 726 Will You Come and Follow Me

## The Summons

Capo 3: (D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (Asus) (A)  
F C7 Dm Gm7 Csus C

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?  
2 "Will you leave your-self be-hind if I but call your name?  
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?  
4 "Will you love the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
5 Lord, your sum-mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
F C7 Dm Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> F

Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be the same?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be the same?  
Will you set the pris-oners free and nev - er be the same?  
Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be the same?  
Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be the same.

(Em7) (G) (F#m7) (G) (Asus)(A)  
Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> Am7 B<sup>b</sup> Csus C

Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
Will you risk the hos - tile stare should your life at-tract or scare?  
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as this un - seen,  
Will you use the faith you've found to re-shape the world a - round,  
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and foot-steps show.

(D) (A7) (Bm) (Em7) (G) (D)  
F C7 Dm Gm7 B<sup>b</sup> F

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"  
Will you let me an - swer prayer in you and you in me?"  
and ad - mit to what I mean in you and you in me?"  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

# Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive 444

Capo 5: (Am) (Dm) (Am) (C) (Em) (Am)  
 Dm Gm Dm F Am Dm



- 1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
- 2 How can your par - don reach and bless the un - for-giv - ing heart
- 3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals the truth we dim - ly knew:
- 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with-in our souls and bid re-sent-ment cease.

(F) (Em) (C) (Dm) (Em)(Am)  
 B<sup>b</sup> Am F Gm Am Dm



but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.  
 that broods on wrongs and will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
 what triv - ial debts are owed to us, how great our debt to you!  
 Then, by your mer - cy rec - on - ciled, our lives will spread your peace.

Every position of the capo is 5 frets up the neck.

# 724 O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;  
 2 O let me feel thee near me! The world is ev - er near:  
 3 O let me hear thee speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,  
 4 O Je - sus, thou hast prom - ised to all who fol - low thee



be thou for - ev - er near me, my Mas - ter and my friend;  
 I see the sights that daz - zle; the tempt - ing sounds I hear.  
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will;  
 that where thou art in glo - ry there shall thy ser - vant be.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if thou art by my side,  
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;  
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;  
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve thee to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if thou wilt be my guide.  
 but, Je - sus, draw thou near - er and shield my soul from sin.  
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, thou guard - ian of my soul.  
 O give me grace to fol - low, my Mas - ter and my friend.



## **Announcements**

### **Next Sunday, September 24th**

We look forward to welcoming the Rev. Dr. Eileen Lindner next Sunday to our pulpit. Rev. Gruening is away for the weekend.

### **The Noisy Offering**

Our Sunday School class collects an offering of "noisy" coins and not noisy donations on the 3rd Sunday of the month in worship.

They learn about mission giving in Sunday School, and when the noisy offering jar is full, they choose what they would like to purchase and donate from the Presbyterian Mission Giving catalog.

Our congregation was very generous in supporting their efforts last year. Thank you and thank you for your continued support.

### **PW Board Meeting**

The PW Board will be meeting next Sunday, Sept. 24th, following coffee hour.

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# Blood Drive



**New Jersey  
Blood Services**

**Wednesday, October 11th, 2023**

**12:30pm-6:30pm**

**The Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury**

**352 Sycamore Avenue**

**Shrewsbury**



**Scan Code To Sign Up**





## Meeting Schedule Week of September 17th

17	SEP, SUN	● 8:45 – 9:30am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday School
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (FH)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)
		● 6 – 9pm	Gethsemane Presbyterian Church Worship (FH)
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18	SEP, MON	● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Wisdom Tree Yoga - Gentle Floor Yoga(FH)
		● 7 – 9pm	Boy Scouts (FH)
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19	SEP, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Zoom Bible Study
		● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga - Chair Yoga Fitness(FH)
		● 11am – 12pm	Overeaters Anonymous (TR)
		● 5 – 7pm	Mental Health Association of Monmouth County (FH)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Session Meeting (TR)
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20	SEP, WED	● 8 – 9pm	Gethsemane Presbyterian Church Bible Study (O)
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21	SEP, THU	● 10 – 11am	Wisdom Tree Yoga (FH)
		● 4:45 – 5:45pm	Yoga Small Group - (FH)
		● 6 – 7pm	Bells
		● 7 – 9pm	Gethsemane Presbyterian Church choir practice (FH)
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23	SEP, SAT	● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
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24	SEP, SUN	● 8:45 – 9:30am	Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (FH)
		● 11:45am – 12:45pm	PW Board Meeting (TR)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)
		● 6 – 9pm	Gethsemane Presbyterian Church Worship (FH)