



Connect  
Prayer  
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Invite all to Worship God  
Grow in faith  
Follow Jesus by Serving Others

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

**Welcome to worship** at Hope Presbyterian Church! We invite you to enter into the spirit of worship with us. Enjoy the fellowship of this community of faith. Lift your voice in song. Lift your heart and burdens in prayer. Listen to and for the Word of God to you. Heed God’s message as it comes through the Holy Spirit’s presence. Leave this place in joy to love and serve God and neighbor, seeking to follow Christ our Lord. **We’re glad you’re here!**

**Centering Words:** I’ve been meaning to ask. . . **what do you need?** *We believe everyone has needs, but each of us needs different things at different times. We believe God calls us to care for one another—in seasons of joy, transition, and hardship. We commit to listening and being present.*

## Disciples Gather to Worship God

🔊 **Welcome** (hopeaustin.org/connect)

Rev. Dr. Josh Robinson

🎵 **Prelude**

*Prelude on FOUNDATION*  
Dr. Kathy Winston, organ

Charles Callahan

🔊 **Accepting, Belonging, Connecting**

Greg Grounds, Elder

*Accepting:* How have you witnessed acceptance within our church?

*Belonging:* What helps you know that YOU belong within our church?

*Connecting:* How have you witnessed the Holy Spirit connecting people together within our church?

⬆️ 🎵 **Hymn of Praise 463** (GTG)

*How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

🔊 **Response:** Praise the Lord! **The Lord’s name be praised!**

🙏 **Prayer of Confession**

Emily Clarke, Stephen Minister

**Gracious God, sometimes life feels like cooking with flour— it looks like it should be easy, but we always make a mess. This is particularly true when it comes to our relationships. We so desperately long to say the right thing, to be the right thing, to find the right solution, that we overstep the line. Forgive us for assuming the place you fill. Forgive us for imagining that we, in all our humanity, could possibly fix all the hurt in this world. Forgive us, God of mercy.**

*Silent Prayers of Personal Confession*

**Forgive us, God of mercy. Give us the grace and the strength to stand by our loved ones in their moments of need to witness their hurt without trying to fix it. You are God. We are not. Teach us how to be a friend. Teach us how to ask, “What do you need?” Teach us how to point to you. Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

⬆️ Indicates when we are to rise, as we are able.

🙏 Indicates when someone is praying.

📖 Indicates when Scripture is read.

🎵 Indicates when music is sung or heard.

🔊 Indicates when someone is speaking.

**Bold text** is read or sung by the congregation.

A personal sound system for the hearing impaired is available.

Please ask an usher for a receiver.

GTG– *Glory to God* purple hymnal

STF– *Sing the Faith* blue hymnal

## ☛ Assurance of God's Forgiveness

...So hear and believe the good news of the gospel: **We are seen. We are heard.**  
**We are loved. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.**

## ↑ 🎵 Response

*Glory Be to the Father*

Avery & Marsh

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and the Son and the Ho - ly Ghost.  
As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be,  
world with-out end, A - men. As it was in the be - gin - ning is  
now and eve - er shall be, world with - out end, A - men.

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## ↑ 🕊️ Sharing the Peace

The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Disciples Listen to the Word of God

## ☛ Children's Sermon

Rev. Dr. Krystal Leedy

*Following the Children's Sermon, children between ages 3-7 are invited to attend Little Church in FC7 of the Fellowship building.*

## ↑ 🎵 Hymn

*A Covenant of Grace (vss. 1,2,3)*

O WALY WALY

1. We all come from the dusty earth, and from the places of our birth,  
Ancestral stories who we'll be, we bring it all to come and see.
2. We all have wounds that no-one sees: oppression, trauma, and disease.  
When we bear witness to the pain, it can begin to heal again.
3. We all need people who will be with us in solidarity.  
No explanation, no defense, just ministry of their presence.

