



THE LORD'S DAY
August 27, 2023
WE GATHER TO WORSHIP
10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Piano/Chancel Organ*

CALL TO WORSHIP & STRIKING THE HOUR *"Amazing Grace" The Carillon Bells*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† INTROIT *"Every Day With Jesus" (Verse 1)* Page 22
† Please stand as you are able.

† HYMN *"Spirit of the Living God" (All Verses)* Page 389

† PRAYER OF THE DAY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
 † ANTHEM *"Gloria Patri"* Page 813

HYMN *"Jesus Is Coming Again" (All Verses)* Page 753

WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND RECITE GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSORIAL *"Psalm 23" (Verses 1,3)* *Psalter 23^A*

RESPONSIVE READING: *"The Heidelberg Catechism"*

WE RETURN OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE UNTO THE LORD

RECEIVING THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS
 † DOXOLOGY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER



WE LIFT OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

HYMN *"Take the Name of Jesus with You" (All Verses)* Page 235

SPECIAL MUSIC

EXPOSITION OF THE WORD AND CONFESSION OF FAITH

THE SERMON
"Forgive us our... (Fill in the Blank)"
 Matthew 6:5-14

† THE APOSTLES' CREED

† CLOSING HYMN *"Soon and Very Soon" (Verses 1,3)* Page 757

† BENEDICTION

† ANTHEM *"The Family of God"* Page 419

DEPART IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

If you are visiting with us today, we're glad you're here. We are ordinary people on an extraordinary journey, learning to love and serve like Jesus. Come with Us!



In this constantly changing world, our goal is to reflect and recapture the historic and classical worship of Almighty God. Central to our service is the proclamation of the Word and a biblical understanding of the Sacraments in the tradition of the Evangelical and Reformed faith.

OUR MISSION
 TO PRESENT CHRIST TO EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, AT EVERY AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY.



THE LESSONS FOR USE ON THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ YEAR A
 Isaiah 56:1,6-8 • Psalm 138
 Romans 12:1-8 • Gospel Focus: Matthew

WE AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

- The Holy Trinity of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God has revealed Himself fully and decisively in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God and our guide for faith and life.
- There is only one way to Salvation - through Jesus Christ.
- The sanctity of human life based on our creation in the image of God and our election by God for service in His Kingdom. This leads us to respectfully affirm the sanctity of life at every stage, from conception to ordinary death.
- The Biblical principles of immutable gender and sexuality: The exclusive union of one man and one woman in marriage; and fidelity to its vows. And, chastity outside of marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.
- God made all people from one man and although people can be distinguished by different ethnicities and nationalities, we are all one human race and absolute equals before God in creation, the need for repentance, and the offer of redemption.
- That the mission of the Church is to spread the Good News of the Gospel in every word and deed. Proclaiming to the world the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and seeking to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship, and submission to Him.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 92		GIVING REPORT	
		<i>Week Ending August 20, 2023</i>	
Are you interested in Church Membership? We receive new members the last Sunday of each month. If you are interested in joining our Church family, please see Pastor Kler today.		\$2,646	
		Sunday General Giving	1,566
		Online General Giving	915
		Total General Gifts	2,481
		Less 3% to Building	-74
		Less 10% to Missions	-248
		Net General	2,158
		Designated Giving	
		Building Maintenance	164
		Flowers	50
		Gals	25
		Missions	248
Total Designated Giving	488		
Net General	2,158		
Designated Giving	488		
Total Receipts	\$2,646		

Monthly Reports are posted in the Fellowship Hall.



