

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 24, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



They Said No
by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
Inspired by Exodus 1:8-22

“The things that we love tell us what we are.” —Thomas Aquinas

Sunday Worship
10:00 am



Office Hours
Tuesday – Friday

8:00 am – 12 Noon, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm
541-926-5551



330 Fifth Avenue Southwest
Albany, OR 97321

We Gather & Praise

Gathering Song 48 "Rain Down"

Greetings & Announcements The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Prelude

*You are invited to make the transition from getting here to being here. Be still and know that God is God.
We are claimed by Christ in the waters of baptism; the light of Christ shines in our lives and in the world.*

Invitation to Worship All things bright and beautiful,
God created for our enjoyment.
All things wrenching and hard,
God holds with tender care.
You and I, neighbors and friends and strangers,
God loves without condition.
So let us worship God.

+ Opening Hymn "Down to the River to Pray"

We Acknowledge & Give

A Call to Reflection and Restoration

Sienna Bogart

Silent Prayer

Community Prayer God, our companion and guide, we would be lost without your direction—wanderers in wildernesses of our own making. Show us how to find you in the midst of life. Help us see how your love brings life to dead souls, light to dark minds, and strength to weak wills. Help us to believe and trust that no wrong we have done, and no good we have failed to do, is beyond your grace. May this time of worship be a joyful response of praise and thanksgiving for all that you have done, for all that you are doing, and for all that you will continue to do for us and all people through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Assurance of God's Love

+ Passing the Peace May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

As you are willing and able, please greet one another with signs of peace.

Offertory Invitation

As a symbol of our trust in God, we offer each person an opportunity to reconnect with giving by placing one extra \$1 in the offering plate as it is passed each Sunday. As we give faithfully and with a faithful attitude, each "faithful" \$1 will be richly blessed in the ministry of UPC.

Offertory Anthem

"Lead Me Home"

arr. Joel Raney

+ Presentation of Gifts & Hymn 743

"O God, You Are My God"

We Learn & Receive

Time with the Young Church

*Children of all ages are invited to come forward.
Nursery and Children's Worship info is on the back of the bulletin.*

Scripture Reading

Exodus 1:8-2:10

May these words made sacred, guide and direct us today.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Ripple Effect"

Brandon Lewis

We Offer Our Lives

Hymn of Response 691 "Lord, When I Came into This Life"

Sharing Joys & Concerns

*At the conclusion of spoken joys, let us pray together, "**Thanks be to you, O God.**"
For concerns, let us make them our own by praying, "**Lord, hear our prayer.**"*

Prayers of the People & The 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

We Are Sent

+ Closing Hymn 539

"We Will Go Out with Joy"

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

Welcome

We are delighted that you have added to the joy of worship this morning at United Presbyterian Church. We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Jesus Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey—whatever grief, joy, or doubts you may bring today—you are welcome here.

Announcements

Coat and Hoodie Drive

Help us bring warmth to our unhoused community! For the month of September we are partnering with the Fish of Albany collecting gently used or new coats and hoodies. Drop them off in the church office or the box in the entry way.

2nd Annual Trunk or Treat

Get your costumes ready and join us in the parking lot October 28 11am-1pm as we pass out candy and treats during the downtown trick or treating event. Last year we had more than 150 children come through our parking lot! Don't miss out on the fun.

Back by Popular Demand—Godspeed Book Study

Study group starts October 3rd at 10am in booth hall. Books are \$10 and are available in the office.

Upcoming Events

Sunday,	September 24
10:00 AM	Sunday Worship
11:30 AM	Deacons Meeting— Booth Hall
Tuesday,	September 26
5:00PM	Linn Benton Family Fly Fishers
Wednesday,	September 27
7:00AM	Early Risers Fellowship
6:00PM	Youth Group— Youth Room
7:00PM	Choir Rehearsal
Friday,	September 29
3:00PM	Women's Retreat
Sunday,	October 1
10:00AM	Worship
Tuesday	October 3
10:00AM	Godspeed Study Group—Booth Hall

Serving Today

Thank you to all who served in worship today.

Ushers— Mike & Maureen Wellman

Coffee Hour Hosts— Nancy Lochner & Carol Harrison

Liturgist— Sienna Bogart

Welcome Back Tao & Chris!

Children's Programs

We are thrilled that you have chosen to bring your family to worship with ours! We believe children soak up the love of God even when they draw and color, read and create, or rest their head in your lap. Please feel welcome to visit our Children's Space located in the Round Room in the back of the sanctuary.

Children's Nursery

The nursery (Room 208) will be available for infants—age 3 during worship services. Children can be dropped off any time after 9:30am and picked up following worship.

Godly Play

Age 3 – Grade 2 | Godly Play

As a continuation of worship, Godly Play is a formational practice of exploring the mystery of God's inviting presence in our lives, teaching children how to listen for God and then to make authentic and creative responses to God.

Creative Minds

Grade 3+ | Youth Room

Creative Minds is a formational practice for older children and youth to engage, explore, and re-create the fascinating biblical stories of our faith through the world of Minecraft technology

Local Outreach | Ways to Serve

Linn Benton Food Share—Packing food boxes for families who suffer from food insecurities- **Oct.5 5-7pm**

Laundry Love— providing free laundry assistance to those in need- Oct. 5th and Dec. 7th

Fellowship with a Purpose— Join **Tabitha's Society** on October 6th in booth hall. Come learn about all the different ways Tabitha's Society helps our community. Don't know how to sew; no problem there are other things you can do!

Prayers & Praise

Praise— For all those who have sent meals to both the Goodes and Joanne Ewig during their time of healing

Praise— Bruce Bulton is home and recovering and is in remission!

Healing Prayers— Linda McDowell as she recovers from a dental procedure and for Retha Larson who underwent cataract surgery.

CHURCH STAFF

Brandon Lewis, Pastor

Tami Van Ras, Pastoral Assistant

Sienna Bogart, Office & Ministry Coordinator

Michelle Mayers, Music Coordinator/Choir Director

Tao Li, Pianist

Kason Stevens, Facilities Manager

Chris Misa, AV Tech

Logan Breese, Bus Driver

