

First Presbyterian Church of North Bend

Order of Worship

Season of Creation: Living Water

September 20, 2026

Gathering the Community

Welcome/Announcements

- Welcome to both our in-person and online folks...
- Check out the Community Calendar in the Parlor...
- September Dine-Out is WED 9/23 YU's Chinese/Sushi in CB...
- Adult Education starts today...
- Food cupboard donation item of the month: Pasta...
- Also, we are always looking for volunteers Food cupboard, Snack Bags, Saturday Meals, Hearts with a Mission...
- Birthdays: Beth Walsh (9/20) & Marilyn Johnson (9/23) ... Miss anyone? – *Praise be to you O God for your generous gift of life!!*

Now, let us allow the sounds of our prelude to prepare our hearts and minds for worship together this morning...

Prelude

Tom

Thanksgiving for the Waters

Cairehn

One: Almighty and ever living God, as we continue this Season of Creation in Christ, we thank you for your love expressed in all creation, and especially for your gift of water to sustain and cleanse all life. Christ is the living water, cleansing, refreshing, and making all things new. So now we offer our thanks for the waters that bring beauty to all that we enjoy, the wild places, the urban spaces, the mountains, coast and sea.

Many: We give thanks and praise for all good lands, for wilderness, for farms that yield plentiful crops, for the built environment – spaces where we can gather and thrive, and for the living water that makes all life possible. Amen.

(Adapted from Anglican Aotearoa NZ Prayer Book)

One: As we add our gift of water to the baptismal font this morning, we praise God for giving us life through water, and especially for the waters that sustain us in this part of our common home.

(Pour Water into font...)

Call to Worship

Cairehn

One: Let us come together for the Call to Worship...

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised

Many: God's greatness is larger than we can imagine.

One: From generation to generation, we sing of your righteousness.

Many: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

One: Glory is God's holy name! Let our hearts seek the Lord and rejoice.

Many: We will seek the presence of our God. Our hope is in the faithfulness of the Lord. Amen.

Passing the Peace

Cairehn

One: As we celebrate this Season of Creation, we welcome the presence of God that brings us life through this creation that surrounds us. As we acknowledge receipt of this great gift, let us stand together and share with one another the peace of Christ that binds us together in love. Let us pass the peace...

(Congregation will pass the peace...)

Eric: As you find your seats we invite you to join as one voice as we sing our opening hymn *Lord of All Good...*

Opening Hymn

Tom

Lord of All Good

375-PH, all 3v

Sharing God's Word

Scripture Reading

Cairehn

(Psalm 105:1-6 & Philippians 1:21-26, NRSVue)

Hear the Word of the Lord from the *Psalms*...

1 O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples. 2 Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. 3 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. 4 Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. 5 Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered, 6 O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

Our second reading comes from the Paul's letter to the Church in Philippi...

21 For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. 22 If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. 23 I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, 24 but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. 25 Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, 26 so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

This is the Word of the Lord... **(Thanks be to God)**

Confession & Assurance of Pardon:

Cairehn

- One: God loves us and calls us by name. Let us therefore set down our burdens and our defenses as we confess our sins in front of God and one another.
- Many: Almighty God, be near to us. When allow our anger and frustration to cut us off from others, sit next to us and call us back to your way of mercy, love and redemption. Forgive us for our anger, resentment, and selfishness. We lay these impulses at your feet and ask that you create a new heart within us, one modeled after your steadfast love and generosity. Help us to see the world in new ways. Your ways. Amen.**
- One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Let us stand together as we sing the Hymn of Confession...

Confessional Hymn

Tom

Breathe on me Breath of God

316-PH, v.1

Youth Minute

Phil

Special Music Offering

Tom/Eric

Sermon Text

Eric

Matthew 20:1-16 (NRSVue)

1 *“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. 5 When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. 6 And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ 7 They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ 8 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ 9 When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. 10 Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12 saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ 13 But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”*

Sermon

Eric

Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith

Everyone

Speaking the truth in love, today's text calls us to grow up in every way into Christ, from whom the whole body is joined and knit together... In response to God's Word, let us proclaim the good news of Jesus our Lord through the words of our denomination's Brief Statement of Faith...

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit of God gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying "Come, Lord Jesus. Amen."

(A Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA)

Sermon Hymn

Tom

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

435-GTG, all 2v

Offering Invitation

Eric

By the grace of God, we are saved — today and every day. Let us embrace this gift and respond with generosity. In gratitude, let us present our tithes and offerings.

(Pass the plates...)

Offering Music

Tom

Offering Hymn

Tom

Praise God from Whom al Blessings Flow 592-PH

Offering Prayer

Eric

Almighty God, we offer you these gifts and our hearts alongside them. May they be blessed to do your bidding. May our expectations of what is right and what is wise always be governed by your generous love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Eric

Eternal God, your people call out to you today. For the prayers and joys spoken this morning, hear us and heal us. For your mission here, for our mission partners and community partners, locally and internationally – work through us. May we know and show the unity of your church, bringing honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **○ Lord, hear our prayers...**

God of all peoples, we pray for the world. Please be at work in places that are full of violence and suffering. We pray, in particular, for the people of Israel and Palestine, Ukraine and Iran, and every place in our world where war rages. Please show us pathways to peace. Put the right people in the right places to make decisions not just for themselves but also for others. ***O Lord, hear our prayers...***

God of Creation, we pray for those affected by natural disasters, including the flash flood and landslides in Nepal and Tibet and the hurricane in Hawaii. In rooms full of raw anger and grief, we ask that those who are hurting might feel your presence. Bless those who are working to rebuild. And help us as a human race to do our part in making appropriate changes to help curb climate change. Forgive us for the destruction we have contributed to. ***O Lord, hear our prayers...***

God of justice, we pray for our own country. Help us to balance your desire for equality with your call to love our neighbor. May our churches be spaces of welcome where we can have faithful conversations that challenge and enhance all of our understanding. ***O Lord, hear our prayers...***

Almighty God, you tell us time and again in your Word that you care for the poor, for the abused, for the cast out. We pray for those people now. We pray for those who are unhoused. We pray for those who are struggling to make ends meet. We pray for new immigrants to this country seeking asylum. We pray for the lonely. We pray for the sick. We pray for grieving. If we are to play a role in providing these needs spark our hearts toward action and bless our efforts. ***O Lord, hear our prayers...***

We know that you see us and hear us, and so it is in the name of Jesus Christ that we pray together,

Lord's Prayer

Everyone

Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours are the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Leaving to Serve

Sending Hymn

Eric/Tom/Trevor

Mighty to Save

PS

Charge and Benediction

Eric

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord's face be lifted upon you and give you peace. Amen.

Postlude

Tom

Music Information

CCLI License # CRL116010

*Presbyterian Hymnal – **PH**, The Faith We Sing – **FWS**,
Family of God – **FOG**, Glory to God – **GTG**, Praise Song – **PS***