



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SHELBYVILLE, TENNESSEE
Service for the Lord's Day
November 8, 2020



Dear Friends,

In 2011, our denomination's Book of Order underwent some significant changes. Just as a quick reminder, the Book of Order along with our Book of Confessions make up the constitution of our denomination.

For many years, the Book of Order was divided into three sections: Form of Government, Directory for Worship and the Rules of Discipline. With the 2011-2013 edition it was now divided into four sections. Parts of the Form of Government were placed in a new section entitled, *Foundations of Presbyterian Polity*. It gives the theological reasoning behind how we order ourselves as a denomination.

It's a great section and something we need to be reminded of from time to time. It helps keep us connected with our heritage while we seek to remain faithful to the motto that has long guided us, "The Church reformed and always reforming according to the word of God."

Our past is informative, but it can also be restrictive. As we seek faithful ways of being the Body of Christ in the 21st Century we need to be flexible but still grounded in our core principles as we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

How do we adapt our proclamation of the gospel to speak to a new generation while at the same time remain grounded in our core principles? A delicate balancing act, no doubt.

It helps to know what our core principles are. This first section in the Book of Order helps remind us what these core principles are for Presbyterians. I will be sharing excerpts from this section of our constitution in these weekly emails as we remember and celebrate our heritage as Reformed (theology) and Presbyterian (polity).

I will also be using excerpts from this section for our affirmation of faith on Sunday mornings occasionally. This Sunday's affirmation of faith follows the section I will be sharing with you below.

I hope you will take the time to read and meditate on them. I find them helpful. I hope you will too. By the way if you would like to purchase your own copy of the Book of Order and/or Book of Confessions you can go online to the denomination's website.

Enjoy.

DON'T FORGET! DON'T FORGET!

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A meeting of the congregation of First Presbyterian Church, Shelbyville, TN. has been called for Sunday morning, November 8th. The purpose of this called meeting is to hear a report from the Nominating Committee and act on their recommendations for elders and a trustee for the Class of 2023.

That slate includes:

Elders: Class of 2023: Helen Garner, Christy Jensen, Kristin Wilhelm and Terry Saylor.

Trustee: Tommy Anderton

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The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity

Chapter One – The Mission of the Church.

“The mission of God in Christ gives shape and substance to the life and work of the Church. In Christ, the Church participates in God’s mission for the transformation of creation and humanity by proclaiming to all people the good news of God’s love, offering to all people the grace of God at font and table, and calling all people to discipleship in Christ. Human beings have no higher goal in life than to glorify and enjoy God now and forever, living in covenant fellowship with God and participating in God’s mission.”

(F-1.01, paragraph B. Book of Order 2019-2021)

If we believe this, how does this help inform our ministry today?

What does it mean for you when you read the words, “Human beings have no higher goal in life than to glorify and enjoy God now and forever, living in covenant fellowship with God and participating in God’s mission.”? How do we do that in our daily lives at home, in our workplaces and in our community?

Just something thing to think about.

I’ve never had a congregational meeting during a pandemic before, so we are in uncharted territory here. It makes sense to me that church members who are worshipping with us via Facebook ought to be able to have a voice as well since they are technically attending the meeting but just are not physically present.

It has been suggested that those who are worshipping via Facebook could register their vote, “yay” or “nay” on the Facebook page. If you are comfortable with that then please vote Sunday. Think about it like this, you will be making history. I don’t think there has been an electronic vote taken before in a congregational meeting. Besides, we want you to be able to participate safely during a pandemic.

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST – BRING YOUR DONATIONS FOR GOOD SAMARITAN THIS SUNDAY. THANK YOU.
THANK YOU. THANK YOU.**

Take care and stay safe.

Grace and Peace,

Taylor

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Youth and Children's Announcements

Cindy Lamb

Prelude

Billie Crowell

Call to Worship:

Psalm 78

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Leader: The Lord says, "Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

People: We will tell of Your glorious deeds, O Lord, and the wonders that You have done.

Leader: "Tell your children and your children's children that they should set their hope in God."

People: And not to forget Your works, O God, but keep Your commandments.

All: Come, let us worship God!

*Prayer of Preparation

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

*Call to Confession

***Prayer of Confession**

God of compassion have mercy upon us as we make our confession. How often we do not do what we intended! What we confess is not how we act. We hear Your Word preached and we give our assent, but faith is found wanting when it comes time to obey. We are confronted by conflict; decisions are called for. Our desires are at odds with what You command, and we do not do what You wish. O God have mercy upon us and in Christ forgive us. Give us strength to do Your will and to live in Your commandments and having attained the prize of Your mercy in Jesus, help us to obey him as the source of new life. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri (Instrumental)

Billie Crowell

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

A Time for Young Christians

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Children's Church

Cindy Lamb

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 78: 1-7 & Matthew 25: 1-13

Sermon:

"The Gift of Time"

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Special Music:

"Take Time to be Holy"

Billie Crowell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Profession of Faith

Jesus Christ Is Head of the Church Almighty

God, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead and set him above all rule and authority, has given to him all power in heaven and on earth, not only in this age but also in the age to come. God has put all things under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and has made Christ Head of the Church, which is his body. The Church's life and mission are a joyful participation in Christ's ongoing life and work.

Christ calls the Church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission in the world, for its sanctification, and for its service to God. Christ is present with the Church in both Spirit and Word. Christ alone rules, calls, teaches, and uses the Church as he wills.

(The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity, Book of Order 2019-2021; F-1.0201-0202)

SEALING OF THE WORD

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

*Doxology (Instrumental)

Billie Crowell

Prayer of Dedication

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Charge and Blessing

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

*Postlude

Billie Crowell

Meeting Reminder!

Monday, November 9th

Property Meeting at 5:00pm

Mission Meeting at 5:30pm

Tuesday, November 10th

Night Circle 6:30pm in the Russell Classroom

Please wear a mask!

ANNOUNCEMENTS ^{AND} EVENTS

****PLEASE WEAR A MASK OUT OF RESPECT ^{AND} CONCERN FOR OTHERS****

- ⇒ **Sunday, November 8th: Congregational Meeting**
- ⇒ **Good Samaritan Food Donation**
- ⇒ **Butter Braids delivery will be November 24th at 6:00pm.**
- ⇒ **Winter Coat Drive: Gently worn or new coats of 'all' sizes. Bring to Shelbyville 1st United Methodist Church on Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm and on Sunday Noon- 5:00pm by December 14th.**

Serving

Sunday, November 8th

Greeters Kristin Wilhelm

and LeaAnne Windham

Hall Monitor Marylyn Caperton

A Time for Young Christians Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

Children's Church Cindy Lamb

Nursery Maddie Hittle

Sunday, November 15th

Greeters Bailey & Trena Little

Hall Monitor Theresa Blanton

A Time for Young Christians Kate Canady

Children's Church Cindy Lamb

Nursery Christy Jensen

Advent Candlelighters & Readers

November 29

Helen Garner & Margaret Smith

December 6

John, Bea, Mary Ruth, & Evie Marsh

December 13

James, Lori, Jacob, & Susanna Smith

December 20

Terry & Ginny Saylor

December 24

**Aksel, Christy, Annie Grace,
Zoe & Molly Jensen**

IF YOU JUDGE PEOPLE, YOU HAVE NO TIME TO LOVE THEM.

Mother Teresa