

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**SHARING OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS, AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

**FOLLOWING**

**\*HYMN** "Amazing Grace" No. 422

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*BENEDICTION**

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

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**CALENDAR**

<b>July 21</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 AM	Worship—In-person/Facebook live
<b>July 25</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 AM	Fill My Cup
<b>July 26</b>	<b>Friday</b>	6:30 9-noon	Office Hours
<b>July 28</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	10:00 AM	Worship—In-person/Facebook live
		11:00 AM	Fellowship
<b>July 29</b>	<b>Monday</b>	5:30—7:30 PM	Vacation Bible School at Zion UMC

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**PASTOR:** Pastor Laurie Walker

**USHERS:** Chuck & Betty Baumann

**PIANO:** Jake Schmidt

**FELLOWSHIP:** Carol Erwin

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Joni Bratney

**VIDEO AUDIO ONLINE:** Jessica Cox



**First Presbyterian Church**

**July 21, 2024**



**First Presbyterian Church**  
 1003 5th Street  
 Mendota, IL 61342  
 (815) 538-5603  
 www.fpcmendota.com

**Order of Worship**  
**July 21, 2024**  
**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**  
**WELCOME**  
**\*INVOCATION**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Jesus said, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."  
**People: Lord, we come to worship you, seeking sabbath rest.**  
 Leader: Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."  
**People: Lord, we come to worship you to listen for your teaching and to seek rest for our souls.**  
 Leader: Jesus said "For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."  
**People: Lord, we come to worship you that we might serve you faithfully.**  
 Leader: Give thanks to God; bless God's name!  
**People: For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.**

**\*HYMN** "Spirit Song" No. 352

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Good and gracious God, we confess that we run ourselves ragged. We are busy and preoccupied with so many things. We neglect to be still and know that you are God. Even our sabbath time can be filled with "busyness." Forgive us, Lord, for not accepting your gift and guidance of rest and restoration. Help us to put on the yoke of Jesus and walk in the way he models for us, mindful of our spiritual health and responding with compassion to the needs of our neighbors. Loving God, thank you for Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, who makes us complete in everything good so that we may do his will, working among us that which is pleasing in his sight. We pray through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

**\*SILENT CONFESSION**  
**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**  
**GLORIA PATRI**  
**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**  
 Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.  
 All: And also with you!

No. 734

**PROCLAIMING**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**  
**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**  
**SCRIPTURE**  
 Old Testament: Psalm 103:1-18  
 Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

**SERMON** "Compassion" Pastor Laurie Walker

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (From "A Declaration of Faith")  
**God sent his Son to proclaim release to those who are bound, to announce that God's promised kingdom is at hand, to urge everyone to repent and believe the good news. The Lord is moving toward the time when the glorious liberty of the children of God will be manifest throughout the whole creation. We testify God is at work here and now when people obey Christ's commission to witness to him and make disciples of all nations, when they spread the good news by their words and embody it in their lives.**

We believe that God sends us to tell all nations that Christ calls everyone to repentance, faith and obedience. We are to proclaim by word and deed that Christ gave himself to set people free from sin and self-hatred, from ignorance and disease, from all forms of oppression, and even from death. We are to offer them in Christ's name fullness of life now and forever. We must not distort the gospel by weakening its promises or demands, by identifying it with oppressive structures, by pointing to ourselves instead of Christ. We must not restrict our proclamation to persons just like ourselves. We invite people everywhere to believe in Christ and become his followers. We urge them to join us in telling others the good news and in struggling for justice, compassion, and peace.

**HYMN** "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" No. 500

**CELEBRATING**

**GIFTS OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*THE DOXOLOGY** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 34