THE MANDATE TO FORGIVE

When we pray, we must think carefully about what we are saying so that prayer does not become a rote exercise. In so doing, our praying can be used by the Spirit to change us. Thinking through the fifth petition of the Lord's Prayer as

we ask our Father to forgive us is particularly important, for in this prayer Jesus explains that God's forgiveness of us and our forgiveness of others are connected. We ask Him to: "forgive us our debts as we also have forgiven our debtors" This text seems difficult at first reading. Does Jesus mean that our forgiveness earns the Lord's pardon? If God will not forgive us if we do not forgive others, is salvation not all of grace? The answer to both questions is no. Christ does not speak of the manner by which we merit or even receive forgiveness, but He teaches us about the redeemed person's disposition in light of God's grace. As fallen people in Adam, we have nothing good in ourselves to bring before the Lord. Our only hope is to abandon all pretense of our own goodness—to reject any thought that the Father owes us pardon and favor—and throw ourselves on God's mercy (Luke 18:9-14). When we do this, leaning solely on the grace of God, we see that we must likewise have a merciful disposition toward those who have wronged us. It is arrogant indeed to withhold our forgiveness from those who ask for it sincerely. Since our infinitely holy Creator forgives the repentant, how can we who are unclean apart from God's mercy in Christ dare to refuse others our pardon?

Simply put, if we do not forgive, we are setting a higher bar than God does. We are exalting ourselves as better than other sinners in the Lord's eyes, revealing that we have likely not understood the grace of God at all. We show that we are not relying on the Father's promises alone but are instead trying to bring something before God to earn His favor. We are depicting an attitude that says, "I deserve God's forgiveness, but others do not." In sum, if we persist in withholding our forgiveness from repentant people, we reveal that we do not know Christ. Thus, as John Calvin writes, "Those who refuse to forget the injuries which have been done to them, devote themselves willingly and deliberately to destruction, and knowingly prevent God from forgiving them."

Calvin also comments, "No one may presume to approach God and ask forgiveness, who is not pure and free from all resentment." If we are withholding forgiveness from those who have truly and humbly sought our pardon, then we are claiming rights for ourselves to which we have no title. We are saved only by God's grace, and that reality must show itself in all our actions. If we have been forgiven by the Lord in Christ, we will forgive others.

~ Dr. R.C. Sproul

HOW TO STUDY THE BIBLE
Bible Study Guide for Beginners
Sunday Evenings
5:30-6:30
August 13 - September 3
with Gary Hatrick

"Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that the believer would stake his life on it a thousand times."

—Martin Luther

REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH
When Planning Your Estate

Did you know our Church offers ONLINE GIVING?
It is easy and secure!
You can give online at:
<https://fcczh.breezechms.com/give/online>



The Chancel Flowers Are Placed by:

Peter & Carol Simon
in honor and memory of
Family Near and Far.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- SEPTEMBER 2023-----
- Guy's Lunch.....Thursday September 7th at 11:00 a.m.
 - ~~~ Guy's Prayer Group..... Thursday, September 7th at 10:30 a.m.
 - GAL's Meeting.....Monday, September 11th at 12:30
 - Board Meeting.....Tuesday, September 12th at 6:00 p.m.
 - REGULAR SCHEDULE-----
 - Wednesday Bible Study..... Weekly at 4:00 p.m.
 - Sunday School.....Weekly at 9:00 a.m.
 - Lord's Day Worship.....Weekly at 10:00 a.m.



Loose Change for LOCAL MISSIONS in the JOASH CHEST supports the THOMAS PROMISE FOUNDATION.



Their Mission is to provide Pasco County's most valuable resource - our school children - with the simplest things that most of our kids take for granted. Each week they pack more than 1,100 backpacks with safe, non-perishable, and nutritious food to see needy children through the weekend when school meals are not available.



THE ELDERS
TEACHING & WORSHIP

- Rev. H. Joseph Kler
Senior Pastor / L.F.O.C. Chaplain
- Rev. John O. Strauss
Worship Leader / Minister of Music

THE DIACONATE
Jim Leitzke, Gary Hatrick

- OUR MUSICIANS**
- Ann Dantuma
Pianist/Organist
 - Donna Zenisek-Huber
Flutist

SOUND BOOTH
Joe Negron, Jonathan Kler

THE BOARD
YOUR REPRESENTATIVES AND TRUSTEES

- Board President.....John Vosteen.....
- Vice-President.....Cheryl Howard...
- Treasurer.....Pam Lain.....
- Education.....Linda Walchak...
- Women's Fellowship.....Vickie Kler.....
- Multi-Media.....Ric Romyn.....
- Missions.....Barbara O'Brien..
- Music..... Rev. John Strauss
- Hospitality.....Clara Vosteen....

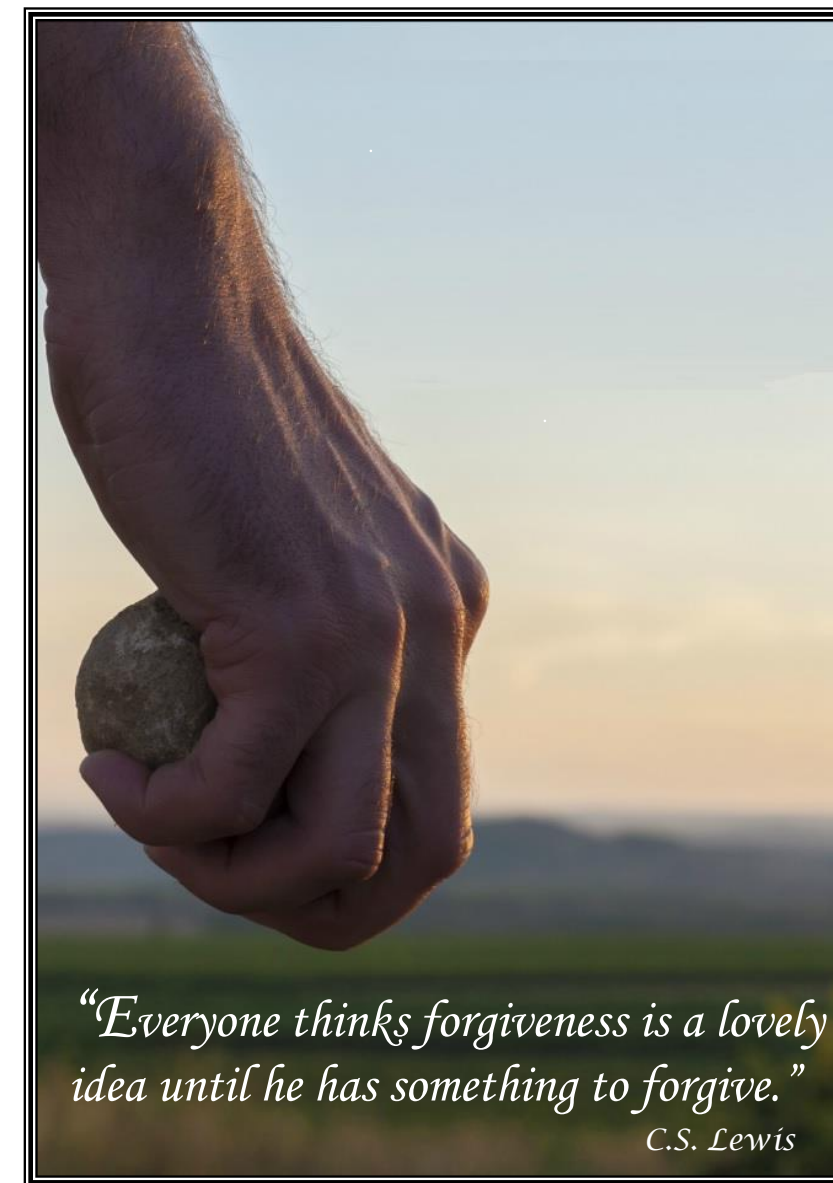
To contact Board President John Vosteen, please call: 813-731-2803
To contact the Pastor, please call: 813-323-0802, or Vickie's cell: 863-409-8850

OUR VOLUNTEER STAFFED
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Phone: 813-780-6027 • Website: www.fcczhills.org • Email: fcczh@aol.com



FAIRVIEW
COMMUNITY CHURCH of ZEPHYRHILLS
...a Christ-centered, Reformed faith fellowship.

Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing, but encourage one another as the Day of the Lord draws near. -Hebrews 10:25



"Everyone thinks forgiveness is a lovely idea until he has something to forgive."
C.S. Lewis

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