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☛ Response: Praise the Lord! **The Lord's name be praised!**

## ✝️ Prayer for Illumination

### 📖 First Reading

Job 2:11-13 (NRSV)

Bible p. 393

### 📖 Second Reading

2 Timothy 4:9-18 (NRSV)

Bible p. 968

## ☛ Sermon

*I've been meaning to ask...**what do you need?***

Rev. Dr. Josh Robinson

## Grow in Faith

What do you need to feel seen and heard? What do you need to feel whole? In what ways has the pandemic changed you? Can I bring you food? Can I bring you some clothes? Can I come help you do laundry, wash dishes, etc.? Can I come sit with you for a while? What do you want, prioritize, desire, hope for?

## ☝️ Affirmation of Faith

We believe in relationships. We believe in asking hard questions, in showing up for one another, and in sitting together through the pain. We believe in listening with grace, learning with curiosity, and apologizing with sincerity. We believe in asking for help, saying what we need, and trusting that no degree of vulnerability could strip us of God's love. We believe in trying our best and offering grace when our best is not enough. And we believe that God is in all relationships— modeling for us the value of community through the relationships of the Trinity. So we love today, and we strive to love even more tomorrow. Let it be so. Amen.

## Disciples Respond to the Call of God

### ✝️ Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (GTG Page 35)

*You are invited to pray the Lord's Prayer in your native language.*

Hear our prayers O God in the name of Jesus Christ, who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory, and taught us to pray together saying:

**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.**

### Prayer @ Home

We continue in prayer remembering Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary: administrators, faculty, students

### 🎵 Response 2159 (STF)

*Jesus, Draw Me Close*

Rick Founds

**Jesus draw me close, closer, Lord, to you. Let the world around me fade away.  
Jesus, draw me close, closer, Lord, to you, for I desire to worship and obey.**

*CCLI #443680 © 1990 Maranatha Praise, Inc. (Admin. by Music Services)*

### ☝️ Presentation of Tithes and Offerings (VISIT [hopeaustin.org/donate](http://hopeaustin.org/donate) or TEXT "HOPEPC" to 73256)

### 🎵 Offertory Anthem

*Sweet Are the Prayers of a Friend*  
Adult Choir

Pepper Choplin

*Sweet are the prayers of a friend. How sweet are the prayers that are offered up by a friend,  
Who calls, calling up to heaven, calling "Lord, come down, come down and bless again."*

*Friends pray for healing, they pray revealing the heavy burdens of our souls.  
They pray for courage, unfailing courage, asking God to make us whole.*

*Friends pray us through troubles, through all our struggles when life seems to fall apart.  
They pray us through grieving, always believing our God can heal the broken heart.*

*Pepper Choplin © 2018 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.*

### ☝️ 🎵 Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts.  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### ☝️ Prayer of Dedication

# Disciples Depart to Serve God

⬆️ 🎵 Hymn 410 (GTG)

*God is Calling Through the Whisper*

W ZLOBIE LEZY

## ⬆️ 🎵 Charge & Benediction

Family of faith, as you leave this place, may God grant you the curiosity to counter assumptions, the vulnerability to befriend, the bravery to speak your truth, the wisdom to listen, the strength to ask for help, the resiliency to choose love, even when it's hard, and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you. In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself, go in peace.

## Response

*As We Go*

Jeremy Johnson

As we go, —may your Spi-rit go be - fore— us. As we go, —may we fol-low where you lead. May we  
live what we have learned, Share the mes-sage we have heard, And be a light un-to the world, as we go. —

Jeremy Johnson | CCLI #5043277 © 2007 Van Ness Press, Inc. (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

## 🎵 Postlude

*Postlude on FOUNDATION*

Charles Callahan

## Individual Intercessory Prayer

On the third Sunday of each month, we offer one-on-one intercessory prayer. Persons seeking prayer are invited to the Hope Room during the Postlude. One at a time, each person may step to a prayer leader and share their concern. The prayer leader will pray for them.

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Whether you are worshipping **in-person or online**, please take a moment to complete the attendance pad or click the link on the Hope home page to register your attendance.